Sanita has lived almost three-fourths of a century. May of next year will see her turn seventy-five. The years have flown, and it seems like only yesterday she was in the summer of her life, now suddenly, she is in the winter of her life.

As winter draws near, we look to see what we can leave our descendants that will be beneficial to them.

Money is spent and material things that we treasure currently do not mean anything to our descendants and end up sold or in the pawn shop or simply thrown away. So, what does that that leave? It leaves memories shared with wisdom we have gained through the years.

Sadly, I was not always able to be there when raising my children and grandchildren as much as I wanted to be because I had to work. There were things I wished I had shared but with the challenge of life I did not.

At this stage in life, I enjoy seeing my great grandchildren learn new things and I have the time to spend reading to them and watching them grow. I do not have to run out to meetings. I have the time to share memories with them. But at an early age they will not remember.

So, to preserve those memories and to share things with my children and grandchildren, I did not have the time to do, I am authoring a series of books.

Sharing memories and wisdom gained through experience are the most lasting thing I can give. While it may not mean anything now, maybe in the future.

By sharing this, others will also look at things in a unique way. Our experiences in life define how we look at things.

With age we gain experience and wisdom. We realize that one of the main ingredients is having a sense of humor.

The stories in this book are not all true and will hopefully bring a smile to those who read the book. This is the first in a series of books.

Other books will share the importance of caring about memories and telling history like it was. Sanita was present for much of history and has seen history repeat itself.

L.R. LUCERO:

L. R. Lucero started authoring books to share experiences she has had through her life. She shares memories but also provides stories that are based on her experiences but are not all things she has experienced. The stories are told to make a point clear must how it relates to life.

In the seven decades plus 4 years that I have been on this earth I have seen many changes. Between myself and my late husband of 22 years, we have five children (one deceased) 17 grandchildren and six, soon to be seven great grandchildren.

she spent the first ten years of her life in the beautiful San Lewis Valley, in Colorado, our home was on the border line of Alamosa and Monte Vista. The front of the home was in Monte Vista and the back in Alamosa. In 1959 the Game and Fish Department forced several families to sell homes they had lived in most of their lives because they wanted to make a wildlife reserve. The choice they gave the families was to sell what they offered, or they would come in and condemn the property and they would still have to move but without any compensation.

After leaving the San Lewis valley, she moved with her family to Grand Junction, Colorado. Expect for six years during her twenties when she moved to Denver, Colorado and for about six months when she lived in Orlando, Florida she resided in Grand Junction, Colorado.

She worked in human services as for a number of years, with the D.D. population in administrative positions and as a visiting supervisor for parents who had lost their children through DHS or devoice.

She is also a Breakthrough parenting instructor.

She believes that education is important, but feels that common sense mixed with faith, humor, experience which supplies wisdom and empathy is just as important.

WRITTEN FOR:

My late husband

My children

My grandchildren

All future generations

And all those who were there along the way to help.

INTRODUCTION:

This is the first book in a series of books about the importance of memories and history and the importance of having a sense of humor. This book tells stories based on Sanita’s family mostly from a humorous perspective. The stories are not completely true as the reader will be able see. The names have been changed to protect the not so innocent.

The books starts out with a recap about the “Good old Days.”

In three-fourths of a century Sanita has many memories and was around when history was being made such as the civil rights movement. Each book will tell a different story.

In 1999 Sanita married Xan, who had two grown sons who joined Sanita’s family. There were also three grandchildren. More of their story and time together will be told in a future book. Xan passed away in 2021. Xan is missed he was an especially important part of Sanita and her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

As we grow older, we realize how important it is to keep memories and history alive. Sometimes as we grow older, we relive memories of earlier days when there were family gatherings and we were able to come together as family, before everyone became too busy.

SANITA’S TRUE AND UNTRUE STORIES

SANITA’S MEMORIES AND STORIES (BOOK ONE)

WRITTEN BY:

L.R. LUCERO

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SUMMARY:

AUTHORS NOTE:

CHAPTER ONE: SANITA TALKS ABOUT GROWING UP IN THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Yes, there was life before the internet, it was a much simpler relaxed life. Just imagine, no cell phone no phone or tv till later.

**PLUMBING:**

For some families, until the fifties or even the early sixties there was no indoor plumbing. There was a little outhouse. Oh, the fun of going down a path at night trying not to step on frogs or snakes. During the summer hoping your bum does not get stung by a bee. Of course, on the plus side you did not have to worry about a plumbing bill, when full you just dug a hole, placed the outhouse over it, and covered the old hole up.

**THE KITCHEN:**

No matter how hard they try or what they invent nothing can compare to that cast iron skillet that was used by pioneer woman and is still in use today. Roast beef with carrots and potatoes was out of this world cooked in that skillet in the oven. Bacon and eggs or fried chicken or steak anything tasted good cooked in that skillet. It was used on top of the stove or in the oven. There was also a cast iron pan that had places that looked like a corn cob, to put the cornbread mixture into that made corn bread taste like nothing you have ever tasted before.

Now I have also been told that the old cast iron skillet could turn grandpa into a marathon runner! Why it has been said that when granny got her Danner up and reached for that skillet, grandpa ran faster than a jack rabbit with a pack of hound dogs on his heels!!

There was also a wooden spoon that was used for cooking, stirring the clothes in the rinsing tub and when grandma got fed up with antics of her grandchildren, all she had to do was pick up that wooden spoon and they would scatter.

Back in granny’s day they had choices at mealtime also. When they did not like what was cooked for a meal, not a problem it would simply be put up and at the next meal they would find it in front of them again. Until it was eaten, they did not get any food, it was assumed that when they got hungry enough, they would eat it. It was a waste not, want not.

Now it was a different story if dad complained, he got to wear it! Dad soon learned to appreciate what was put before him or simply give it to the dog under the table, when he thought no one was watching.

**LAUNDRY:**

Laundry day an old tub was brought into the house to be used to rinse the clothes that were washed in an old wringer washing machine, that the woman was happy to have. They said it was much better than the bucket and scrub board their mom had.

