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SP 747
May 12, 2005

Final Project

For my final project, I wanted to work with my favorite subjects: my younger cousins. I have a large extended family that works hard to keep in touch, because we're spread out all over the globe. Since I had the rare opportunity to take some pictures of them while they visited us, I decided to capture their time here in the U.S. in my project. Several pictures were edited and layered together to form a stamp, which reflects that we're all living at different places but manage to stay so close.

The background is a picture of a playground I took on a sunny day in the Boston Commons: I felt that nothing captures the exciting memories of play and fun like a playground. All playgrounds around the world look similar, too; I'm sure my cousins felt right at home here on the swings and sandbox thousands of miles from Korea. I cropped the picture so that the parents and trees don't distract attention from the playground itself.



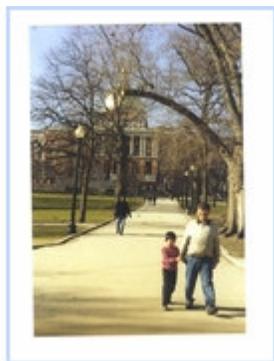
This picture is my youngest cousin about to burst into tears. At first I was hesitant to include it because most of the other pictures are so happy and cheerful, but I thought that this is an honest representation and an important part because kids often end up shedding tears on playgrounds: they fall, they fight, they become angry. I cropped out my cousin out of a larger picture, and cropped it again into a dome-like shape to get rid of the background and bring the focus on him.



This picture is one of the more scandalous ones in the collection. Mycousin is enjoying the sunny weather in an inflatable pool, and the original picture was very dark so I adjusted the hue and brightness to bring out his very contented smile.



The picture in the middle is an uncle-nephew pair holding hands. The uncle has a confident stride while the child holds onto his arm for support. I placed it in the middle of the image because it's a nice representation of the guidance and comfort the younger ones receive from the older relatives. The two also have the same smile :)



My younger sister Carey and our cousin Paul are especially close. I took this picture when they were both off-guard: they were telling stories and I snuck up with my camera. Paul looks a bit surprised while my sister is amused.



Danny and his brother Paul are six years apart but the age gap isn't really there when they are playing. This was taken at a barbecue and since it was under a tree, their faces were darker so I adjusted the hue and brightness again.



All the individual pictures were adjusted by altering the opacity for overlap. I changed them into black-and-white and put a 34-cent postage on it to add to the “old memories/past” effect. The lines and the texture also help make the image seem older. I'm hoping that when my cousins see it they would feel like they are taking a glimpse into their memories together.

