

Ms. Benegar.

I would like to start off by saying Ms. Benegar that I was and still am at a loss for words. Honestly, I can't read your words simply because I have so much to thank you for. You are the reason why I am now a good writer. And also the reason why I have no accent; you were a great teacher. I remember Charlie and The Watermelon; how can I ever forget that? That was one of the proudest moments of my life. I tell anyone who cares to listen about that story and how proud you were of me. No lie. I mean everyone. Because from that day forward I started to become more interested in writing. Unfortunately, however, so did my interest in keeping bad company. However, your encouragement is something I will never forget. The honest truth is because it is the one thing which has kept me going to this day. I really hope you are proud of yourself because you did a great job teaching me how to write and speak English clearly. And don't ever feel like your hard work is going to waste at any time. Because every tiny seed you plant today might grow to become a beautiful tree. Your encouragement will help that child overcome his/her insecurities, despite his/her situation, and push him/her to share their talents with the world. Just as I have.

I chose to live my life the wrong way. I blame no one but myself. At 17 though I thought I knew something. Now I've realized I knew nothing at all. I don't know everything now but I know enough to be able to distinguish right from wrong. I know that

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I know that live also realized that there are plenty of people who need guidance and so I hope my writings touch some of them. So I don't mind you sharing my poems with your students. In my heart, I wish I could do more for them. Because I know how hard it is to be in a different country, surrounded by different people, a different tongue, a different everything. Some of your students might have one or both parents in Mexico and that pain they feel inside caused by that separation. That emptiness they feel in their hearts might keep them from seeing and reaching their full potential. Because that pain clouds everything else. Everything that child might want to achieve become just thoughts inside his mind. Because what matters in that child's heart is seeing that special someone again. I know because I'm speaking from experience. So I understand. With your help and guidance, those children can see themselves becoming anything they yearn to become. They can live their lives to their full potential. All we have to do is learn to believe in themselves.

I am thankful that The Creator allowed me the opportunity to finally thank you for everything you have done for me. I hope The Creator blesses you today and always. Thanks again and again...

Sinceramente, Jesus Andrade Ruiz