Grandma’s handmade lye soap was used (no worries about children or teens eating it) First the light clothes were washed then ran through the winger on the washing machine into the tub that had rinsing water. After the clothes were rinsed, they were run through the winger and taken out to be hung on a clothesline to dry. In the wintertime your hands froze, the clothes froze but smelled so good! Could this be partly to blame for all the arthritis in older women’s hands today?

And of course, there was the diaper bucket where mom washed the baby’s diapers by hand. No disposable diapers in those days!

**BATHING:**

Bathing day was an adventure! The same tub that the clothes were rinsed in was brought into the house if you were lucky, it was a big tub but there were also smaller tubs that you could not stretch your lets out. Water was boiled on the stove and then one by one starting with the youngest the family took a bath usually dad went last. Yes, you heard that right in the same water!

Unheard of today, right, of course right. Now we have at least one, usually two or more bathrooms in a house. Nice shower or bath. Special body bath soap or we can soak in a hot tub or just a regular tub with bubble. We have shampoo and conditioner. No one would even think of bathing in the same bath water (will there are exceptions, if you get my drift) Same thing applies to a shower.

**WEDDINGS:**

Now in days past there was a good wedding and a bad wedding. The good wedding was between a man and woman who loved each other and wanted to spend their lives together. In those days it was important that the families of the bride and groom got along and were not feuding.

It was a grand affair with beautiful dresses and a party afterword. The couple were showered with gifts and the bride brought a dowery.

What was a bad wedding, you ask? Well, let me tell you it was when two people a man and a women decided to playhouse before the wedding and were caught. Usually, a child was on the way. What occurred then was called a shotgun wedding, yes you heard right the bride’s father would get the old shotgun and point it at the groom until he said, “I do”. Yes, this did happen.

**GROCERY SHOPPING**

Grocery stores used to be places where you put your items in a cart without having to hunt all over the floor to find where the item had been moved to. If you had a question, you could ask someone who worked there, that would help you. Now you must find things for yourself and then wait if an employee is slowly restocking items. They liven things up by being sure to move things around, so you never know where to find anything. They like to put like things in various places so you can hunt all over, for example: Kool aide is in two or more separate places in the store as with many other things. It keeps life interesting, and God forbid if the employees are asked help or move out of the way.

Then you took them to the checkout line and the checker took them out of the cart and scanned them or put the price in before the scanner was invented. Someone bagged the items for you and put them back in the cart, then when the transaction was complete, they took the items out to your car for you and put them in your car trunk. The checkers were there to check your items for you, they did not stop to gossip or complain, they only had a certain amount of time to check your groceries if they wanted to keep their job.

We have come a long since then. Now you get to bring a cart in from outside if you want to use your cart. You get your items, take them to an extensive line stand and wait while the cashier chats with her/his friend. When it is finally your turn you take the groceries out of your cart and put them on the belt. If you want a bag, bring your own or pay for a bag in the store. You watch as the cashier in slow motion picks up each item, you may or may not have to bag your own items then you put your items in the cart. Then you get to take them to your car and put them in your own vehicle, having spent at least three times the amount you spent when you did not have to do everything for yourself.

Now you can avoid the clerk by checking out yourself, if you make a mistake, no worries within a half hour or so a clerk will wonder over and push a key so your resistor will work again.

**THE SERVICE STATION**

Remember going to the service station to get gas and an attendant came out no matter what the weather was like. Not only did you get gas you got your tires checked, and wind shields also were washed and everything under the hood was checked. This service was given even if you only got fifty cents worth of gas and yeas that would go a long way in the old days. If you have a question about your car the attendant will be ready to help if he can, usually at no charge. No credit cards but most stations had a charge book where customers could sign a sheet and pay when they got paid. Coffee was always ready for free, and customers could visit with the attendant. A lot of times the customer brought donuts or a homemade item to sit and share with the service station attendant.

You could not buy a lot of snacks but there was a pop machine where you could get an ice-cold soda for a dime. Sometimes if a child wanted a soda and did not have the money they were allowed to sweep or empty the trash for a soda. No freebies as it was believed items had more value if they were earned.

Now if the station had a chest freezer sometime at night teenagers or younger sometimes older would simply open the freezer lid take the bottle cap off and stick a straw in the bottle and enjoy a free soda! The freezer type was soon replaced with the upright freezer. No police officers were called, the owner would usually just shake his head and consider it a prank. If the owner knew, who did it, he would confront the person and have them do work around the station, or let their parents know.

It is rare now to find a service station that provides any kind of assistance. It is mostly to do it yourself and if you have a question about your car you need to make an appointment and be ready to pay for it.

**ENTERTAINMENT:**

For entertainments there were movies in those days it was safe to drop the kids off with a quarter to see a movie and get a bag of popcorn, yes you heard that right a quarter.

There was also the dive-in which families enjoyed going to. I have a memory of taking roast beef sandwiches and Kool aide to watch a movie on the big screen. There was a concession stand also. Now in the teen years the drive-in was a good place for a date. Sometimes it was only a dollar for a car. Other times well, kids stunk in by hiding in the trunk or climbing over the fence. There was a swing seat by the big screen for children. Many people bought chairs or sat on the car trunk. At that time there was a speaker on a pole that you could bring inside the car window to hear the movie.

**TRANSPORTATION:**

The cars were built to withstand being hit they were not like some of the ones today. There was no need for insurance, the cars were not easily damaged and if they were then the person who was responsible took care of it. Boys enjoyed working on cars after school.

**TIMES HAVE CHANGED:**

Gradually through the years of course things changed, every house now has colored TVs in several rooms throughout the house. Everyone has cell phones and multiple electronic devices.

Elderly people are no longer respected for their years of knowledge. Many family members do not want to spend time with grandma and grandpa, they are too busy with their own life. Younger people talk disrespectfully to the older generation, even their own family members who have been there for them their entire life. In the old days, any disrespect could have resulted in a visit to the dentist.

CHAPTER TWO: THE VAMPIRE SUPERVISOR

(daughter)

Paola loved going to school and was active in drama and the band. One time her band went to Disneyland to participate in a parade.

She spent time working in fast food places until she decided she wanted to become a phlebitis. She also took courses in working as an ETM.

She has two children Alira and Samus. She raised them as a single mom although she did have help from their dad.

