



Writing Samples

from CREAM City Magazine

Diana Camila Cruz
c_cruz96@hotmail.com
(956) 324 8977



Sorry, I Can't Make It To Your Carne Asada

BY CAMILA CRUZ

Living in Texas and being a vegetarian is like being a unicorn.

Usually, when I tell people I'm a vegetarian they don't believe me, because... "How can you be a vegetarian when we have *carne asada* every other day here?" Well... I can, because I am and I have always been ever since I came out of the womb twenty-two magical years ago.

It also comes as a surprise to some that I'm the only vegetarian in my entire family. I just never liked the taste of meat and once I was old enough to realize that my dietary habits also had a good impact on the world, I decided to never change them. I have consumed meat (mostly by accident) before, so yes, I have given it a chance but I simply don't like it! And before you ask, no, I don't like bacon...

Now that that's out of the way... Being a vegetarian is all fun and games until you're faced with the problem of ordering food when you're out with friends or even worse, a date. Because not only am I vegetarian, I'm also picky as hell and lactose intolerant, so ordering food at a new restaurant is anxiety-inducing. Some would even consider it an extreme sport. "Can I have the grilled cheese, with not so much cheese and can you bring me the buffalo chicken fries without the chicken and with the dressing on the side?" *Ugh.*

However, it's not always that much of a struggle. Thankfully, more and more restaurants have been adding more vegetarian and even vegan-friendly options. I really would like to encourage restaurant owners and chefs to incorporate more diverse selections on their menus. Not only will you spare us with dietary restrictions, pain and anxiety but, you'll be super trendy too. *Lol.*

Boo & Other Scary Things

Finally, it's October! Which means that for all the fans of spooks and trick-or-treating — Halloween is around the corner. Indulging yourself in sugary treats and visiting the Spirit store at least once a week are just two of the must-do activities of this month. However, if you're taking a rain-check from all the fun activities outdoors (boo... get it?), and staying in to watch some movies and not share your candy, check out some of the films we recommend for you to get your spooky mode on. But seriously... share some of the sweets with those poor kids.



Halloween. You cannot just have a movie night on Halloween without watching its most renowned movie. Skipping this scary motion picture would be like skipping coffee on a Monday. John Carpenter, the director, creates the character of Michael Myers, a serial killer who murdered his 17-year old sister when he was six. It is 1978, and now 21-year old Michael Myers returns to his hometown to seek for his next victims. Featuring Jamie Lee Curtis, this film is sure to give you the feeling that you might not be alone. We know, we know, you might get hooked on the other 20 Halloween sequels, but it's worth the watch. Plus, it's Jamie Lee Curtis, I mean... Come on!

Sleepy Hollow. Okay, so maybe I am being biased because Tim Burton is seriously a genius, but we have to give credit to this film. If the image of a headless horseman chasing you down a dark forest does not give you nightmares, then you might want to go get that checked out. Based on Washington Irving's classic tale *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, this amazing, gothic film is the perfect blend of horror, fantasy and romance.

This movie would be enjoyable if watched with some popcorn mixed with candy corn, followed by an exciting pumpkin carving session. If we haven't convinced you yet, well... remember what the eccentric Johnny Depp looked like in 1999? If you don't, watch it, if you do, watch it again. Also, did we mention that headless horseman is played by Christopher Walken? Let's not forget Christina Ricci also comes out! Okay, I'll be right back, I'm going to go watch this now.



A Nightmare on Elm Street. You might want to remember not to leave this movie until the end. In fact, watch this one first if you treat yourself to scary movies on Halloween. Maybe watch a Disney movie right after it to ease the chills. Drink some hot buttered rum or hot chocolate for the nerves as well. Whatever you do, remember to NOT leave this movie for last, or at least right before dozing off. This Wes Craven 1984 slasher film is sure to leave you believing you should not fall asleep tonight. Thankfully, this movie was totally based on a true story... Wait, what? Oh, yeah! It is based on a true story, and just in case we haven't convinced you to watch it yet, Johnny Depp also comes out in it! Honestly, how could we get enough of him? Even with him in it, this film still gives me the creeps!

Whatever you choose to do with your night, make this a night to remember! So for all of our Halloween devotees out there, we hope you fill your night with as many movies, or activities possible. Eat as much candy as you can, and have the scariest, *creamiest* holiday.

BY DENISSE MONTFORT

The 20 Most Basic Halloween Costumes

BY CAMILA CRUZ

October 31 comes once a year, and it is hands down one of the most globally celebrated holidays of them all. Halloween is the only day where it is socially acceptable to take candy from strangers. I mean, who doesn't love free candy?

While sweets are a delicious bonus, our favorite thing here at *Cream* is dressing up. Yet, every time Halloween rolls around, so do the tons of *basic* costumes along with pumpkin spice everything. To help you out this year, we took on the task of narrowing down some of the most basic Halloween costumes of all time so you can be unique this year!

1. Cat
2. Devil
3. Angel
4. Witch
5. Vampire
6. Any superhero
7. Clown
8. Unicorn
9. Audrey Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*
10. Pirate
11. Sandy from *Grease*
12. 20s flapper girl
13. Bunny
14. Wednesday Adams
15. Mia Wallace
16. Skeleton
17. Mermaid
18. Tom Cruise's character in *Risky Business*
19. Mummy
20. Hippie

Bonus basic points if you make any of them sexy. If you do end up choosing a costume from this list, don't worry... We're not judging.

POSH SUSHI & GRILL

(Restaurant review)

One of my favorite places to go out to eat here in Laredo is POSH Sushi & Grill. I'm vegetarian but that doesn't mean my options are limited at POSH. Their menu has a little bit of everything from sushi rolls to tacos, you name it, there's always something for everyone. They have many vegetarian options such as the delicious Vegetarian roll which is a fresh sushi roll with cucumbers, carrots and my absolute favorite, avocado. Yum! I also love their Poblano soup, it's perfectly creamy and it's served with mozzarella cheese and tortilla chips. Honestly, it's to die for. They have four locations in Laredo so make sure to stop by one and check out their amazing food.

WHERE TO PARTY IN LAREDO?

7 Banderas is an amazing restaurant with a fascinating dining experience by day and a great place to go dancing in their beautiful rooftop by night. It's one of my favorite places to go out during the weekends. The music is excellent. They have a beautiful concert venue downstairs in which local bands perform at every weekend, and they always have people singing along. When the bands are done a talented D.J. takes over to get everybody on the rooftop dancing. As for drinks, they have a wide variety of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks. My personal favorite is the "Mexican candy" shot, it is a watermelon flavored shot with a dash of chili powder (Tajín). 7 Banderas is also the perfect place to host a party or an event. If you're looking for something to do this weekend, I recommend you check it out. You won't be disappointed.