

My Momma
by LeAnna Rains

My momma loves living in California, but she has not lived here her whole life. My momma was born in 1969 in Ontario, Oregon. She grew up with two brothers, four sisters, and two loving parents.

Her parents worked in the business of produce production and packaging. In their spare time, they volunteered in their children's schools and church. Her parents' favorite hobby was dancing to Country Mexican music. My momma lived in a huge house with a large backyard. She would go on great family vacations. Her favorite place to visit was Mexico, where she would learn about her heritage.

My momma's family always celebrated Christmas for two days. The entire family would go to my great-grandparent's house early Christmas Eve. The fathers and kids would go pick a tree, while the mothers baked delicious treats and candies. The day was filled with activities such as tree trimming, ornament making, and cookie decorating. At night they would have a grand feast followed by the exchanging of gifts. Then my grandfather would hurry home to beat Santa. My momma would go straight to bed because she would get up early and open presents from Santa Claus. The day would be spent honoring the birth of Christ, by going to Mass and participating in the re-enactment.

My momma loved her childhood. She played in the snow during the winters and swam in the river during the summers. My momma really likes California also.

My momma moved to California in 1992, thirteen years ago. She moved here to help her oldest sister with her family. My aunt's husband had died in a traffic accident, and she had three children. My momma was there to do anything they needed.

What my momma like most about California is the warm weather that is almost year round. She is not a big fan of the icy roads during an Oregon winter. She also likes volunteering at Bryte School. My momma is happy living here in California.

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