

THE IMAGINE SOCIETY

MAY 26, 2021



**SPECIAL ISSUE CELEBRATING NURTURING
KIDS MAY EDITION VOLUME 21!**



"Giving kids clothes and food is one thing, but it's much more important to teach them that other people besides themselves are important and that the best thing they can do with their lives is to use them in the service of other people."

- Dolores Huerta

An Endless Drive

by Dayelin De La Cruz

Dolores Huerta emphasized the importance of teaching the youth that everyone is just as vital to the world that we live in. She believed the most efficient use of one's time is the act of service. When you become involved and passionate about service, one may find that time flies by as if you were enjoying a day at the park for example. This type of work teaches you about yourself, goals you want to accomplish, others, the environment, and much more. It is not something that one should feel miserable doing, but rather,



Nurtured Flowers Bloom!
Artwork by Hannah Fenton (12)

...continued from page 1

excited. Over the past 6 years, the **Spirit Squad** founded by **Ms. Robin Klueber**, has been heavily involved in all different types of service ranging from the food pantry, a homeless shelter, organizing donated cans, Imagine Society events, and many more. The service done is performed by the youth because as Ms. Robin always says,

"We are the future." From time to time, we would go on trips to celebrate our hard work. This is a collage that recalls how much the service we do has grown since the beginning. Not only has it been the **Spirit Squad**, but other youth volunteers who are younger, adult volunteers, Ms. Robin, Fr. Kearney, **The Imagine Society**, and many more! **We are family.**

After graduating Loyola, I will be continuing to volunteer at Ascension while looking to further my service experience in new environments. I can't wait to see where this journey goes. The **Spirit Squad** along with myself will cherish all of the memories we have made over the years. We will still volunteer as much as we can. Thank you to Ms. Robin for all she has done for us and many others!



Dear Dayelin, The Imagine Society wouldn't be who we are without you!

Thank you for all your compassion and dedication to service!

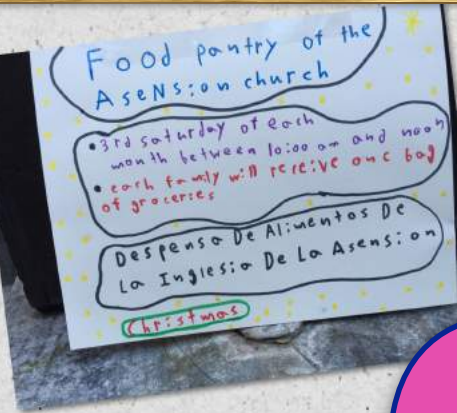
Dayelin De La Cruz (17) is a graduating Senior at Loyola School. Congratulations Dayelin!!!

On the next 4 pages, please enjoy the incredible collages that Dayelin has made in celebrating the Spirit Squad: her time there, the friendships made, and the amazing young people that come together to do such wonderful service with Robin Klueber.

Follow us on Instagram! @theimagesociety

Celebrating the Spirit Squad Through the Years!

by Dayelin De La Cruz







2019

NURTURING!

2020

DEDICATION!





**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2021
GRADUATING CLASS OF THE SPIRIT SQUAD!**

Activism. Compassion. Drive. Feminist. Hero.

More about Dolores Huerta

by Melanie Volz

These words capture the essence of **Dolores Huerta** (May's Cover Quote). Inspired by her mother's independence and entrepreneurial spirit, Huerta became a devoted feminist and later grew as an organizer for labor rights. Huerta was driven by compassion and wanted to improve the lives of those around her. Her role as an activist began in 1955 when she founded the Stockton chapter of the **Community Service Organization** (CSO). The organization led voter registration drives and strove to improve the financial independence of Hispanics. Later, she founded the **Agricultural Workers Association**.



Dolores Huerta!

Dolores Huerta's influence as an activist for labor reformation took off when she met **Cesar Chavez**, another well-known agricultural labor activist. Together, they founded the **National Farm Workers Association**, which later became the **United Farm Workers' Union** (UFW). Huerta helped to organize the Delano strike. Here, 5,000 grape workers protested against their poor pay and working conditions. Huerta would lead another boycott of grapes that resulted in the **California Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1975**. This allowed farm workers to form unions and to receive better pay and working conditions. The act was the first of its kind and was a step in greater equality within the workplace for Hispanics. Huerta's career was packed with negotiating contracts and advocating for better working conditions and pay for agricultural workers.



