

# SHEKHINA, WHERE ARE THE FROSTED FLAKES?

**By: Dominique Riutort**  
Editor

Okay, so Shekhina Rivera...oh gosh, where to begin? Let's start with a few words to describe her: model, actress, GREATEST. PERSON. EVER. I absolutely love this girl to death. It all began last year in French 2. She sat in front of me, and to be honest, I never figured that we'd have as close of a friendship as we do now. But, you know what? I'm SO glad we did. It's been an amazing two years with her.

For those of you who don't know her, you've probably seen her strutting her stuff around campus. She's about 5'2" and that's why you can pretty much always find her wearing heels. Oh, and she's kind of a fashionista; in a good way, of course. Everyday you'll find her wearing a super cute outfit, even on her "lazy" days. Shekhina also has a huge heart; She is indeed quite the philanthropist, wanting to help out as many people in need as possible. Her humanitarian efforts include applying for an organization that, over summer vacation, travels to countries that are in need. This year, the organization plans on visiting countries devastated by natural disasters such as Haiti and Chile. These efforts are greatly appreciated; anybody who sacrifices their time, especially their beloved summer vacation, for the sake of others. Shekhina is a great person and I am so glad to have become friends with her.

It started in French 2. As I said, she sat in front of me and little by little we started talking more and more.

Then, this year, we both had third period drama and it was pretty fun. We had the chance to work together on a scene for a theatre competition at Fullerton Junior College in March. Our scene was called "1-900-DESPERATE." It was a really funny scene ("That's a sexy number" "I'm a sexy guy"). Go ahead, say "what the heck?" We don't care. Also, almost everyday after the FJC competition, Shekhina and Sarali would break it down and show us their "duck dance." Quite entertaining.

Sitting next to Shekhina in newspaper was SO much fun. AFTER we finished our work (duh) we would pass our time by doing a variety of things which included: dancing with Po, looking at food on the internet, and reading other people's sad stories to make us feel better about ourselves ("I AM LIKE POOP BOY!"). Sometimes, since newspaper is a collaborative workplace, people would voice their opinions which ignited a controversial discussion (ahem, Michael Jackson). However, since we are all family, in the end, things work out and people break out in song-WE ARE THE WORLDDDD!-in perfect harmony...Just like that. That's right, Shekhina and I broke out to "We Are the World" perfectly in sync without consulting each other first. It was truly epic, one of my favorite moments of the year.

Shekhina has a great deal of things to do over the summer. The most important, however, are our pending trips where Shekhina, Francine, and I drive all the way up to LA and pig out on some sushi at the famous Katsuya. Heck yeah, we're going to be eating in style amongst the many stars who go to eat there. Then, we have our

pending swing/salsa dance lessons in Whittier followed by a trip to the Rocky Cola Café. Over summer, Shekhina also plans on turning 18 and possibly maybe going to EUROPE. (Bring me back a nice Greek boy, please).

Shekhina, I love you dearly and I know that whatever you choose to follow in your future will work out perfectly. You better come visit me!

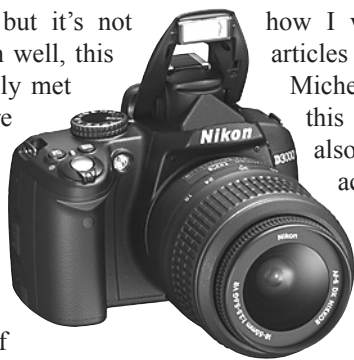


# THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL: MICHELLE IS GONE!

**By: Christina Chavez**  
Reporter/Cartoonist

Michelle Marie Powell is a lovely graduating senior, who is a photographer for this year's newspaper. She is aiming to go on to college and follow her shiny dreams. That there is how Michelle wanted me to start this article (that I was volunteered into doing, thanks Michelle!), but it's not how I would have started it. Oh well, this

I actually met Michelle the summer before this year, which is odd, but then we someone actually knew in newspaper, since we were both new. From that day on it was day after day of saying random things and watching Michelle manipulate pictures in Photoshop, just because she could. The rest of the time was filled with-aside from actually doing things for newspaper-pestering each other to



the point of near annoyance. You poke me; I kick you, that sort of thing. Unless we were looking at some random website as we waited to get our assignments. Michelle's a pretty interesting person, what with the pestering and being taller than me. Okay that's not true, but she is very tall.

