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How Bright She Shines

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How Bright She Shines

Jenny Trujillo

She was raised in the poverty of El Salvador.
She was raised by her grandparents while her mother left to the U.S.
She walked the desert, not knowing she was leaving her home.
She grew up and at the age of 16, she got pregnant.
She moved with the man who came home late and beat her.
She finally had enough once the baby was born.
She struggled but never gave up.
She worked and worked to provide.
She saw her daughter get older but couldn't stop time to watch her grow.
She tells her she regrets not being around.
She blames herself.
She cries for forgiveness.
But she doesn't see how bright she shines.

I saw her wake up every morning to get me ready for school.
I saw her smile through the pain and stress.
I saw her tired from work but still making dinner.
I saw her using her fingers to explain a math problem.
I saw her lay in bed exhausted as I wrapped my arms and legs around her.
I saw her trying to be at my soccer games cheering me on.
I saw her screaming my name as I crossed the stage.
I saw her drive me 10 hours away to go to college.
I saw her in tears as she had to leave her little girl.
I saw a woman who felt like she wasn't good enough.
But she doesn't know how bright she shines.