

Dear editors at Toyon,

I present you with my work *Homesick* in regards of your theme of immigration, or the movement of people.

I found out about Toyon through professors. The topic of people moving from place to place seemed interesting to me, because I have a lot of personal experience with this subject. It's not even necessarily just about moving around from different countries, but from areas due to trouble with housing. Moving somewhere new in general could become overwhelming.

The patterns are something that I always work on. It represents time and continuity in a frame. Your eyes jump around, and it's almost as if the patterns could continue beyond the composition.

The painting of the woman in a mariachi outfit is from an image my mother took a couple months before she moved to the U.S. She was about 16 when she made her choice. It wasn't out of spite, but she felt like it was necessary for her to try to find a way to help her family.

The painting of the car is based on a period where housing seemed scarce amongst my family and I. Even friends at the time were being evicted from homes they grew up in, and because of most of our families' statuses, they were given less than a couple weeks to move out and not promised any of their deposits. While this occurred within my friends and family in Fresno, I started couch surfing in Humboldt.

I included a couple of images from a photography series I worked on during the time I was couchsurfing. I wanted to capture aspects of a student waiting for confirmation on a place to stay for the night. Sometimes, I wouldn't even get an answer, so I'd have to stay on campus somewhere.

Fortunately, we all acquired housing. However, it's almost as there's still this uneasiness within us. The phrases I often hear when we talk about this period are "We got lucky" and "I miss the old house." I think we all share a common fear, that it can happen to anyone at any given time. Thus, causing the world to continue moving.

I appreciate the time taken to review my work.

Thank you,

Eloisa Garcia-Caro

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Eloisa Garcia-Caro was born and raised in Fresno, California. She's inspired by graffiti, and her family, blood and non blood related. Most of her family is from different parts of Mexico, meaning that Eloisa grew up in a Spanglish environment. She related more to her family members that were into painting and drawing. Her uncle is her biggest inspiration and supporter. She was introduced to different mediums by her uncle, such as painting, drawing and photography. Her work is mostly about time spent in Fresno, whether it was her childhood and after, and even the couple days she visits when she gets time off from school. Usually, she'd take tons of photos and videos when she goes back to Fresno, and comes up with compositions based on the images. Painting and drawing are her preferred mediums, and it's all she wants to do. It's a passion of hers. It's something she's always been doing since she was a kid, considering her uncle gave her a sketch book before she could properly write. She had trouble with finding support from her family about her choice, and caused her to question herself. All it took to convince her to go through with studying art was one lady back in Fresno. Eloisa painted windows for shops during the holidays, and during one of her sessions, a woman who was clearly on something passed by. For a moment, she stopped Eloisa to tell her how beautiful she thought the paintings were and asked repeatedly if she was an artist. Eloisa said she was trying , to which she responded with "Do everything you gotta do. Go to school, and keep making work, it's beautiful." Then she continued walking, yelling at her reflection.