She then demanded me to write about her favorite classes. These include foods, since she likes to make food, then eat it, also, Newspaper, because she didn't do much, being a photographer and all, finally, PE, because she enjoyed hanging out with friends and playing activities together. When I asked her about what she's doing after high school she said she plans to go to Fullerton College, majoring in



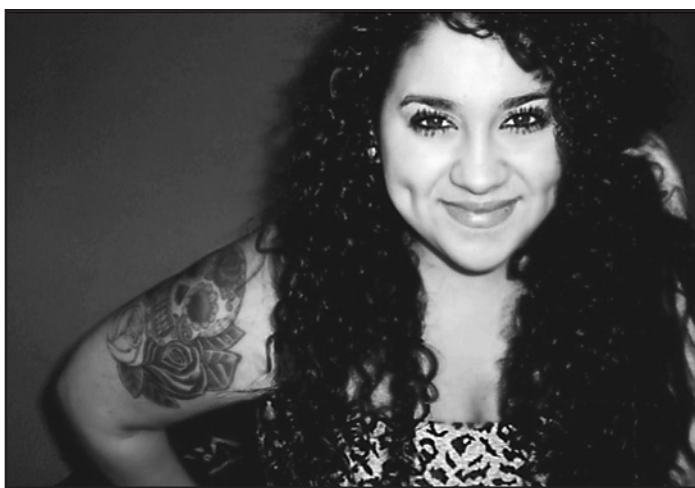
accounting, because "it's very easy," or at least that's what she said. Also with that she's planning to minor in photography, which I get, she is one of our few lovely photographers after all. She says what she'll look forward to most in college is "I can pick what time I want to go to my classes and what classes I want to take and what days I want to take them. I also get to go to school with some of my friends who don't go here so I'll know more people there." No matter how hard I tried I could not get her to think of anything she'll miss about Valencia, she says, with a laugh, that's probably because she just wants to graduate so bad.

Though we have really only known each other for about a year, it's been a pretty interesting year. Sixth period is never dull, being I sit next to her. Probably a really odd friendship and I mean really odd, I'm glad to have met her all the same. It won't be the same without her next year (she told me to write that.) Michelle wasn't very fond of school, however her favorite class was, and will always be Mandarin. May your days be full of happiness and glory. That is your fortune cookie.

# JAX: BECAUSE DICE WAS ALREADY TAKEN

**By: Rachel Schiff**  
Advisor

Jacki (Jax) Aceves graduates on June 15th, 2010 from Valencia High School. Her legacy is left on several parts of campus: El Tigre, the village (1122), Pre-School, and most importantly in the hearts of those who were around her. When asked by her dear teacher, Ms. Rachel Schiff, to describe her, the response was emotional. Jax is the student all teachers wish they had. She's diligent and responsive to criticism. She's kind and carries herself with an astounding amount of responsibility for people's wellbeing. Jax keeps goals in the forefront of her mind and precedes all endeavors as if she's a role model for future students.



When Jax is asked what she might amount to, she'll

respond with pride that she'd like Ms. Marry to retire so she can "swoop" her job. Jax loves the tiny people on campus most. I secretly think it's because they make her feel tall. On a noble note, she continually makes sure no one runs with scissors and no one loses an eye.

Always in the spotlight, Jax has found value in cute clothing and an outstanding head of perfectly curled hair. Elaborately garnished in Old Navy dresses and a cute pair of flats, Jax walked the halls of Valencia in style.

Jax's residential plans are to move onto Ms. Schiff's balcony and feed her cat, Phoebe. When interviewing for this position, Jax had casually mentioned a particular birthday party for her pooch, complete with guests, treats, and presents. The sky is the limit wherever Jax may be.