Dolores' motto by artist Ruben Espinoza



Getting the Presidential
Medal of Freedom in
2012

The legacy Huerta leaves behind is one of hope. A believer in nonviolent protest, she was able to influence the way Americans as a whole viewed agricultural workers. Greater respect was bestowed upon them. At 89, Dolores Huerta continues to encourage change in communities. Through her foundation, the **Dolores Huerta Foundation**, she travels nationwide to give talks and help campaigns in order to support equality and defend civil rights.

Due to her lifelong commitment as an American labor leader and social activist, Dolores received the **Presidential Medal of Freedom** in 2012. Dolores Huerta's continuing determination in upholding equality will serve as inspiration for future generations.



Thank you
Melanie for
celebrating
Dolores Huerta!

Melanie Volz (18) is a graduating Senior from Wantagh High School and joining Harvard University Class of 2025! Congratulations Melanie!

Filiam Ignis

"Daughter of Fire" in Latin

by Zaylen Palacios



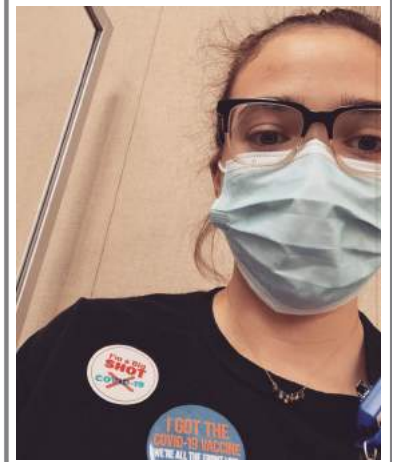
Zaylen Palacios (13) is in 8th grade at Friends Seminary

This is Part II in Zaylen's Four Part Elements Series, Part I was "Masked Child of Nature" from October 2020

Another incredibly accomplished piece of art Zaylen!
Thank you for sharing your creativity with us!



Peace, Love, and Imagine Youth Vaccines!



#vaccinated

My Perspective on the Vaccine

by Hannah Popadin-Lesniak

As the vaccine supply has increased immensely around the nation, teenagers are now able to get vaccinated. I received my first dose on March 31st and my second on April 21st at SUNY Old Westbury. My experience was quite memorable. As I arrived for both doses, I was greeted by kind-hearted nurses and was checked in immediately. The process was as quick as lightning. The 15 minute waiting period after each dose was calming – as multiple nurses checked in on me and how I was feeling and kept a steady conversation to make me feel welcome. When I exited the gymnasium of the college, I was in awe of the art created by a set of post-its. Each post-it was a thank you note to the first responders in the vaccine administrative process. In the photo below, the post-it notes were put together to draw the Statue of Liberty.

In my opinion, I believe that getting vaccinated is a step in the right direction. As the CDC just announced, individuals who are fully vaccinated do not have to wear a mask. This is a step toward achieving normalcy again. It is quite a relief. I encourage you to do your part!



Thank you Hannah for sharing
your story and doing
YOUR part!

Hannah Popadin-Lesniak (17) is a rising Senior at Wantagh High School



If you would like to share what you or your group is doing, would like to contribute to the next newsletter or even be a guest editor please email us: outreach@theimaginesociety.org

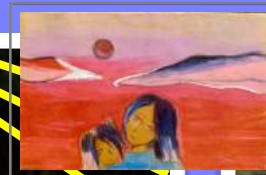
A SHINING STAR FAMILY!

