

I Remember

I remember the old, musky scent
Like a nursing home
A place full of old people
Antiques collecting dust in all the rooms
People too old to clean

I remember the retro appliances
Avocado green
Washer and dryer
Sink, stove, and dish washer
Things only current in the seventies

I remember the plants along the windows
With a smell all their own
Blossoms growing on the leaves
Or fruit growing on some
The water stains in the carpet

I remember the traditional Mexican cuisine
Avena for oatmeal in the mornings
Arroz for ever-present rice
Carne asada for cooked meat when there was nothing else
Atolé without an English equivalent

I remember the house in daylight
The occupants never alive past eight p.m.
The plants outside being fed
Birds chirping
But never the sun setting or stars twinkling

I remember the lessons I learned
Always make your bed
Clean up any messes when you make them
Take good care of the *muebles*
Listen to your parents

I remember my second home