100 hours of community service is an understatement. You're always helping out! Remember the sanity check you gave after purchasing a house? After a large debate over filing papers and Yogurt-

land, we have come to a conclusion summer school is long and grueling. 2009's heat wave wouldn't have been the same without you. How could one forget how you mastered eye rolling, enhanced your keen sense of smell, and stared at homeless dogs online? Arff Arff!

Some words to Jax, our dear graduate: "Do not go gentle into that good night! Rage, Rage against the dying of the light!" "I do not like green eggs and ham. I do not like them Sam-I-Am!" "Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall. Humpty Dumpty had a great fall." "What is this, a center for ants? How will they learn?" "All morons hate it when you call them a moron." "Knowing is half the battle!", "Cowabunga!" and the most important knowledge of all, "Be true to the streets!"

Ultimately, there are no words that encapsulate Jax. She's not confined to labels or even the English language. I mean, I am the Literary Genius and I am speechless. When does that ever happen? Oh, I have words! Enjoy your future, but recognize that it is the past that creates your opportunities. Stay true to your moral compass. Better yet, stay true to mine! Ha! You will be missed in El Tigre, but not forgotten. Visit us when you can and jog through your memories every now and again. Sometimes it is the mental jog that actually gets us to push our successes further.

Jax, you may take a part of VHS with you, but remember, you have left your DNA and can give it to Mr. Force so we can track you down!!!!

# “AND THE VACUUM SAYS VROOM” -SERGIO’S SONG

**By: Blake and Ben**  
*Alumni and Editor-and-Chief*

*Ben: Guess whose back, back again.*  
 Blake: Blake is back, tell a friend.  
*Ben: Stop talking about you, this is Sergio's article! Gosh dang it Blake.*  
 Blake: Oh yeah... I'm used to being the center of attention. Anyways this is our tribute to our cartoonist, Marketing Editor, journalist, and hipster.  
*Ben: Ben is now writing. Sergio the guy. The end.*  
 Blake: No Ben! Sergio is such a cool guy I had to come back in order to write his senior article. Too bad for you Ben, I'm not coming back next year. You're not cool enough.  
*Ben: Back in the day when Sergio's parents decided to have their third born....*  
 Blake: Uhh Ben lets keep this PG-13. The first time I met Sergio I said, "I love you." He said, "Thanks."  
*Ben: Wait, you told someone else that you loved them aside from me? I like that every sentence I write has to be triple checked for errors and grammar mistakes.*  
*Ben: "I once met Obama on the street. He was wearing an old beanie and ripped gloves. He kept asking for*

*change." Quoted from The Great Serg.*  
 Blake: Sergio likes to hang out in front of Hometown Buffet (pronounced buff-it [look it up, it's true {I'm just kidding <I like these brackety things>}]) because the gray haired veterans are the only ones who understand his sense of style.  
*Ben: Sergio once spent 15 minutes to make a sandwich (Which sand are we talking about Ben) for this old lady. He, for those who don't know, works at the Way of the Sub. The madam then tipped him all of her change, which Obama then took.*  
 Blake: "I can see Russia from my house," proclaimed the old lady. Sergio replied, "I can see two chicken nuggets fighting over bar-b-que sauce from my house."  
*Ben: I can see two crack addicts fighting over a line of coke in the park... It was a lot of bottles. Commercial Time!*  
 Literary Commercial: Penguin walks into an empty room. \*He trips on a dead polar bear\* Penguin says, "Brought to you by Global Warming."  
 Literary Commercial 2: Smokey and Yogi walk into a burning forest. Smokey says to Yogi, "Only you can prevent forest fires." Yogi replies, "I think I left the oven on."  
 Blake: When applying for college Sergio was asked what race he is. Sergio checked the box "Human."

