

Wendy Gayland Marin

"The Most Important Person in My Life"

December 14th, 2020 around 12 am, Saul, twelve years old, a middle child of a family of seven was saying he was done with life because he wasn't allowed to watch Total Drama Island until he cleans his room. Daniel, the stepfather, took his laptop and grounded him because this wasn't the first time Saul started to slam things because he didn't want to do his chores. Saul started to exchange some words with Daniel that, let's say, weren't family-friendly. Things started to get out of hand and Victor, the oldest brother, stepped into the argument and threw Saul onto the couch as Saul proceeded to say he didn't want to be part of this family anymore. I was locked in my room at the time trying to stay out of things but my non-sound proof walls weren't too helpful. I heard these words and I heard them very clear, "I thought I had it hard, I thought I had the worst life possible, I wanted to KILL MYSELF. Now that I'm older I noticed how damn easy I had it compared to others. Stop saying dumb things and learn the value of life, be grateful for how much easier you have it than I did at your age dude. Do you have to question every day if mama is coming home with a paycheck enough to feed you and our siblings? Do you have to worry if kids at school are going to bully you for wearing thrift store shoes? Do you have to worry if our broken windows in our small home are going to make it through the damn cold? NO, cause you weren't born yet, you got here when you had Daniel to call father, when we had a good stable home, when you're able to spend all day on your little laptop. Stop acting like you have it hard, you don't know what hard is. Start being goddamn thankful for once. And go clean your GODDAMN ROOM DUDE. It's not that hard." I couldn't process what I just heard. It's been so long since I last thought about our first home. It was a small "house", felt more like a basement, but what's a house other than a simple building. A home, now that's hard to find.

With Victor around, the man that took all the hits for me, the man that slept on the window side of the bed to make sure I wasn't cold at night, this man made our first house feel like a home. He taught me to be grateful for everything I receive in life and to reach for the stars because they're closer than they seem. The dream my stars hold is with the help of cinematography, I am going to tell the stories of the people that feel in the shadows, the stories that have gone untold, and the voices that feel unheard, including my family's, and all thanks to the most important person in my life, Victor.