

HOPE



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A FEW DAYS AGO.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AS WE START OUR DESCENT, PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR SEAT BACKS AND TRAY TABLES ARE IN THEIR FULL UPRIGHT POSITIONS.

MAKE SURE YOUR SEAT BELT IS SECURELY FASTENED AND ALL CARRY-ON LUGGAGE IS STOWED UNDERNEATH THE SEAT IN FRONT OF YOU OR IN THE OVERHEAD BINS. THANK YOU.

I'VE BEEN AWAY FOR TOO LONG, BUT THIS IS A BEAUTIFUL WELCOME HOME. THANK YOU, PUERTO RICO.

I HONESTLY THOUGHT I'D BE A LITTLE MORE EXCITED TO SEE YOU AND MY FAMILY, BUT I'M NERVOUS.

I'M AFRAID ONCE WE GET ON THE GROUND, I WILL BE TOO OVERWHELMED WITH EMOTIONS OVER THE STATE YOU ARE IN.

THANKFULLY MY SON IS HERE WITH ME. HE WILL MAKE EVERYTHING EASIER...

...BUT I DO WISH MY WIFE AND OUR OTHER KIDS WERE ON THIS TRIP TOO. THEY'VE BEEN WITH ME EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.



SITTING
PATIENTLY WITH ME AS
THE NONSTOP NEWS REPORTS
SHOWED THE HURRICANE'S
DESTRUCTION OF MY HOME, AND
DURING THOSE MOMENTS WHEN I
WOULD STARE ENDLESSLY
AT MY PHONE, WAITING TO
HEAR IF MY FAMILY
WAS OK.

THANKFULLY,
I FINALLY HEARD
FROM THEM, BUT THAT
FEELING OF HELPLESS-
NESS WILL STAY WITH
ME FOR AS LONG
AS I LIVE.



DANIEL,
ARE YOU READY
FOR YOUR FIRST
REAL TRIP TO
PUERTO RICO?

YEAH, DAD,
IT'LL BE FUN!
I'M EXCITED
TO SEE MY
ABUELOS.



I KNOW
YOU ARE
EXCITED,
BUT THIS
TRIP ISN'T
GOING TO
BE VERY
FUN; I'M
SORRY
TO SAY.

WE'RE GOING TO
HELP OUR FAMILY
RECOVER FROM THE
HURRICANE. THEY
ARE IN DESPERATE
NEED OF SUPPLIES,
AND THIS IS THE
ONLY WAY WE CAN
REALLY AID THEM.



ALONG THE WAY, YOU'RE
GOING TO SEE A LOT OF
ADULT THINGS, DANIEL--
BUT I HOPE THIS TRIP WILL
HELP YOU UNDERSTAND
THE SPIRIT OF PUERTO RICO
THAT LIVES IN ALL OF US,
WHILE INSTILLING A SENSE
OF PRIDE IN YOUR HERITAGE.

YOU WILL
LEARN THAT NO
MATTER WHAT HAPPENS
TO US, WE WILL ALWAYS
STAND UNITED AND
READY TO OVERCOME
ANY OBSTACLE.



I WONDER
IF I'M MAKING A MISTAKE
BRINGING HIM, BUT I KNOW
DEEP DOWN THAT I COULDN'T
HAVE DONE THIS TRIP WITHOUT
HIM. MAYBE I'M BEING
SELFISH.

LUIS MUÑOZ MARIN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT,
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO



THERE SHOULD BE ONE MORE, AND THEN WE CAN BE ON OUR WAY.

I WISH WE COULD HAVE BROUGHT MORE SUPPLIES, BUT THIS WAS AS MUCH AS WE COULD CARRY. I SUPPOSE SOMETHING IS BETTER THAN NOTHING.

YOU KNOW, DANIEL, THE FIRST TIME I CAME TO THIS AIRPORT, I WAS YOUR AGE.

YOUR GREAT ABUELOS WERE FLYING BACK FROM A VACATION IN NEW YORK CITY, SO ABUELO MIGUEL AND I CAME TO PICK THEM UP.

AEROPUERTO INTERNACIONAL
LUIS MUÑOZ MARIN

WE CAME A FEW HOURS EARLY, PARKED THE CAR, AND WATCHED AS THE PLANES TOOK OFF AND LANDED. WE WOULD IMAGINE WHERE THEY WERE GOING AND WHERE THEY WERE COMING FROM.

THAT SOUNDS FUN, DAD, CAN WE DO THAT?

I DON'T THINK SO, DANIEL. WE'RE HERE FOR A VERY IMPORTANT REASON.

PLEASE, DAD, JUST FOR A LITTLE WHILE?

PAPI,
WHERE DO YOU
THINK THAT ONE'S
GOING?

SPACE.

YOU'RE
SILLY, PLANES
CAN'T GO TO
SPACE.