*Ben: Sergio was once made fun of for being a Ser-Gi-Oh....get it? Yu-Gi-Oh? Haha.... ok. Enough of that. Time to be serious. We will miss you. Enough of being serious.*  
 Blake: Yes we will miss you, and Ben you are never serious.  
*Ben: That is what my wife said before she took the house. Sergio, the paper won't be the same. Your 'coon will be missed.*  
 Blake: A cardboard box doesn't constitute as a house. And I don't know what a 'coon is but we will miss your cartoons and oddly out of place fashion. Not that I pay attention to that sort of stuff... YAY "The Devil Wears Prada" is on! I mean, Yay manly things like Nascar and figure skating...  
*Ben: Umm... figure skating? Really? Back to commercials!*  
 Literary Commercial 34: "In Soviet Russia, nuclear bombs fix everything: Oil spills are always cleaned up with them." says crazy Soviet Nationalist. BP representative replies "but

how do you explain Chernoble?" Soviet Nationalist states "Next question." He then whispers "Kill him!" This is all said with a thick Russian and English accents.  
 Blake: Sergio you are a crucial aspect to this paper. Im glad you decided to join this gang of loonies. I hope you have enjoyed the time you have spent here.  
*Ben: Why are you leaving me with this nut case? Oh... I am the nut case!*  
 Blake: After we are done here I'm going to take you to the looney bin.  
*Ben: Have we even mentioned Sergio? Sergio is such a great friend that he allowed us to ramble plus words in his senior article. From all of us here, we bid you goodbye.*



# CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG THE ULTIMATE PRANKSTER

**By: Bo Kim & Shannon Hsu**  
*Reporter and Editor*

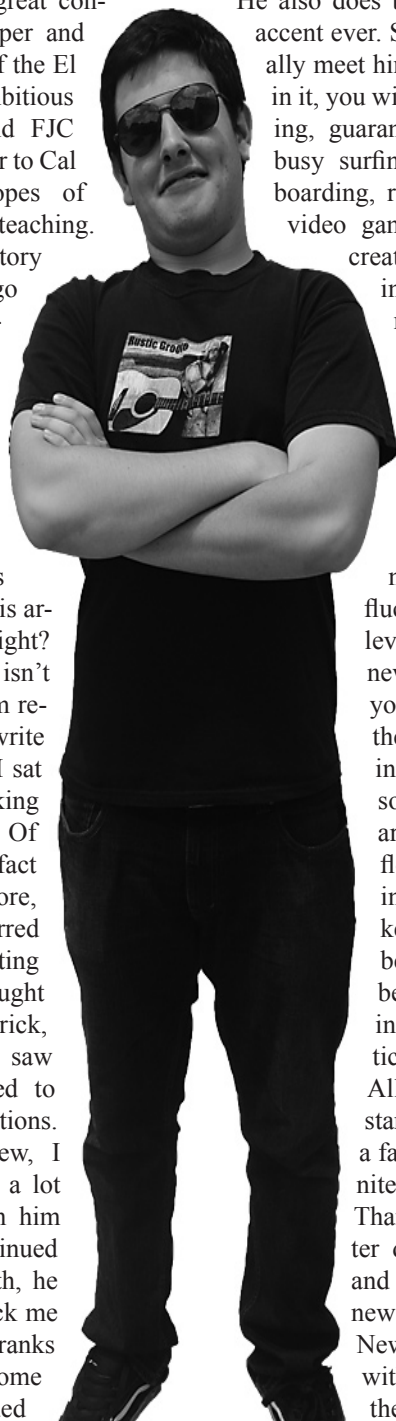
Wan Po. Sammy Chiiwan Po. Or as most of us know him, simply Po. However, it's extremely difficult to cram everything this boy is, not just physically, into that tiny, two-letter name. Indeed, there are few who have walked the campus of Valencia High School, both past and present, who can measure up – both literally and figuratively. Standing well over six feet tall, Po is, using as few words as possible, a long-legged, loud-voiced, surprisingly dirty-mouthed, high-energy powerhouse of spontaneous song and dance (as you can see, it's nearly impossible to describe him in just a "few" words.) It's not uncommon for one to witness Po strutting across campus with the finesse of a model sauntering down the catwalk, only to see him break out into dance seconds later, belting a Lady Gaga hit or one of his favorite Korean pop tunes. It wouldn't be too far-fetched to say that the United States became a little brighter as soon as Po set foot on its soil since arriving from his hometown of faraway Hong Kong.  
 Po's lively demeanor greeted me during our first encounter in a class. My shyness was no discouragement to him, and he always treated me amicably and openly. Our friendship flourished and I have had the great fortune of getting to know a genuinely amazing person. Po is an immensely affectionate boy who never fails to bring excitement to a mundane day. His undying animated, lovely energy and optimism are truly contagious as it motivates his peers to similarly look at life in that bright point of view. He is constantly inspired by those around him, from favorite literary authors to outrageous pop stars, and he channels this inspiration to those around him. Po's jubilant smile and body-rocking,