After many years’ experiences as a vampire (phlebitis) Paola has become a supervisor for vampires.

Every day, they ride around in their bloodmobile looking for victims. They particularly pray on professional blood suckers such as lawyers they love to suck the blood out of them, it is called what goes around comes around. And the IRS is always welcome they love to do blood draws on them.

It does not matter what color the skin is, all the blood is red.

One Halloween night after a successful blood drive, they started back just as it was getting dark. They had a real ding bat, bus driver, she told Paola that they needed gas, and she knew of a gas station along the way. They took a turn into a little winding road and sure enough there was a little gas station. However, the gas station only had regular gas Paola, told ding bat that the bus only took diesel, ding bat said no it takes regular and proceeded to fill the bus with regular gas which ruined the bus.

By this time Paola was becoming suspicious and she felt something just was not right. Ding bat did not know that Paola was a former girl scout who was always prepared for everything. Paula has also always been fascinated by real vampires and was an expert in that field.

Paola quickly went to the storage area of the bus and got out her special kit, as she had seen strange people start to come out of the gas station. She put on her cross necklace; she had bought on a recent trip to California with Sanita. She took out a crucifix and quickly gave each of her crew members some garlic. When she did this Ding bat backed away and went running into the station where the strange people were. Ding bat and her friends took off into the woods as fast as they could.

Paola’s work sent a bus, and they all went home, it is said the driver of the bus that came to pick them up thought they all had a nice spaghetti dinner with lots of garlic and garlic bread.

Paola told her manager that Ding Bat had run into the woods. Her manager thought she was simply scared because she ruined the bus.

Paola did have wooden stakes and she and a few of her friends were going to go back to the woods and finish it. However, a few days later they heard on the news that the vampire slayers had found several coffins in the woods with vampires, so they drove stakes into their hearts and that was the end of Ding Bat driver.

Paola also has a dog named Ava and a dog named Trouble. Now Ava is the oldest, so she feels she is entitled to certain privileges. Now one day after a long day riding around on the blood mobile Paola came home. It was Christmas eve and Santa Dog was supposed to go around and give all the good dogs bones. Well, that night the neighborhood was filled with howling dogs. Paola did not know what was going on!

When Paola tried to go into her house something was blocking the door, she finally got the door open and low and behold her whole living room was filled with dog bones and Ava was busy enjoying them and teasing Trouble and Alira’s, four puppies. Ava would not let them near the bones.

Ava smiled at Paola and as Paola looked down, she saw a contract signed by Santa Paws and it read that Ava had been hired by Santa Paws to deliver the bones to all the good dogs in the neighborhood. However, after checking the list, even checking it twice it showed that the only nice dog on the list was yes you guessed it AVA!! Every Dogs name besides Ava’s that was on the good list had a dog paw on it to take their name off.

Paola say’s “Ava let me see your paw.” With a sheepish dog smile Ava held up her paw that was covered in ink!

Paola tells Ava she better share now! Ava looked at Paola with her big sad eyes but gave all the other dogs in the house each a little bone.

CHAPTER THREE: CRAZY GRANDMA

(daughter)

Naya had three children: Mathyoo, Ambretta, and Adrina. She was a single mom but did have help from Adrina’s bio dad, Adar. For a number of years, she had a boyfriend named Manu who helped her with the kids.

She is also grandmother to five grandkids, soon to be six.

Naya is affectionally known by her five grandkids as crazy grandma, because of her laugh, and talking care of two cats, which is surprising because she never wanted her kids to have pets.

Now everybody knows that Naya talks to her cats and makes sure their fur is brushed and they have a haircut. Her cats try to run, and her grandkids try to help them run because they know what that brush feels like!

Nity said, “Oh No, what do we do?’’ well no one knew what to do until Ro was born. Ro simply turned her mad mugger stare on, and grandma took one look, Brust out laughing and went back to her room.

After cleaning motel rooms for a little while, she is back to working in a restaurant to take care of her cats.

Now Naya also knows many movies by heart and has been known to intimate by reciting such movies as misery to her boyfriends. They are not sure if she is kidding or will do them harm.

She is also good at reciting poetry such as where the sidewalk ends.

Her grandchildren will agree she is fun and entertaining for them. She will even dance a little, which is a dance you have never seen before. (Unless you know her dad).

Although Shabad, her dad, had almost no interaction with Sanita and his children (until they were older and could give him firewater) there was that one time when he and Naya entered a dancing contest for the most unusual dancers, of course they won, no contest. The bar tender was happy that night.

She enjoys going over and cleaning Adrina’s house and playing with her grandson, Mariko. She bought him a spider man car seat that he loves.

CHAPTER FOUR: THE CHICKEN FARMER/ON-LINE SELLER

(son)

Always the charmer he had many girlfriends but eventually tied the knot with Trista she brought three children into the marriage, Aharon bought four children into the marriage, and they have a little girl together. Altogether they have eight children.

Now Aharon makes a living doing work online selling items that he has purchased in baulk. He is also busy making investments. This works out good for him except that one time:

There was a time when he saw Garbage pail kid’s items advertised for a good deal. This brought back memories for him when his mom refused to have anything associated with garbage pail kids in the house. He had been upset with mom. So, he ordered them and when mom came to visit, he of course showed them to her, it was his house, and he was grown so mom could not do anything. Mom saw them and did not say anything.

The next time they went to the grocery store, mom bought some hotdogs and marshmallows she told her son she wanted to roast marshmallows and hotdogs for her grandchildren before she went home.

Aharon thought that was fine. So, a little later he and his wife went to the store, when they got back his mom had started a large bonfire and she and the kids were roasting hot dogs and marshmallows. Everybody was having a wonderful time and Aharon and Trista joined in, A couple of days later mom left.

About a week later Aharon found someone who was interested in buying some of his Garbage Pail items. He went in to get them to send. He found a note from mom where those Garbage Pail items had been, it said:

Son,

I told you that you would never be old enough to have those things, I hope you enjoyed the hotdogs and marshmallows, those Garbage Pail items made a nice bonfire.

Do not ever think you are too big to outsmart mom. I promised you I would get rid of those things no matter how old you get, and mom always keeps her promises.

