

Eva Sandoval

Reflection

Both my mask and my skull represent my great grandmother, Gigi. She passed away five years ago at the astonishing age of ninety-seven. She was my great grandmother on my mother's side, and she lived in Los Angeles, California.

I never had a great relationship with Gigi, given that we lived in different states and it was hard to communicate with her because of her age. I do remember visiting her house when I was little and watching black and white movies from the twenties and thirties. She had a stubborn attitude when it came to trying new things, like her refusal to watch any television that was not black and white, trying new food was forbidden to her, and the acceptance that she needed a hearing aid. That is what I remember most, literally screaming to communicate with her, but her swearing up and down that her hearing was perfectly fine. Even though I did not know her too well, I still know that she meant a lot to me when she was around. I know this because of the way I remember her and how thinking of her makes me happy.

I choose Gigi for two reasons, one being that I knew creative ways in which I could express her personality through the skulls, and the other being that she is the only person whose personality I knew that has passed away. I don't know that many people who have passed, and out of the ones who have, I didn't really know them that well. Gigi, although I didn't have a great relationship with her, I remember almost everything about her. Right when this project was introduced to me, I instantly thought of creative ways to express her. For an example of a way I represented her was I knew that she loved the outdoors and was from Canada, so I filled in the nose of my mask as a mountain peak.

On my mask, I represented her through the colors I used and the details I put on it. I used red and orange for her eyes, symbolizing her stubborn personality. I colored in a majority of the details on the mask blue, to represent where she came from. In Canada, it is very cold and I felt like blue was a good color to represent that. I added a variety of different colored feathers on the side of her head to show her love for the outdoors. I also represented this through the mountain peak in the nose of the mask. The feathers represent a bird. The different colors are to add more style and personality to the mask.

For the sugar skull, I represented her passion for being outdoors by painting a mountain range on the back of the head. I know that Gigi was very into classic romance stories, so I put a flower on the top of the skull. In a lot of movies, the classic romance scene is two lovers sharing a dance, and usually a rose is involved. Unfortunately, I found drawing a rose extremely difficult, so I decided to just draw a simple flower. I painted a majority of the skull purple because that was her favorite color.

Día de los Muertos has made me realize that remembering a loved one should be a positive experience. When you are remembering a loved one who passed, you should embrace their spirit through making things that they liked or sharing memories with others. Instead of

overlooking the passing of a loved one, you should celebrate them and remember them through fun and positive activities that allow you to celebrate them through what they enjoyed. Rather than just remembering the loved one who passed, you can also welcome in their spirits and feel their positive energy as if they were with you.

Eulogy

Hola, me llamo Eva Sandoval. Mi máscara y cráneo es de mi bisabuela. Se llama Gigi. Ella fue de Vancouver, Canada. Ella fue muy baja y terca. Yo estoy en su pensamiento del espíritu. Yo estoy en Filadelfia y ella está enterrada en Los Angeles. Yo estoy triste y la extraño mucho. Día de los Muertos a cambiado mi mente desde el tema de celebrando y acordando sus queridos en un forma positivo. Muchas gracias, adios.

