

A GIRL'S JOURNEY FROM GIRL TO ADOLESCENT, AND WHAT SHE WORE.



Written and illustrated by
LIANA RODRIGUEZ

**A DOMINICAN GIRL'S JOURNEY FROM GIRL
TO ADOLESCENT, AND WHAT SHE WORE.**

Prologue

This book shows a little's girl's journey from a child to young adult through dress. As growing up can be hard for any little girl this girl finds her way through fashion. She learns what kind of dress makes her feel confident, pretty, young, ugly and what makes her feel mature. There are many things that a little girl can feel about her dress while growing up let me show you how Nashla Nunez felt.

Forward

Liana is very independent. She is my daughter and from a very young age I knew she was going to be like this. She did not like waiting on anyone or anything. She did not like depending on anything. Not even her parents or older brothers. If she wanted something, she always figured out a way to do it on her own. This way she didn't have to bother anyone. Liana has always been so strong she never let anything, or anyone change or affect her character. I am very proud of her for sticking to who she is. She is a handworker and determined to keep working hard.

Keep going Lili you almost there,
Mom

Table of Contents:

Cover Page _____	0
Tittle Page _____	1
Prologue _____	2
Forward _____	3
Table of Contents _____	4
Chap1. Childhood	
BabyPhat _____	5
Escuelita _____	6
Colitas _____	7
Natural Hair _____	8
Church Dressing _____	9
Salon Day _____	10
Birthday Party _____	11
My first Gold Earrings _____	12
The Purse _____	13
Chap2. Adolescence	
My Victoria’s Secret Lip-gloss _____	14
The Red Dress _____	15
My Quinze’s _____	16
Matching Outfits _____	17
My First Real Purse _____	18
High Rise Jeans and Crop top _____	19
Air Force 1 _____	20
Sleeveless Shirt _____	21
Author Biography _____	22

BABY PHAT



I Remember growing up my mom bought my clothes but sometimes I got to choose what I can wear together. My pink BabyPhat T-Shirt with purple lettering was my go-to. It didn't matter what day it was or where we were going, I always picked this shirt first.

It came to a point where my mom told me, “not the BabyPhat shirt today Nashla”. The blue denim shorts were necessary because it was always way too hot for anything else but shorts.

ESCUELITA



My school was Sodeca, and all the kids from El Caliche, Cristo Rey went here. It was the most affordable school our parents could put us in. It was right in front of the Empanada stand on 43rd.

Girls had the choice of wearing long khaki pants or the skirt.

I would choose whichever one was the cleanest that day. Putting on this outfit every morning made me feel ready for school and ready to attack the day. I knew where I was going what I was ready to do. I was ready to be a good student, listen, and get my work done.

The black dress shoes with a Velcro strap in the middle were not the most comfortable shoes ever, but no kid really complained. We were meant to wear them with long white socks.

COLITAS



I absolutely hated having my hair in colitas. Colitas were 3 strand braids, my mom always did 100 colitas on me. I felt so little-girly and I did not want to look like a little girl. I wanted my hair down no matter how much I cried I could never have my hair down.

Getting your hair done with colitis was the worse day ever. It was a process that started with washing your hair and sitting down on the floor while my mom did my hair.

The first part and most painful part is the detangling, this process involved a lot of water and conditioner. After this came the ugly colitas. They were attached with bolitas. This was scrunchy and two ball together to tie your hair.

NATURAL HAIR



One would never see me with my natural out. It was very rare. I probably only wore my natural hair as a little girl twice. It was always in protective styles.

My hair was coarse, frizzy, curly, and coily.

There was no knowledge of hair types and particular products for it. It was one fits all. For my hair it was always water and any conditioner my mom could find.

My hair is dark brown almost black and very coarse. It can also get very dry if not taken care of properly. I didn't always feel beautiful in my natural hair growing up my natural frizzy and coily

hair made me feel ugly. All the girls had flat straight hair around me, so I thought that hair was pretty.