Spotlight on a family of true **SHINING STARS**! **The Imagine Society** would like to celebrate an incredible family, **The Fentons**: Superstar Parents **Valentina** and **Cody**, Imagine Youth Leader **Shelby (14)**, and Junior Members **Hannah (12)**, **Darroch (7)**, and **Casey (4)**. We first connected with **The Fentons** in April 2020, and we couldn't be more grateful that we did! This phenomenal family from the North (Alberta, Canada), has overwhelmed us with their creativity, dedication and drive to help others. **Shelby (14)** has wowed us with her boundless compassion. To name a few acts of service: she created the special Mother's Day card for a donation at our Bronx family shelter, has written numerous pieces for **The Imagine Newsletter** including a lead essay about the perseverance of children with disabilities, and a knowledge piece sharing with us an in depth look at her Woodland Cree culture. All of the Fenton kids have contributed countless masterpieces to our **#MessagesofLove** campaign too! Proud Mama **Valentina** is the founder and creator of **@FentonGalsBeading** an accessories company committed to donating proceeds to vulnerable women and children, while creating and sharing the beauty of her Cree culture. She has so generously donated to the Bronx Family Shelter and **Stardale Women's Group**, a nonprofit that offers services to Indigenous girls and their communities. **Valentina** is a shining example of nurturing her family and community with love and support, and in turn her family has helped so many. Thank you **Fenton Family**! You inspire us!

Cody (Dad) was born and raised in Cochrane (Alberta, Canada). He is a welder and handles quality control for welding. He enjoys team roping, skiing, fishing, camping and spending time with his family!



Valentina (Mom) was raised in Fort McMurray (Alberta, Canada). She enjoys beading, making moccasins, cycling, running, watching stand-up comedy, planning grassroots fundraisers and spending time with her family!



Shelby (age 14) enjoys drawing, anime, horseback riding, skiing, skateboarding, fishing and learning to play the flute!

Hannah (age 12) enjoys fishing, skiing, skateboarding, horseback riding, collecting stickers and stuffies. She'd like to be a veterinarian when she grows up!

Casey (age 4) enjoys skiing, horseback riding, trains, army tanks and hot wheels!



Darroch (age 7) enjoys learning about animals and sea creatures, skiing, fishing, swings at the park. He'd like to be a veterinarian when he grows up!





The Imagine Society is honored to be invited for the 2nd year to have our youth leaders involved with **The Clara Lemlich Awards!** This inspirational event honors female activists in their 80s, 90s, and 100s! Please see below an excerpt from introduction and interview conducted by **Youth Leader Dayelin De La Cruz (18)**, graduating Senior at Loyola School and **2021 Honoree Suleika Cabrera Drinane**, Advocate for the Elderly. To read the full interview, learn more about the 2021 Honorees, and the amazing **Labor Arts** please go to: laborarts.org/lemlichawards/2021/

Suleika Cabrera Drinane was born in Santurce, Puerto Rico and raised in Spanish Harlem. Ever since she was young, she knew she always wanted to work with people. She learned particularly from her mother who was a leader on the block they lived on. "While she took care of so many others, there was always enough food and clothes for all of us - me, my two sisters, my brother, and my father who was a merchant seaman, strict, respectful, and loving."

She is a strong advocate who has dedicated her work towards elder and women's rights. Suleika has filled multiple roles on boards and councils. In my interview with her, I asked what is it about seniors she is passionate about. Suleika said, "In our culture seniors were always seen as vital parts of the family so for me ensuring that Hispanic seniors, in particular, have access to all of the benefits and services to which they are entitled has been a passion." Suleika acknowledges the fact everyone ages, and it is important to do as much as possible to support them.

From a young age, Suleika was active in services within her community. She was involved in youth leadership activities of La Milagrosa Catholic Church at 7th Avenue and 114th Street. In addition, she participated in a local community agency, Casita Maria, and later with Aspira of New York. As a youth, Suleika received the Cardinal Spellman Youth Award from the Catholic Youth Organization at Saint Patrick's Cathedral. She says, "It meant a lot to me then and it still does." This was the first of many awards and honors. Ever since she was young, she knew what she wanted to do and she volunteered and participated in different activities as much as possible.

A quote Suleika leaves to young men and women who are activists or trying to be one is, "Stand up for what you believe and then fight for it." Her life is a prime example of this quote. When speaking of identity she says, "Never be ashamed of who you are and where you come from." Ms. Cabrera has had confidence and drive since she was young that has allowed her to accomplish and successfully help as many elders as she could. Learning more about her is a true blessing and source of inspiration.

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Dayelin De La Cruz: Did you ever have a revelation in which you discovered activism was meant for you? If so, can you describe it?