hair-flipping laughs can be sensed from a mile away, and I find myself impulsively dancing my way to greet him, no matter how downtrodden my previous mood was. With his jolly attitude, he has the uncanny ability of letting people unabashedly reveal their true personalities.  
 However, he is not only a bursting bubble of enthusiastic energy; he is a passionate boy with grand dreams of living a glamorous life in New York. He revels in the beautiful language of scholarly literature, and constantly tells me that he cannot wait until he can "smell the spirit of New York." Po is one of the unique few who possess a true passion for living, and living big. He is departing to the Big Apple in the fall, and he will be dearly missed. But I will smile knowing that he is that much closer to fulfilling his fabulous life that he very well deserves, strutting his handsome self in the streets of Manhattan, and spreading his—well, for lack of a better word—awesomeness.  
 Yes, Po's "awesomeness" will be spread like margarine all over New York, and New Yorkers will experience first-hand the energy and enthusiasm that Po is about to bring to their streets. To give a cheesy and poor analogy, he's kind of like Hansel and Gretel; except he leaves a trail of good moods and smiles everywhere he goes as opposed to not-so-exciting bread crumbs. I have no doubt in my mind that Po will be the biggest thing since King Kong to hit New York City when he begins to attend school there in the fall. When he takes his first bites out of the Big Apple, I can only hope that New York will be ready for him.

**By: Reetu Inamdar**  
*Reporter*

Jack Dauley, a member of the El Tigre staff, has truly been a great contribution to the newspaper and has grown to be a part of the El Tigre family. Jack, an ambitious student, wants to attend FJC and later wants to transfer to Cal State Fullerton, in hopes of achieving a credential in teaching. Once he becomes a history teacher, he desires to go to a law school. However, underneath all the seriousness, Jack is a humble and funny guy. His personality is lively and bubbly, which is why many love to hang around him. I met Jack, literally two weeks ago, and was assigned this article by him. CRAZY, right? I thought to myself, isn't someone who knows him really well supposed to write this article? For nights, I sat on my computer thinking of questions to ask him. Of course, Jack loved the fact that an innocent sophomore, who just recently transferred to this school, was writing his article. At first, I thought he was just being a prick, but, after a while, he saw me stressing and abided to answer my stupid questions. Throughout the interview, I realized that there were a lot of great qualities within him and as the questions continued to flow out of my mouth, he continued to try and crack me up with his infamous pranks and funny comments. Some things that just intrigued

me, as well as made me laugh, was the fact that he is deathly afraid of spiders. He told me a story about him waking up to seeing a spider on his wall and how he began to scream, "Mommy," like a frightened little girl. Just watching his reenactment made me think of one word... "PRICELESS."  
 He also does the worst possible Indian accent ever. So if you ever get to actually meet him, try to get him to speak in it, you will be on the ground laughing, guaranteed. When Jack is not busy surfing, snowboarding, wakeboarding, reading, or playing nerdy video games, he spends his time creating devious pranks. During the interview, Jack was reminiscing of all the stupid things he did, like in fifth grade, when Jack broke his jaw by jumping on a pogo stick. Despite his pranks and stupidity, he loves to serve at church and loves newspaper because of the fluctuations of the stress level depending on when the newspaper is released. As you can see, by the end of the interview, I was laughing and having a blast. As soon as I started writing the article, ideas just began to flow, of course I was laughing while writing it. But I kept on getting distracted because of Jack trying to be a pest by constantly trying to figure out how the article would come together. All together, I can proudly stand by saying that Jack is a fantastic person and is definitely worth writing about. Thanks for all the laughter due to your funny jokes and making this semester of newspaper a great one, Jack! Newspaper will not be as fun without you! Good Luck for the following years to come!



