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A Reflection of Myself

Lauren Gresser
Humboldt State University

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A Reflection of Myself

By Lauren Gresser

Immediately when I am told to think of someone I love that has imposed some valuable wisdom on me, I think of my Grandma. She has always been a strong figure in my life and continues to play a large role in giving me guidance and shaping who I am. She is one of the few relatives I have that lives in California and has always lived no more than a 10-minute drive from me, so I have many childhood memories spending time at her apartment with her and my brother. When I think of her I see an older version of myself; we are both artistic, fashionable, talkative, spiritual, independent, intuitive, and have similar habits(both good and bad).

The majority of my memories I have with her consists of me sitting at her kitchen table where she would tell me her life stories and pass onto me what she has learned throughout her life. As I grew up she talked less to me like I was her granddaughter and more like I was a friend that she had grown up with, which is exactly how I feel when I am around her. She would tell me family drama that even my mom and aunts and uncles didn't know. I learned a lot from those stories she would tell me but the one thing I was able to take from all of those stories was that she had a great life simply because she didn't care what other people thought of her. Obviously, she had her ups and downs throughout her life and there were some things she wasn't able to do in her lifetime being a 1950s housewife that grew up in the projects of Brooklyn, but whatever opportunity she was given and able to take, you best believe she took it. To briefly summarize, the wisdom I have imparted from her was that no matter what path in life you choose, you will always find contentedness from it as long as it is the path that you have chosen for yourself and that no matter what, you should never make life decisions because it is what you are told to do or what is expected of you. She is one of the wisest people I have ever known and I am glad I continue to have her as a figure to look up to and I am grateful to be one of the many other lives that she has touched.