Suleika Cabrera Drinane: No, not really. It was largely something I learned from my mother who was always a leader on our block in Spanish Harlem. My mother was a building Super and later ran a bodega. She was always a block problem solver - a block social worker if you will. While she took care of so many others, there was always enough food and clothes for all of us - me, my two sisters, my brother, and my father who was a merchant seaman, strict, respectful, and loving. From a very early age I always knew that I wanted to work with people.

DD: What about working with seniors makes you so passionate?

...continued from page 12

SCD: Because I am one myself and all of us will eventually be seniors. Our society needs to make sure that all of our elderly can live out their lives with dignity and happiness, with basic needs of income, nutrition, healthcare, and companionship met. In our culture seniors were always seen as vital parts of the family so for me ensuring that Hispanic seniors in particular have access to all of the benefits and services to which they are entitled has been a passion. It is especially important that those providing these services are able to communicate with our seniors and have an appreciation for their language and culture.

DD: Did your neighborhood growing up, Spanish Harlem, influence what you aspired to accomplish in life?

SCD: I have already mentioned the role that my mother played in shaping my life. Another key ingredient was my involvement in youth leadership activities of the Catholic church - la Milagrosa Catholic Church at 7th Avenue and 114th Street in particular. I was also very active as a young girl and teenager with a local community agency, Casita Maria, and later with Aspira of New York, founded by one of the greatest leaders in our community's history, Antonia Pantoja.

DD: You have a multitude of awards now, reflecting on this, did you ever see yourself getting this far?

SCD: Let me just say that one of my earliest memories from my youth was receiving the Cardinal Spellman Youth Award from the Catholic Youth Organization at Saint Patrick's Cathedral. It meant a lot to me then and it still does.

DD: Can you explain how important it has been for you to incorporate your background into your work?

SCD: If by "background" you mean that I am a Puerto Rican woman, born on the island but who came to El Barrio as a young child, where my father was a merchant seaman and my mother was the super in our building, it means everything to me since it made me who I am.

DD: Do you have a particular person you look up to? What about them stands out to you?

SCD: There have been so many people who have inspired me and been role models and mentors for me that it is very hard to identify just one particular person. I guess that more than anything my mother and father made me the person that I am today.

DD: If there is one quote you could leave young men and women who are activists or trying to be one, what would it be?

SCD: Again, that's a hard one. Maybe "Stand up for what you believe and then fight for it."

DD: Being Hispanic yourself and a women, what could you tell young girls who want to make their mark on the world but are scared because of their identity?

SCD: Never be ashamed of who you are and where you come from. Celebrate all the wonderful things about your rich cultural heritage and never stop trying to help all of your "people" to overcome all of the things that are holding them back from being all that they can be.



Incredible work Dayelin!



Thank you Suleika for your time, dedication and inspiring our youth!

Leaving the Nest:

An Interview Between Mother and Daughter

by Foster Schrader



What was your experience of the college process like as a parent? How do you feel about your kids “leaving the nest?”

Fortunately my kids are self sufficient and other than reading over their essays, they were capable of getting the applications in on their own. They handled scheduling the alumni interviews and doing the research themselves, impressing us with their readiness for the next big steps. As much as we're grieving their upcoming absence in our day to day lives we can take comfort in the fact that they are ready to launch and to take on the adventures and experiences that await them. We have given them their foundation and are proud of who they are. They've got their roots and now they're going to use their wings. They've had 18 years with us to introduce them to and imprint on them the values that we hold important, and from here it's up to them to show what's actually sunk in. We will miss them and are not excited about the empty nest with which we are faced, but they're poised to achieve and learn and grow. We have enjoyed watching them develop into the people they are and look forward to seeing what comes next, too.

Our wish is that they will be successful, fulfilled, brave, kind and happy. Not necessarily in that order, but those are important to us. We already know that they're funny, smart and engaging. It's why there will be Foster and Max shaped holes in our worlds in the fall.

Amy Schrader

What was your experience of the college process like as a teen? How do you feel about “leaving the nest?”

September to January was a whirlwind of personal statements and teacher recommendations and interviews. Every conversation I had with a peer started with “So how are your applications going?” And every conversation I had with an adult started with “Any news about college?” Most of my time was spent focusing on the future, rather than the present- preparation for the next chapter of our lives kind of took over this one. And then, very abruptly, it was over.

