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Dreaming of the Future

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Dreaming of the Future

By Emanuel Velasco

It has been two years since I came to Humboldt. When I got here I noticed everything was very different than being in Mexico. I was impressed with how tall the trees were in Northern California since there were no Redwood trees in Jiquilpan, Jalisco. As my family and I drove from Sacramento to Fortuna I could not stop watching the majestic Redwoods. I remember thinking to myself, "Oh my goodness they are such huge trees!" I was surprised to see so many big trees.

When I got to Humboldt I felt strange because when you come from another country to the US it is not the same as just being in one country; a country you had lived in for years. There are so many things that are different and unfamiliar to what one was used to in Mexico. I felt lost because I didn't know anything about Humboldt, I didn't know anyone except my aunt, and I didn't speak English.

I have learned to appreciate Humboldt for its nature like the forest, the beach, the rivers, as well as the friendships I have made, and of course, "las parrandas." I like to walk in the forest because I enjoy the fresh air and I like to hear the birds. I like the beautiful sunsets at the beach here. I also like the rivers/los rios because they are relaxing.

However, sometimes I miss Jiquilpan. I miss my family and friends but what I miss the most is my horse and my grandparent's (abuelitos) animals. I miss riding my horse every day and riding with my friends. Also, I like horse riding competitions. One time in the competition there were eleven horsemen and me. In that competition, everything was going well, I was reaching my goal to arrive to the finish line. But I fell down on the floor. I knew the belt was tied; I do not know how the belt was loosened. The people who were there to see the race were scared and thought something happened to me, but everything was fine, nothing happened to me. I miss Mexican foods, especially my tita's (grandma's) food like "sopitos and birria." I remember when my tita would say, "véngase a comer, la comida ya está lista." I was always the first one at the table ready to eat her food.

I plan to go study at College of the Redwoods after I graduate high school. I plan to study and become a mechanic because I like cars. Someday I would like to start my own business in Fortuna and move to a new place.