HOW
WOULD YOU
KNOW, HAVE
YOU EVER BEEN
ON ONE?

NO, BUT
THAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE!

LISTEN,
SON, NOTHING IS
IMPOSSIBLE. PLANES
MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO
REACH SPACE TODAY,
BUT MAYBE ONE DAY.
WHEN YOU COME TO THE
AIRPORT WITH YOUR CHILD,
PLANES WILL BE
ABLE TO REACH
SPACE.

WHERE
DO YOU
THINK THAT
PLANE IS
GOING,
DAD?

HOW
ABOUT
SPACE?

COME ON,
DAD. PLANES
CAN'T REACH
SPACE.

YOU'RE
RIGHT, BUT MAYBE
BY THE TIME YOU HAVE
A CHILD OF YOUR OWN,
PLANES WILL BE
ABLE TO.

I CAN'T
WAIT TO DO
THIS WITH MY
KID ONE DAY!
I LOVE YOU,
DAD.

I LOVE
YOU TOO,
DANIEL. I
ALSO THINK
IT'S TIME FOR
US TO HEAD
TO YOUR
ABUELOS.

AWW MAN,
CAN WE DO THIS
AGAIN?

I THINK
THAT CAN BE
ARRANGED.

THIS WAS
MY TOWN. IT WAS
MY WHOLE UNIVERSE
FOR EIGHTEEN
YEARS, AND YET,
I HARDLY RECOGNIZE
IT NOW.



SEEING
THE PHARMACY
LIKE THIS BREAKS
MY HEART. I SPENT
SO MUCH TIME
HERE AS A KID.



MY FRIENDS
AND I WOULD RIDE
OUR BIKES HERE EVERY
SATURDAY TO BUY
CANDY AND COMICS.
IT SEEMS LIKE ONLY
YESTERDAY

TRANSLATED FROM SPANISH.

CARLOS,
WE WON'T FIND OUT
WHAT HAPPENS TO
BATMAN UNTIL
NEXT MONTH, WHAT
WILL WE DO?

HOW ABOUT
WE EAT ALL THIS
CANDY BEFORE
IT MELTS?

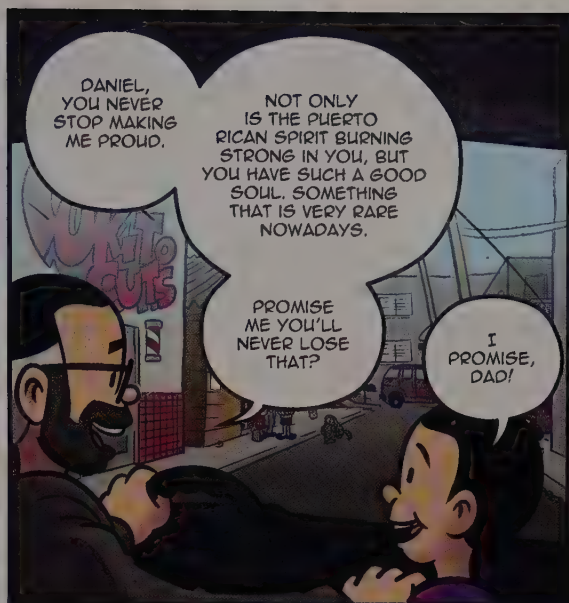


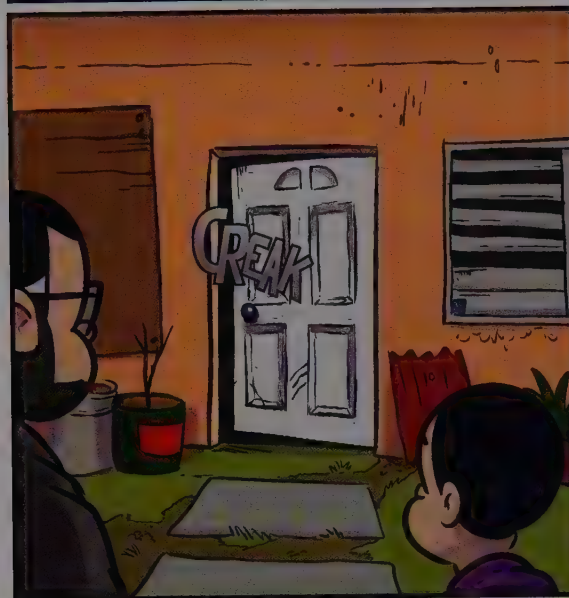
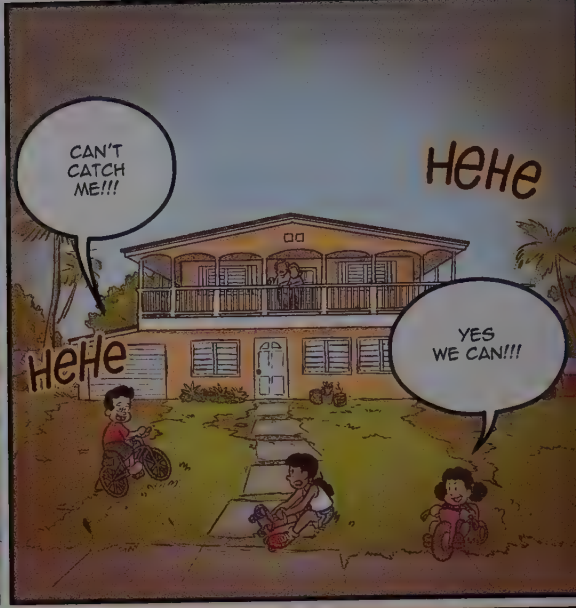
IT WAS
A MUCH MORE
INNOCENT TIME,
FILLED WITH HEROES
AND VILLAINS
AND CANDY.