Because so much of my time prior to getting into college was spent frantically doing work, I didn't have too much time to think about what I was actually prepping for. Of course I knew I was going to college, but it hadn't really sunk in that I'd be leaving home. Leaving is going to be hard- first of all, my parents cook for me (my college essay was about my dad's scrambled eggs), and I'm not looking forward to learning how to do that for myself.

But I'm leaving behind a lot more than just eggs. Recently I was going through my drawers and I found the Hogwarts acceptance letter that my parents made for my eleventh birthday. I read through it and realized that I was crying. Soon I'm going to be eighteen- too old for Hogwarts. An adult. I'm looking forward to the increased independence and new experiences I'll have in college, but I'm also realizing that I'm leaving my childhood behind, and that's bittersweet.

Foster Schrader



Amy & Foster! Thank you!



Foster Schrader (17) is a graduating Senior at Laguardia High School and joining Vassar College Class of 2025! Congratulations Foster!



#Nurturing our Community with Some New #FoodForFamilies Friends!



On Saturday, April 24th, volunteers from **The Imagine Society**, and **The Spirit Squad** were joined by our new friends and volunteers from the **NYPD Traffic Police** to help serve over 350 food insecure families at **The Ascension Food Pantry**! It was a beautiful gesture of solidarity as the police and teens worked hand in hand to sort, pack, distribute and deliver much needed groceries to those in need while building and **NURTURING** our community together! Every pantry client got the complete ingredients plus recipe card for our April recipe: a healthy and delicious Oven-Baked Frittata! This new recipe was provided by superstar Youth Leader **Jesus Tiburcio-Zane**. Thanks to all **YOUR** generous donations, we were able to provide our neighbors with another loving service.

Please check out a beautiful short film about this incredible service event [here](#). **The Imagine Society** continues our youth-led mission to bring love and unity to the society we imagine can be better. Most importantly, our youth members are actively involved in making the entire project a beautiful community experience. Please check out our latest cooking video to see our Teen Chefs show you how you can easily make this veggie packed dish. You can find the 9th episode of our Teen Cooking Series on our IGTV and [here](#). Photos of the spectacular service by superstar photographer **Enid Alvarez** @koolkat130 below! Check out the next page to print our very own recipe cards!





Frittata al Horno



2 Dientes de Ajo
 1/4 de una Cebolla Pequeña
 1/2 de un Pimiento Morrón
 1/2 de un Tomate
 2 Cucharadas de Mantequilla

3 Huevos
 Sal y Pimienta Negra al gusto
 1/2 Taza de Leche Descremada o de 1%
 3/4 Taza de Espinaca
 1 Taza de Queso Mozzarella o Cheddar Rallado

1. Picar finamente los dientes de ajo y 1/4 de cebolla, luego colocar en un plato. Corte en cuadritos 1/2 de un pimiento morrón y 1/2 de un tomate y coloquelos en un plato aparte.
2. Coloque una cacerola o sartén de 9 o 10 pulgadas apta para horno en la estufa a fuego medio-bajo. Déjalo reposar un minuto. Agregue la mantequilla, asegurándose de cubrir toda la sartén. Coloque la cebolla y el ajo en el sartén y cocine hasta que estén caramelizados.
3. Enciende el horno a 350°F.
4. Rompe los huevos en un tazón mediano. Agregue sal, pimienta, pimiento morrón, tomate, leche y espinacas. Batir y agregar a la cebolla y el ajo en la sartén. Déjelo reposar a fuego medio-bajo durante 3 minutos.
5. Después de 3 minutos, agregue el queso encima y coloque el sartén en el horno por aproximadamente 5-7 minutos o hasta que el huevo esté bien cocinado. Retirar del horno, cortar en rodajas y servir caliente. ¡Disfrútalo!