Love mom

Before that there was the time, he decided to be a chicken farmer:

After a trip to the grocery store, Aharon (dad) decided to try his luck at being a chicken farmer. He reasons that not only will he have fresh eggs, but he will be able to sell eggs for profit. It will also help make his boys more responsible.

Well, everything went along fine, and dad began seeing a little profit and those eggs were so good, but then it happened!

One morning while he was still in bed, dad heard his princess Sirya scream. He was out of bed in a flash and ran downstairs to see what happened. Sirya tells dad that she wanted to surprise him with fresh eggs for breakfast, so she went out to get the eggs. That chicken pecked her hand and chased her away.

Well needless to say dad was furious, he grabbed an ax, and that poor chicken lost her head that very day! The chicken was still running around the yard without its head, so dad called for his boys to go chase it down. In the meantime, he told Trista (mom) to get a big pot of water boiling then bring it out into the yard.

Well, when the boys finally caught the chicken and gave it to their dad, he dunked that chicken in the water. Oh, the smell of wet feathers was so bad that Pansy, the dog covered her nose with her paw. Dad said you boys start plucking those feathers off the chicken.

Not wanting anything to go to waste the feathers were made into headdresses for Helis and Sirya. Pansy got the head and the inside of the chicken. Dad cut that chicken up and fried it in fresh bacon grease. Everybody agreed it was the best chicken they ever had.

But wait, what happened to the chicken feet you say? Well, those chicken feet were cleaned and made into the classic Chinese diner called dim sum.

CHAPTER FIVE: REPAIRING THE STREETS

(grandson)

Mathyoo has taken up repairing streets, in days past he tore the streets up. Now Dominic fixes holes in the street and makes the street all smooth.

Mathyoo did not like school, but he did like football and baseball, he was on his way to being a major league player when he hooked up with the wrong crowd. Sanita remembers going to watch his games with his mother and sisters. They were so much fun to watch. There were scouts from football teams that were interested in having him play for them when he graduated from high school.

There was a couple who were the parents of his uncle’s friend who took Mathyoo under their wing and made sure he had what he needed to be active in sports. He had many opportunities with them. He enjoyed hunting. They were always there for him. At Christmas they always sent presents to Mathyoo and his sisters. They are still involved in his life.

Mathyoo has taken up repairing streets, in days past he tore the streets up. Now Mathyoo fixes holes in the street and makes the street all smooth.

Mathyoo takes care of his family and rushes home to be with them. He gives piggyback rides to his daughter who has him wound around her little cute finger.

This Thanksgiving he baked a turkey and some family members over to enjoy eating it.

His aunt Paola was there and brought Sanita.

Sanita enjoyed watching and playing with Lali, his little girl who is four now. Lali also enjoyed it when her cousin Samus played with her in her bumper car. She is an incredibly beautiful little girl just like her mom. She also played with her five-year-old cousin, Markio.

Hopefully, Sanita will get to spend more time with her in the coming year.

CHAPTER SIX: THE ARTIST

(granddaughter)

Ambretta was the second child, the first daughter born to Naya the first granddaughter to Sanita. Ambrette was grandma’s girl and lived with her until she started school.

She was always ready to help anyone that needed help.

They went on many trips together. There was the time that they went to Denver Zoo with her aunt Paola and her cousins Alira and Samus. The animals she liked the most was the polar bear. At the monkey display she remembers standing by the glass cage and a big gorilla hit the side of the cage, scaring her.

Ambretta is a favorite aunt to her nieces and nephews. They all love Aunt Ambretta and the pictures she draws of them; everyone knows she has talent and can draw anything. She always has time for her nieces and nephews, no matter what is going on between her and others in the family. When Aharon and his family came for a visit, she made craft items for them, it was around Halloween time.

Well, one day she decided she needed to get extra money, so she drew some pictures. She even made a comic book. Sanita told her that the pictures were exceptionally good, and the comic could be sold for a lot.

Ambretta sold those pictures for two dollars each. The comic book went for a dime. Ambretta took that money straight away to the blue building to try her luck at gambling. Alas she did not win anything.

A couple of weeks later she saw her comic book on Craigs list going for 100.00. Her paintings were going for up to five hundred dollars.

Nity and Ro looked at each other and shook their little heads saying, “that’s our mom, she needs to listen to our wise and beautiful, great grandma”. We could have had so many toys to fight over and break.

There is an old saying that there is Spanish time and then there is American time. In Mexico it is said that they go at much slower relaxed pace. Let me tell you there is also an Ambretta time, she rarely gets anywhere on time. It does not matter what the occasion, she is usually late. No matter how many prompts she gets from her very frustrated grandma, Sanita, she takes her own sweet time.

She is the mother to two beautiful, smart little girls, Nitty and Ro.

CHAPTER SEVEN: DIVA TO CAREGIVER

(granddaughter)

When she was younger Adrina was a diva. Every nail had to be perfect, every hair in place and makeup applied perfectly or she refused to go anywhere. Her mom was required to bring her loaded fries every day after her mom was done working.

If she forgot something like her makeup on the way to school, she insisted her sister run back and get it.

Adrina has followed in one of Sanita’s former job choices. As mentioned in the previous paragraph she is a caregiver. The kind of caregiver she is very demanding, she works with adults who are developmentally disabled. This is one of the most demanding jobs there is. Yes, there are many joys like seeing the pleasure a simple gift brings to a client. Then there is the client that sometimes says I love but then because of their disability can turn around and bite you or slap you.

You think it is hard to change a diaper on a baby try changing a 250 lb. baby daily.

Now it has been stated by one of the people that she cared for that Adrina was not from earth. She is convinced that Adrina is from Mars! Sadley, her client passed away this last year she will be missed by many, especially all the little children to whom she would read. It is clients like her that keep Adrina and others going to work every day.

Adrina was always helpful at family gatherings.

Adrina also has a little boy who makes sure she is keeping busy looking after him. She does have lots of help from family members to take care of him. She will never have to worry about him not being taken care of should something happen to her.

CHAPTER EIGHT: THE HOSTESS

(granddaughter)

Formally a Diva like her, cousin, Nini has now taken up being a hostess in a restaurant.

With a smile she serves customers and polity helps make them want to come back for more.