## JOSH IN THE BOX.

By: Leeann Aguirre  
Editor

Saying goodbye to seniors is never an easy thing to do. But saying goodbye to best friends is something incomparable. As one of my best friends, Josh Sumahit has made an impact on my life that I will never forget. Through his writing, love of music and characteristic nature, he expresses his shining personality.

Truly a unique person, Josh stands out in comparison to the crowd. He dares to be different and maintain his free state-of-mind. Though I tend to excite his temper sometimes, he is the kind of person that let's things roll off his back. Once he has decided he's going to have a great day, there's no stopping him. It's this kind of confidence and personality that inspires others to be all they can be.

Josh is one of the most genuine, loyal and trustworthy people I know. People often confide in him because he makes them feel completely comfortable talking with him. He also protects his friends and those he loves. I can really say that the only reason I've seen Josh irritated is because he is worried about the well-being of others. There has never been a moment where he's valued his problems over another's.

There are all need that comfort us and everything will the end of the friend. Everyone him can feel it.

friend who jokes about, out course (ha ha ha)

At the end had mentioned should consider When he finally thought, I was gan planning our of the planning ing articles and writer. When for 5 articles, we stunned. This compared to tered the follow-time it took most

pages, Josh, of course, had written and sent his articles. All of them. This is a small example of his dedication and commitment to his promises and obligations. When Josh makes a pinkie promise, it's understood that the world will end before he breaks that promise.

Though he occasionally trips...everyday, Josh doesn't stumble on his journey to success. The world is his stage and triumph is his spotlight. It's such an inspiration to see this kind of talent, enthusiasm and anxiousness encompassed in one life form.

As his best friend I feel obligated to share a funny moment I've had with Josh. So, one day Josh shows up with a very aerodynamic hairstyle...a Mohawk to be exact. Well, after receiving the usual torment and teasing from me... and the occasional Mr. T comment,

So, apart from making Josh sound like an immortal idol, I'd like to take this time to say that he is down-to-earth (literally, he's 5'4"), honest, free and one-of-a-kind. The world better watch out when Josh Sumahit is released upon the Universe.



times when we friend who can let us know that end up fine at day. Josh is that who is around He's also that everyone tells of pure love of

of last year, I to Josh that he joining El Tigre. accepted the thrilled. We be-first issue. Part process is assign-due dates to each Josh volunteered were all pretty was nothing what we encouring week. In the of us to plan our

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## “I REALLY DON'T CARE, YOU CAN MAKE IT UP” -HER FINAL GOODBYE

By: Leeann Aguirre  
Editor

Stephanie has always been a great friend, an athletic leader and a contagious positive personality. Being active on her soccer team, Stephanie shows her athletic skills as well as her ability to be a leader for her peers. Her communication efforts and concentration are exemplified daily through her position as Features editor of the El Tigre and her friendly nature and understanding shines through on a daily basis whenever she interacts with her companions.

Stephanie has the gift of laughter. Walking into a room or up to a group of friends, she easily eases into conversation and makes everyone laugh. I remember once, just before leaving to take her driver license test, Stephanie had been nervous and cracking jokes as a result. She had us all in tears laughing. This is a great example of Stephanie's personality and vivaciousness, something she holds with her everyday.

Being on the Varsity soccer team, Steph always showed her athletic side and her ability to motivate her team to succeed in their matches. One day, she came into Newspaper with some bruises and scratches on her face. She explained what had happened in the match the day before. I couldn't help but laugh, this was so Stephanie. As one of the many sides she has to offer, it adds to her wonderful personality.

