

*The Mexican Sangwitch*  
by Trinidad Sánchez, Jr.

Is it a tortilla with peanut butter and jelly,  
or jalapeños piled on Wonder Bread?  
Is it a coney made with tortillas,  
or a Kaiser roll smothered  
with salchiches y salsa mayonesa?  
Is it chorizo con huevo on whole wheat,  
or refried beans on white bread?  
Is it the patron saint of botanas,  
or a Mexican who can only speak English?  
Is it the same as an American Taco?  
Is it a Mexican playing tic-tac-toe?  
Is it carne asada on rye,  
or guacamole on toast?  
Do you really want to know why?  
Is it me inside of you,  
or you wrapped around me?  
Is it a güera dancing with two Mexicans,  
or two gringos putting the make on my sister?  
Is it a super sandwich, with the official  
ingredients labeled: HECHO EN MEXICO!  
Is it a plain sandwich  
made by authentic Mexican hands?  
Is it true Juan de la Raza invented it?  
Is it a moot question?  
Are you a lawyer or a poet?  
Does the judge really care?  
-Detroit 7/1990

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