There was the time that she was serving drinks and suddenly when she went to one table, she saw a witch. She kept her cool and acted like she did not recognize her and politely took her order. A few days later the witch returned with some of her cronies, which was unusual because she never goes to the same place twice if she sees someone who she knows is familiar with her antics. Again, Nini simply smiled and took her order. This surprised the witch, and she has not returned.

She goes home to deal with Benz and her boyfriend and make sure they have eaten. If not, she may tell them to order out.

She stays connected with her cousin, Adrina, as Benz and Mariko are good friends. So far, she has not had to go to the principal’s office for Benz.

She has grown into a responsible woman.

CHAPTER NINE: THE DOG WHISPERER

(granddaughter)

The youngest of the three little Diva’s, Alira has always liked animals. She likes any kind of animals but has a special bond with dogs and all animals. A chicken even followed her home, she of course kept the chicken, so at least they now have fresh eggs.

People all say that she is a dog whisperer because she understands exactly what her dogs need. She listens to the complaint about their mom Ava, who they tell her takes most of the dog food and bones. Alira calms them down reminding them that Ava gave them all life, then she gets them an extra bone.

Alira also could be a cat whisperer. She is going to try to come down to talk to her aunt Naya’s cats because they are named boy names when they are girls, so they are having an identity crisis.

Alira has hopes of becoming a veterinarian so she can work with animals.

Alira also loves to cook dinners for her mom. She and her mom go shopping a lot and enjoy going to shows in Las Vegas.

She makes money with her boyfriend doing door dashing for restaurants. They can make enough money for their needs.

CHAPTER TEN: THE DETAILER

(grandson)

Samus liked school and like his mom liked to play musical instruments.

Samus, who used to spend hours in his room playing games, like his cousins, is now working at a car lot. He went to Texas for special training and hopes to own his own detailing business someday soon.

The girl he has chosen to make his life with is a very smart and lovely girl. She likes Elvis Presley just like Sanita. Smart choice Samus!

He works at a car dealership, and she works as a supervisor in a department store. They are saving to buy a house with a garage. Samus would like to own his own detailing business.

Although they have no children, they do have two very lively kittens to keep them busy.

CHAPTER ELEVEN: THE HEAVY FOOT

(grandson)

Born on the same day as his dad, Aharon, he looked just like him. In many ways they are two of a kind.

Like his dad he never liked going to school. However, like his dad he likes to invest in things. He has traveled all over on his latest job. He did travel to the south and got an idea for an investment he and his dad can get started along with other members of the family (more about this in a later chapter).

It is a well-known fact that Malstar loved to drive a sports car. His foot has been known to get heavy on the pedal. He knows that when this happens, he will see a car with bright lights behind him red and blue lights. After a conversation when he pulls over, he is given an invitation to a special event at the courthouse. Malstar has now traded in his Mercedes for a truck.

Malstar also worked for an apartment complex where he did landscape and repair work for the older tenants. He loved to talk to them and hear about how it was in the old days.

Malstar and his granny have a special bond that no one else but them can be a part of. He likes to throw out word’s granny does not like. They have debates on how things used to be. Granny sometimes advises him that he needs to save his money for a new set of teeth. (he is not sure why she said that) he thinks his teeth look fine. His dad laughs and says, “Son someday you will find out.”

CHAPTER TWELVE: THE FOOTBALL PLAYER

(grandson)

Ari is Aharon third child his second son. Sanita’s grandson.

As a small boy he loved playing with trucks, and he loved marshmallows. He loved his stepsister and stepbrothers.

Although Sanita has not been able to see him for years because his mom decided not to stay connected because she and his dad split up, I see that he has been playing football and is a remarkable success at it in his high school.

Sanita hopes that someday she will get to talk to Ari and tell him how proud everyone is of him.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN: GROWING UP

(granddaughter)

After Belen graduated, she moved to a dorm, to study medicine like her mom.

Belen got a job in a store selling crystals and other items. While working there she bought home crystals for her family.

Always smiling and willing to help. Her brothers think she is bossy but love her still.

Like many young adults she did not continue with her studies and moved back home. She is now working with her mom at her place of employment. She will soon be moving out on her own again and leading her own life.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN: THE GAME PLAYER

(grandson)

The third son of Aharon, he looks just like his dad. Sanita’s grandson

At an early age he could tell tall tales, like no other.

Kolya, much like his dad, is not one for going to school. He would much rather play games all day long on the TV.

Much like his dad, he likes to make money and can buy ten dollars’ worth of items at the dollar store and turn his money into twenty dollars or more by selling it to his classmates. He is also helping dad sell some of the products he has ordered online, he goes around the neighborhood selling chips and ring pops and gummy bears.

Unfortunately, he also likes to challenge his “teachers” and get them all excited. He does not think before he acts and so he gets suspended from school.

He finds that dad will keep him busy at home and he learned in a hurry not to try to challenge dad!

He can rub feet and shoulders good and earns extra money from his aunt Shae.

He does yard work and earns extra money one time for cleaning his granny’s yard without being asked.

The last time he came to Sanita’s house was when she was sick, he and his brothers helped clean the house.

CHAPTER FIFTEEN: THE HELPER

(grandson)

This Thanksgiving Jahi walked all the way home school carrying a box with a turkey and all the fixings to make a nice Thanksgiving dinner. Not only was his family happy but the dog was also happy as she always enjoys eating turkey at thanksgiving.

Jahi has started doing what he is supposed to do and finds that life is much better. He has had no problems this year in school.

He does sometimes get himself in trouble by telling on himself.

Last time he came to Sanita’s house when she was sick, he and his brothers helped clean the house.

CHAPTER SIXTEEN: THE LEGO MASTER

(grandson)

Helis loves gum and he loves to share gum at school. That is all I will say about that.

Helis loves to play with Lego’s and put puzzles together. He makes toy cars and toy houses and people. He works for hours on a project that interests him, sometimes asking his brother for help.

Always sweet and polite he asks how he can help and if anyone needs anything.

Although he has been known to sit in the corner for not wanting to do chores, it is usually short term as he has far better things to do than sitting in a corner.

He goes to school as he should and does not give his teachers ulcers like his brothers have been known to do.