As the Features editor for El Tigre, Stephanie concentrated on arranging articles, straightening out details and communicating thoroughly with the rest of us in class. Every time something was asked of Stephanie, she would oblige willingly. She never ever complained about the amount of pages she was assigned, or articles she was asked to write, or the pressure placed on her to collect articles from writers.

For those who don't know Stephanie is also in Val Tech. She worked hard to exceed in the classes that counted as technology classes--including this class. She had her internship with La Neve Photography for 10 weeks where she learned and perfected her artistic abilities. Stephanie is currently taking the AP photo class and is waiting for her score to come. Stephanie proves to be an excellent photographer-- just look at some of her work. Her draw dropping pictures of people capture their true emotions by incorporating their feeling into that piece. Stephanie is, by definition, an artist.

All in all, Stephanie Calleros is an excellent example of what it means to be a well-rounded person. She is the epitome of a friend; a listener, a leader, and a comedian. These and many other personal gifts she possesses contribute to who she is and will continue to be. For this and many more reasons, I am honored to call her my friend. Thanks for being the person you are Steph, and don't ever change for anyone!



## “LEEANN HAPPENS.”

By: Leeann Aguirre & Sarah Rafiqi  
Editors

*This girl that I'm going to be talking about right now is the closest person to me. She goes by the name of Leeann Aguirre. I met her in 8th grade and that's when it all began. I can remember the day like it was yesterday. It started with a simple hi and her and I not knowing each other, and look at us now. She's the closest person to me. I have no words to describe Leeann, that's cause there is really no words that can describe the type of person she is. She's such an amazing person just with the things she does and how she carries herself. I'm sure that in some part of this tribute to her, I will either repeat myself or not make any sense. That's honestly just because there is really no way I can describe her. There is just something about her that stands out, something that makes you want to turn around and look at her when she walks into the room. Whether it is from her personality, to her artwork, the music that she produces, or to the things she says. She will almost always have you in awe or smiling. I'm so glad that I've gotten as close to her as I have. I have no idea what I would just one of the very close to me. Though when we talk she's ask for her to talk any me because that's know. Never saying another, never refusing, always being those are just a few I could probably about the things her what has happened know her, but I won't. only me, but count-out her life. Though she is one of the few me to better myself make a difference. a whole story about in this tiny little ar-editor in chief has she is around I can you will always have Even if your having make it an amazing don't know how she does, but like she had*

*do without her, she's few that I will hold majority of the time sarcastic, I wouldn't other way towards the Leeann that I anything bad about ing to help a friend there for someone, things that she does. write a whole story and I have done and by me getting to She has helped not less people through-it may sound corny, people that inspire and to get out and Instead of writing her, I will sum it up ticle space that our given me. Whenever guarantee you that a smile on your face. an off day, she will day. How? I really does the things she told me*

*“Leeann Happens”. She is very stubborn, hard-headed, and at times arrogant, but I love her to death. She is and will always be thee Lion that will defend her Peach, even if she was knocked out.*

Leeann is one of the best friends I have ever had in my life, and, after the impression she has made, she will most probably be one of my best friends for as long as I live. But that is the way Leeann is. She is original, unlike any other. Her charisma hangs about her in a cloud, reaching inside others as would a sweet perfume. Leeann has a zangy attitude and a sense of humor that leaves you to wonder whether to laugh or hit her on the head. And then, even beyond all this, is Leeann's creativity. She has a sense of style that marks itself as all her own. In fact, it is impossible for me to sit here and think of Leeann without envisioning her drawings, her paintings, her dress designs, or even her poems. Leeann Aguirre is a testimony to free-spirits and an ally to inspired minds.

She is the black sheep in the crowd who always knows what to say, even though it is something that nobody else could have thought of. She also always knows exactly when and how to fight back. Despite that fact that she is very open-minded and loving, Leeann's beliefs are her own and she will defend them until she is victorious. The only way to describe such an attitude is by comparing it to that of a lion's. Loving and loyal, yet fierce and courageous, this is what we see when we see Leeann. Is it then no wonder that I call her Mufasa? Is it then no wonder that she and I are Rafiqi and Mufasa, friends forever.

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