I ALMOST
WISH THERE WAS
A SUPER VILLAIN,
INSTEAD OF KNOWING
MOTHER NATURE WAS
RESPONSIBLE FOR
WHAT HAPPENED
TO MY HOME.









PAPI,
MAMI.



IT'S
OK, MIJO.
WE ARE
OK.



I KNOW,
PAPI, BUT I
WAS JUST SO
WORRIED! I NEEDED
TO SEE YOU BOTH IN
PERSON TO KNOW
YOU'RE REALLY
OK.

I'M SO
SORRY ABOUT
YOUR HOUSE AND
PUERTO RICO.
I WISH I COULD
HAVE...

LISTEN,
MIJO, DON'T
WORRY ABOUT WHAT
COULD HAVE BEEN.
WE'RE HERE, AND WE'RE
OK. A LOT OF PEOPLE
AREN'T-- THAT'S THE
BIGGER TRAGEDY
HERE.



HAVE YOU
FORGOTTEN
THAT PUERTO
RICANS ARE
STRONG?

WE'VE
OVERCOME
SO MUCH
IN OUR LIVES,
AND WE WILL
OVERCOME
THIS TOO.

I
KNOW
PAPI..
I LOVE
YOU
BOTH.

I'M
SORRY
ABOUT
YOUR
HOUSE,
ABUELA.

SHHH,
IT'S OK.
TELL ME ALL
ABOUT YOUR
PLANE RIDE,
DANIEL, AND
HOW SCHOOL
IS! ARE THEY
FEEDING YOU
ENOUGH?



A FEW HOURS LATER

AFTER
WE GOT TO
THE AIRPORT,
DAD AND I SAT
ON THE HOOD
OF THE CAR.
WE WATCHED
THE PLANES
LAND AND
TAKE OFF.

DID
YOUR
PAPI TELL
YOU ABOUT
THE FIRST
TIME I
TOOK HIM
TO DO
THAT?

YES,
ABUELO,
AND HE TOLD
ME THAT WHEN
I TAKE MY CHILD
TO WATCH THE
PLANES, THEY
MIGHT BE ABLE
TO REACH
SPACE.



NIETO,
I THINK THERE'S
A VERY GOOD
CHANCE OF THAT.



I
HAVE NO
WORDS...

ANOTHER
PIECE OF MY
CHILDHOOD IS
DESTROYED.



GOOD,
MIJO! YOU'RE
GETTING SO
MUCH BETTER
AT CATCHING
THE BALL.

NOW,
THROW IT
BACK.

OKAY,
HERE IT
COMES,
PAPI!



I DREAMED
OF BRINGING
MY SON HERE
AND PLAYING
CATCH WITH HIM,
BUT HOW CAN
I DO THAT?

I KNOW
IT'S SELFISH
OF ME, AFTER
SEEING HOW
UNLUCKY
OTHER PEOPLE
ARE, BUT I
WANTED THIS
TRIP TO BE
SO SPECIAL
FOR MY SON.
I...

DAD!



DAD!

DAD!!

BE
CAREFUL,
DANIEL!

CAN
YOU STOP
BEING SAD
AND PLAY
CATCH WITH
ME?



ABUELO
TOLD ME YOU
TWO WOULD
SPEND HOURS
OUT HERE
THROWING A
BASEBALL.
I WANNA DO
THAT TOO!

I'M SORRY,
DANIEL. I THOUGHT
IT WOULD BE A GOOD
IDEA TO BRING YOU,
BUT I WAS BEING
SELFISH.

I DIDN'T
THINK THAT YOU
MIGHT BE TOO
YOUNG TO SEE
ALL THESE THINGS,
AND I FEEL I LET
YOU DOWN,
BECAUSE I'M SAD
AND MY SPIRIT
IS A LITTLE
BROKEN.



DON'T
WORRY DAD,
US PUERTO RICANS
CAN OVERCOME
ANYTHING.

THANK
YOU DANIEL,
I LOVE
YOU.

NOW
LET'S
GO PLAY
CATCH!