He does tease Ayira from time to time but usually they play together.

The last time he came to Sanita’s house was when she was sick, he and his brothers helped clean the house.

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN: DADDY’S LITTLE GIRL

(granddaughter)

Sirya knew as soon as she was born that she had a big job to do. She took one look at her dad and knew he would be an easy mark.

Before she left the hospital, she knew she had him wrapped around her little finger. To this day at eight she still has dad wrapped around her little finger.

Now you might think that she would be a brat, but she is not, she is extremely sweet. She makes sandwiches of jelly and peanut butter for her brothers. For dad and mom, she makes toast with butter and jelly or bagels with cream cheese.

She is talented and danced with her great grandpa a few years ago when he played his guitar. She danced and sang as great grandpa played.

She is very smart in school and knows things beyond her years. He has won many awards in school.

She always checks about a stuffed tiger; she has named Montgomery that granny keeps at her house.

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN: THE TAXI DRIVER/BEEKEEPER

(granddaughter)

Ari is not only a taxi driver she is also a beekeeper. She brings fresh honey to Sanita.

Now being a taxicab driver is not easy, you get all kinds of crazy passengers. Some old, some young, some who knows.

Now one night she picked up a passenger who was dressed in red with a white bread and red hat. He said he must get back to the North Pole. His reindeer had left him because he was taking too long. Will it be a long way, but Ani got him there, but alas he had no money, so being the kind soul that she is she said she would pay.

He said he would pay her back. Well Christmas morning she and Biana awoke to a house filled with presents. Everything they could ever want.

Ari always keeps Sanita in touch with her great granddaughter, Biana, which Sanita appreciates. Ari makes sure to include Sanita is school programs and in events Biana does, such as her karate class.

CHAPTER NINETEEN: THE SWEETHEART

(great granddaughter)

Biana, the first great grandchild, came into this world, making everyone around her happy.

She and her great grandpa Xan had a special connection, she had him wrapped around her finger the first time they met. She took him by the hand and took him shopping. He loved taking her to McDonalds or Burger King.

They played games together on his tablet or hide and seek. She drew him pictures and they colored them together.

Biana had every one of her relatives wrapped around her finger the first time they met her. She and her cousin Ayira are so much alike.

She loves her great granny’s fried chicken and fries. Before Sanita became ill she would come over every Friday so great granny could cook her some chicken and fries.

When her cousin was born, she claimed her as her baby called her “tuna”. Now she loves to hold her new cousin, Ro, Nity’s baby sister.

She still remembers her great grandpa, Xan, and talks of the times they shared.

She graduated from preschool earlier this year and Sanita was so proud of her as she graduated. She chooses as her life goal to work at Out and About burgers. She had enjoyed eating there while on trip to Denver. After the graduation she choose a Japanese restaurant to go to. It was a lot of fun.

Sanita also enjoyed going to watch her at a tournament at her Karate school. It was so enjoyable to be able to watch her.

She is now in kindergarten and is learning to speak Spanish along with English.

She is spending a lot of time with her grandpa adar and has him wrapped around her little finger.

CHAPTER TWENTY: MOMA’S BOY

(great grandson)

Benz turned six this year. He is a handsome little boy. He always comes over to his great grandma to say hello, to say hello and give her a hug.

He was able to go Las Vegas with his mom and dad and had a wonderful time at his grandpa Ahron house. He loved playing with his cousins, and they loved having him there.

He also loves playing video games like his grandpa used to. He has cousins who enjoy playing video games also.

He is in kindergarten this year and all the children like him. He dances into the classroom. He tells his mom when she brings him that he can go in by himself and he does not need her to walk him in. He and his cousin are not in the same room this year, but they remain good friends and like to hang out together after school.

CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE: GRANDPA’S BOY

(great grandson)

Mariko turned five this year and is an extremely cute little boy. Since he was born, he has spent a lot of time with his grandpa Adar, Adrina’s dad. He has learned how to fish and “work” cars. He is grandpa’s helper. He has two electric cars to ride at his grandpa’s and a big swimming pool he loves to swim in.

He is a lucky little boy he has many relatives on both sides of his family. His mom will never have to worry about him not being taken care of if anything should happen to her or Jezza.

He graduated from pre-school and is now in kindergarten. He is friends with his cousin Benz, who is one year older than he is. They were in the same class last year but this year they are in different classes.

Mariko has always loved his aunt Ambretta and enjoyed going to her house at the start of the school year. She would walk him to school and would pick him up when he was released early on Fridays. He enjoyed seeing his crazy grandma and Sanita his great grandmother.

He has enjoyed several trips to Mexico. The last time he stayed at a resort with his mom and dad.

CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO: MAMA’S MINI ME

(great granddaughter)

Lali is the image of her beautiful mom and likes to dress up like her mom does. But make no mistake she has, the temper of her dad when he was little.

After watching her beautiful mom style hair and put on makeup, Alitzia decided to try her hand at it. One night when her mom and dad were sleeping, she went into their room and with her scissors she gave her mom a new haircut! She did not want her dad to feel left out so she got out the lipstick and smeared it on his face and neck. She then went back to her room and fell into an angelic sleep.

The next morning, she heard a commotion in her parents’ bedroom. Her mom had woken up and seen her dad with lipstick all over so that she knew she did not put there! She tells dad he better start explaining and it better be good. To her surprise dad took one look at her and burst out laughing. (Not too bright a thing to do at this point) Mom becomes angry until dad holds up a mirror so she can see her hair is two inches shorter on one side. They both exclaim, Altiza

With an angelic smile Altiza comes out, holds up her hands and says Daddy I love you. She then turns to mom and tells her she loves her.

Altiza is four years old now and Santina was able to go over to Altiza house for thanksgiving. She gave her great granny many hugs. And played with her.

She enjoyed playing on her little dodge car with her cousin Samos. He would ride it and tell her he was going to take it home. She also enjoyed playing with her cousin who is a couple of years older than she is.

CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE: THE TEACHER

(great granddaughter)

When Nity was born, she knew she had a lot of work to do.

At two she has been able to teach her mom and great granny their ABC’S and how to count to one hundred. She is still attempting to teach her grandma.