Para ver Tutorial liderado por jóvenes visite nuestro sitio web TheImagineSociety.org/service y síguenos en Instagram @TheImagineSociety



Oven Baked Frittata



2 garlic cloves
 1/4 of a small onion
 1/2 of a bell pepper
 1/2 of a tomato
 2 tablespoons of butter

3 eggs
 Salt & black pepper to taste
 1/2 cup of 1% or skim milk
 3/4 cup of spinach
 1 cup of shredded mozzarella or cheddar cheese

1. Finely dice the garlic cloves and 1/4 of an onion, then place on a plate. Dice 1/2 of a bell pepper and 1/2 of a tomato and place on a separate plate.
2. Place an oven safe 9 or 10 inch saucepan or skillet on the stovetop over a medium-low flame. Let it sit for a minute. Add the butter, making sure to coat the whole pan. Place the onion and garlic in the pan and cook until caramelized.
3. Turn on the oven to 350°F.
4. Crack your eggs into a medium sized bowl. Add salt, pepper, bell pepper, tomato, milk, and spinach. Whisk together then add to the onion and garlic in the pan. Let it sit over the medium-low flame for 3 minutes.
5. After 3 minutes, add the cheese on top and place the whole pan in the oven for about 5-7 minutes or until the eggs are cooked through. Remove from oven then slice and serve hot, enjoy!

To view youth-led tutorial video visit our website TheImagineSociety.org/service and follow us on Instagram @TheImagineSociety



烤箱菜肉馅煎蛋饼



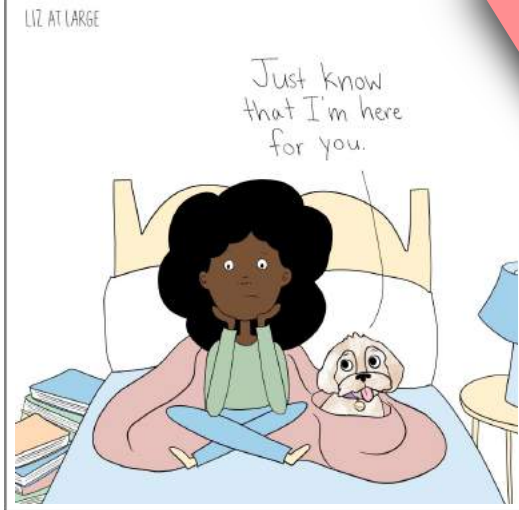
2瓣大蒜
 1/4 小洋葱
 1/2 甜椒
 1/2 番茄
 2 汤匙黄油

3 个鸡蛋
 盐和黑胡椒
 1/2杯牛奶或脱脂牛奶
 3/4杯菠菜
 1杯切碎的马苏里拉奶酪或切达干酪

1. 将蒜瓣和1/4洋葱切成细末，然后放在盘子上。将柿子椒的1/2切成丁，番茄将骰子的1/2切成小块，放在另外的盘子上。
2. 将9或10英寸安全的烤箱平底锅或煎锅放在中低火上的炉灶上。让它预热一分钟。加入黄油，确保将整个锅涂满。将洋葱和大蒜放在锅中，煮至焦糖。
3. 打开烤箱调至350°F。
4. 将鸡蛋打碎成一个中等大小的碗。加入盐，胡椒粉，甜椒，番茄，牛奶和菠菜。一起搅拌，然后加入洋葱和大蒜在锅中。让它在在中低火焰上静置3分钟。
5. 3分钟后，将奶酪放在上面，然后将整个锅放在烤箱中约5-7分钟，或者直到鸡蛋煮熟为止。把鸡蛋饼从烤箱中取出，然后切成薄片，趁热尽情享受吧！



FUN PAGES



Edited by
Junior Member
Katie Gaffigan
(11)



Katie's
Fave
Memes
:)

Lol!

I plan to give you love,
nurturing, and just
enough dysfunction
to make you funny.

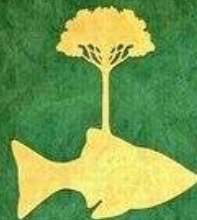
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someecards.com



NATURE VS NURTURE



Everybody is a genius.



But if you judge a fish by its
ability to climb a tree, it will
live its whole life believing
that it is stupid.

Albert Einstein.

Nature Vs. Nurture
Either way, it's your
parents' fault.