At the current time she loves Pizza and cheese bread and usually gets it at least once a week. She has however learned that it is not good for mom to get confident in what she likes to eat. So, she will eat something for a little while then when mom buys a lot of it, she stops eating it.

She loves to climb and has no fear. She jumps around like a Mexican jumping bean. This year she has redecorated the tree twice by making it fall on her.

Eternity has learned to turn her granny, Sanita’s TV to u tube and loves to confuse Granny when Granny is watching a show by turning it to U tube.

She loves her baby sister and says, “My baby sister.” She cannot wait until her baby sister is bigger and she can blame everything on her. After her mom gets her sister to sleep, she likes to go over and tell her to wake up.

Now you may not believe it, but her great grandpa is near, and they laugh and play together. She rolls a ball on the table. It rolls back to her when granny tries it the ball falls off the table. They have conversations with much laughter.

Nity just turned three in April. She has started pre-school. She loves school and is ready to go every day, so she can teach the teachers. The first couple of days she walked with her mom to school. The third day, she waved her hand and said no to her mom, Ambretta she got her little mickey mouse car to ride to school. She did allow mom to follow behind. At school two little boys came to her car to assist her out and to carry her backpack into the classroom for her. She washes her hands before the day starts at school and a little boy brings her a towel. Already the Diva!!

Now that it is colder, she has decided to ride the bus to school. Although she says she does not want to ride the bus she is always happy when it comes, she tells her mom and gets on. Everybody is always happy to see her.

After talking to her cousin Sirya, Nity knows that it is not good to let drop her off at school, without acting like she cannot stand to have mom leave her there. So, she cries and holds onto mom’s hand as Sirya says this will make mom feel important. Once mom left Nity plays and has an enjoyable time.

On the first picture day, everyone was so excited that they would be getting their picture taken. Everyone that is, except Nity.

When the photographer came to take her picture, she decided that they needed some exercise, therefore she made them chase her all around the room to get her picture taken.

She knows that no matter what she wants, when she calls her grammy Sanita will get her what she wants, including a lot of attention. She knows that no matter what when Sanita hears those words she will drop everything and come.

At the first snow this winter, she and her mom went outside and built a little snowman. She also tried to make snow angels.

CHAPTER TWENTY-FOUR: THE MEAN MUGGER

(great granddaughter)

Now people will say that babies do not see or know what is going on around them, but that simply is not true.

In 2022, God saw that Nity needed help, so he sent her a baby sister Ro.

When that precious sweet little girl was born, she was all set to go to work. She already had her great grandma, Sanita’s mean mug stare down perfectly. Even the doctor’s noticed.

That is how I know that babies can see what is going on around them even in the womb.

She is eating regular food now eats bananas just like her sister. She is almost able to walk and can really get around on her little car walker. She goes fast and her sister and everyone need to stay out of her way.

She is eating regular food now and the other day she grabbed an apple that her mother was eating and started eating it. She has about eight teeth. It was hard for her mom to get the apple away from her when she started taking too big a bite. She also loves chicken nuggets and chicken fries. She loves potatoes fixed anyway. She loves carrots and sweet potatoes. She likes to feed herself when she can now.

She has a temper and if she does not get the attention, she wants right away she will hit her head against something.

She looks just like her mom.

CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE: SANITA

Sanita’s children and grandchildren and great grandchildren will tell you that it all started with her.

Now they all listen as Sanita tells the story of having to walk to school the year that the dinosaurs all went on strike. They walked to school in the snow and walked back all the while planning revenge on the dinosaurs. Revenge they got those dinosaurs disappeared.

From push start cars to rockets, Sanita has seen a lot. Sania has gone from a big chief tablet to a smart tablet.

Everyone who knows Sanita knows that she will say what she wants to say and not care about what anyone thinks.

She does things her way.

Sanita is who she is and will live her life, the best way she can do what she feels is right. She will never put herself ahead of little innocent children. She feels every adult in the family should be willing to step in to help the young innocent ones. That is all of them, not just some.

She will continue to show unconditional love. Do not make any mistake unconditional love means that she loves without putting a condition on that love. That she will help unconditionally, not blindly. She knows what is going on.

Sanita will no longer tolerate disrespect from any of her descendants. Being here for a quarter of a century before anyone of her descendants was born, she deserves respect. She has a special deal with the dentist if any of her grandkids happen to lose their teeth being disrespectful.

There is difference in talking and saying how you feel this Sanita will listen to.

However, being told how she should do this or that by someone will no longer be tolerated. Sanita lived over a quarter of a century before any of her descendants were born. That’s’ more than those who judge have been alive.

She did what she had to do to hold her family together, never turning away from any of them no matter how much her heart broke. This is Sanita and always will be she will do anything in her power to keep her family together.

Sanita will never tolerate or respect anyone who takes out their spite on little kids, especially family members. No matter what is going on between sisters or other family members it should not include the little ones.

Any problems between family members need to be addressed between them, Sanita will not get involved and will not allow any problems to be brought to her house. She will not be responsible for problems that had nothing to do with her. The only time she will get involved is when the little innocent children are bought into the adults’ problems.

Then at last there is the freedom to enjoy the great grandchildren because unlike when Sanita was raising a family or even with the grandchildren, one that she raised until she was six, for reasons that her other grandchildren do not know, but some of them judge anyway.

There is no more having to go to work. No more having to follow a schedule, no more endless meetings or worrying about someone coming to work. No more being held responsible for what others do. No more having to fill out endless paperwork or dealing with the state or surveys.

Now is the time to relax and enjoy reading “Green Eggs and Ham” twenty or more times a day. It is the ability to be able to take the time to enjoy a child’s discovery of something new to them. To take the time to listen to their laughter. She enjoys being able to have Nity and Ro around to read books too and watch them grow.

Although there are those who think it would be better if she got a place by herself to sit in alone. She wants to be able to be with Nity and Ro to watch them grow for as long as possible. She wants them to know they are loved and always will be. The time will come when Sanita will be alone. She would enjoy spending time with all her great grandchildren.

She knows exactly what is going on at her house, she does not need to be told. She will handle it her way.