WORD PLAY

Edited by
Junior Member
Katie Gaffigan
(12)

NURTURE Word Search

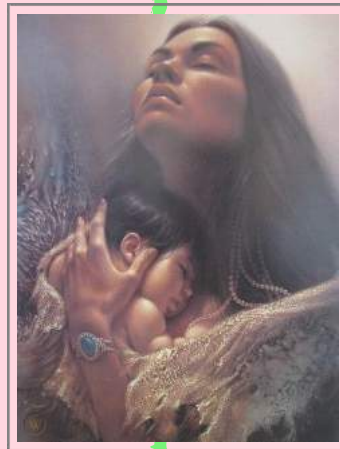
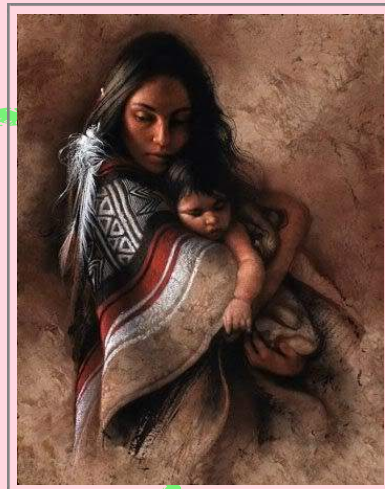
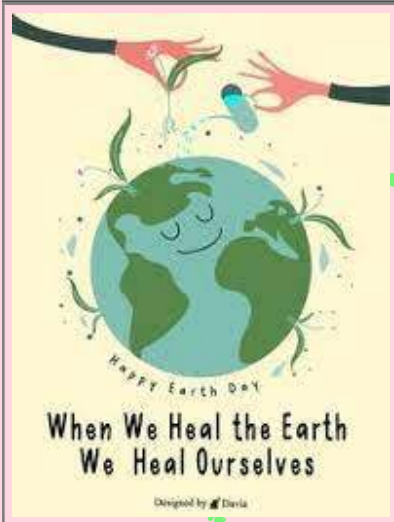
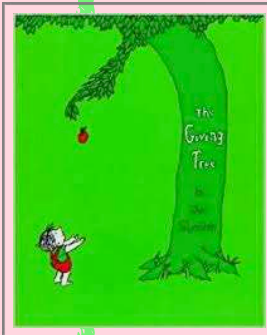
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strengthen
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develop
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restore
feed

cultivate
forward
promote
healing
boost
foster
help

stimulate
further
nourish
provide
raise
assist
care





Written by
Emma Rashes

Illustrated by
Theresa Jahn

aid

raise

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parent

support

advance

encourage

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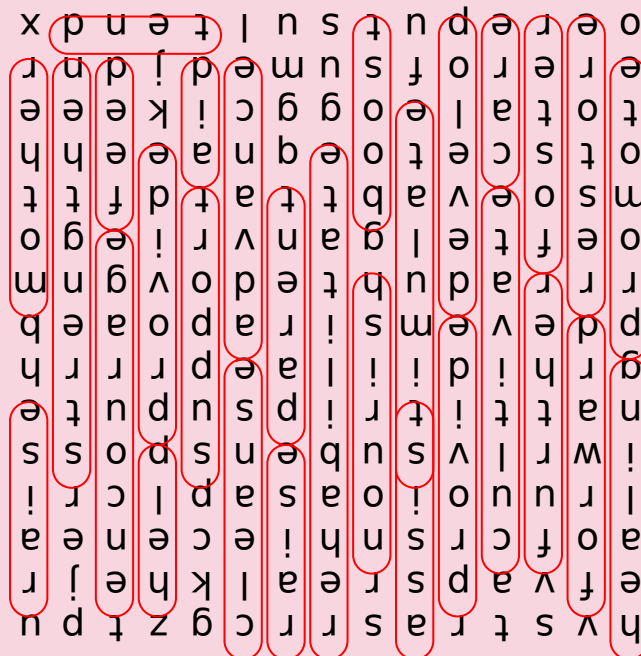
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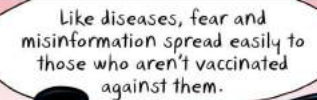
nourish

further

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NURTURE Word Search



FOR CRYING
OUT LOUD!
WHAT?!

nothing
I just
really like
you a
lot

ligolamp.tumblr.com

Uz Qiang