When invited she enjoys going to functions involving the great grandchildren. When invited she enjoys going to birthday parties, when she can. She is sometimes limited if the event is at night because she cannot drive at night.

She looks forward to seeing all her great grandchildren when their parents bring them over. She is limited in being able to go to their house to see them as much as she would like to, however she loves them all and hopes they know that. She hopes that in years to come when she is no longer here, they will understand that she loves them and wishes she could have seen them more.

Sanita will continue to author other books about her experiences. She feels that keeping history alive and meaningful is important. Family is also the most important thing. She will talk about her experiences from the perspective of a white woman who had mixed children. She will talk about prejudices as she saw them, as she cannot speak with authority about how others felt or feel about prejudices. Although a mother of mixed children she cannot speak about how they felt or feel.

We must each tell our own story as the person we are. No matter how good a friend we are with people from other cultures we are not them and cannot say how they feel.

CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX: FUTURE PLANS FOR BIG SIN CITY

Malstar has been saving up his money to invest in a bed and breakfast that he and his dad and other family members can run together. This is not the usual bed and breakfast. Being interested in history and after discussions with Sanita, and observations he made while in the South this bed and breakfast will reflect the way life used to be on the plantation.

After touring the place, he and his cousins will build a duplicate in the city he lives in. This will include the main plantation and the little buildings around it. There will be a special pie for guests who are rude. The recipe from the movie “The Help.” Malstar will be contacting Washington, he knows they will be willing to supply him with the ingredients, since they provide them for free every single day, especially election year.

In the main house you will be able to get southern food, such as fried chicken and collard greens, possum, and squirrel, and of course corn bread. We do suggest you be rude so you can get one of those free special pies. It is like none you have ever had. Now if you prefer and are polite you can purchase a good old-fashioned sweet potato pie!

Now if you want a unique experience, you can rent a house out back. Part of this experience is picking cotton from early day to late at night. You can come home and have the making of a pork or chicken dinner, will that’s chicken feet or pigs’ ears or pigs’ feet. Of course, there are always greens and left-over sweet potato pies from the main house depending on how rude the guests are.

Of course, there is the haunted graveyard on land back in the woods behind the house. Always one who likes ghosts Paola will oversee the graveyard. There are stones or places with a cross or rock with the person’s name on it. This is the graveyard that was used for the slaves that perished there. Just as it starts to get you can see an eerie light come on. As you walk by the graves you can hear the story of the person buried there.

There will be seven pit bulls on hand to guard the graveyard and add extra thrill to it. They will of course be under the guidance of Alria the dog whisperer.

AUTHOR’S NOTE: Slavery was wrong, but it is a fact of history, and it affects things today. Money is not the answer. Laws are not the answer. The answer is found in educating ourselves. True change will come from the hearts of individuals.

In the south there are mansions that have been made into museums that show what slavery was like. I remember about reading about one man who bought a mansion in the south and discovered his ancestors had been slaves on that very plantation, so he built a museum to show what it was like.

CHAPTER TWENTY-SEVEN: FUTURE PLANS FOR LITTLE SIN CITY

Samus will be saving up to have his own detail shop. Maybe he will sign a contract to go to big sin city once a month to detail the blood mobiles. And maybe he will be making his mom a grandmother!

Perhaps Mathyoo and Adar along with his sisters boyfriend will start their own construction company.

Perhaps Ambretta will open up her own arts and crafts building that will include teaching to others who want to learn.

Perhaps Adrina and Nini will start a beauty shop with Mathyoo’s girlfriend. Or maybe they will write an advice column.

CHAPTER 28: LIFE IS LIKE THE OCEAN

As Satina sats in the motel room where she is on vacation with her oldest daughter, Paola, she looks out at the ocean and thinks about how life is like an ocean.

In the morning time as the sun rises over the ocean it is a beautiful sight, even when it is stormy, and you see clouds it is still beautiful. During the day walking along the beach and watching the waves it is so peaceful, even when it is stormy the waves are still calming. At nighttime, the sunset is beautiful. No matter what the weather there is always a sunrise, a sunset, and the time in between.

There are times when the ocean becomes destructive, and the waves destroy anything in their paths. But after the storm there is always calm, just like in life.

In life we also have a sunrise, that we have no control over, some sunrises shine with no complications, some come a little harder but always important. The sunset always comes sometimes peaceful, other times not so peaceful, but it always comes with the promise of a new day, either in the present realm or the next.

After the early morning, when we are learning things, what we accomplish between sunrise and sunset is in our control. The memories we leave behind are within our control. Memories are what history is made from and what makes our life last forever when remembered by our descendants.

SUMMARY:

As we go through life each step is a learning experience, some good and some not so good. As winter approaches, we realize that the most important thing that we can share is our time and memories. Although many things have changed in seventy-four years there is still the basic need in each of us for knowledge of who we are, where we came from.

To those of us who have been able to live long lives, it is important that we pass on our knowledge to our descendants. When there seems to be so little time to listen to what the older generation is saying writing down the memories, lessons we have learned in a story, ensures that there is a record of what was yesterday is still affecting what is happening today and tomorrow.

Sadly, some families no longer band together to take care of all the younger children. Too often the attitude is it is not my child. Every child that is born into a family should have the support of all family members even when they are mad at the mother. The children are all innocent and should be loved by all, none should be left out. Only someone who was left out and made to feel like they were not a part of the family will understand this.

Sanita has vowed to always be there as long as possible for all her descendants. She will continue to give the same unconditional love to her family that she always has given.

AUTHORS NOTE:

I hope you have enjoyed reading my book. If so, please go to Amazon and author a book that will help in keeping my books selling and alive. It is my hope that this book has been beneficial to you.

My first three books are written under the name Linda Lucero. All future books will be written under the name L.R. Lucero.

**OTHER BOOKS BY ME ARE:**

**Families in Imminent Danger:**

based mostly on things I learned from my time as a visiting supervisor for families who lost their children through the courts or divorce.

**Sue Ann (Granny) shares memories of the fifties:**

This book is about the author's memories of the fifties.

**Listen and make a difference:**

This book is about listening to how others are feeling and not getting offended by everything.

**UPCOMING BOOKS:**

There will be upcoming books in the series that will tell the stories of life as seen through Satita’s experiences.