CHURCH DRESSING



Sundays were my favorite days to come by. Sunday meant I got to put on a pretty dress and show it off to the other girls at church.

Going to church on Sunday was going to the Met Gala today, it had to be known whose dress was the prettiest.

I didn't have many dress options but there was this one green dress with red flowers that I loved. I knew if I had to make an impression this was the dress for that.

SALON DAYS



Going to the salon meant something big was happening. You only got to go here if you chose this as your birthday gift or your mom wanted a break from doing your hair for a couple of days.

This day meant Straight Hair! My hair was modified from curly to straight. It was also modified because the salon lady used many products in my hair to get it very silky and smooth.

I didn't care how hot the hair dryer was or how hot the blower was heating up my scalp because it was all going to be worth it. Straight hair made me feel like I was the only person in a room. I felt very conceited with straight hair.

PARTY DRESS

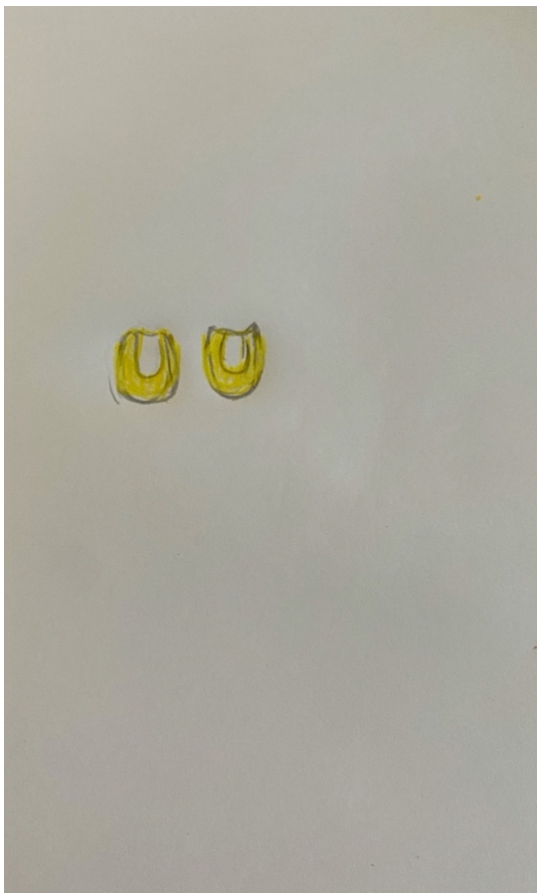
My mom bought me this party dress when I was invited to my friends Ashley's birthday party. My mom always liked putting me in pretty dresses.

I always thought that because she was looking good, I had to look good too because I'm her daughter and I had to represent that. My mom bought most of my clothes from a store named Pergament. It was a department store that had everything you could think of. All my dresses and party clothes were bought here.



My mom always made sure there was some type of color coordination. My favorite color has always been pink so as a child my mom bought me a lot of pink clothes.

MY FIRST GOLD EARRINGS



I was bought my first gold earrings as a child. These earrings never came off.

They were tiny golden hoops shiny on the outside.

The way my mom knew I wasn't losing these was by securing them with crazy glue on the back. This way the earring could not fall off.

THE PURSE



There was a brown purse with a green strap that belonged to my mom. It was an old purse she barely used so I made it mine. This was my first purse. The brown made it too mature for me, so it made me feel good.

I felt older and prettier. The green strap was a little different than my liking but because it was out of the normal it made me feel bigger than myself.

MY VICTORIA SECRETE LIP GLOSS



My mom bought this Lip gloss from the Victoria's Secrete on Atlantic Avenue. She normally bought many lip-glosses, so she didn't realize soon after that I had become the new owner of this lip-gloss.

I took it everywhere we. School, the park at Ps.230, and every time I was going out. It made me feel pretty and even sassy.

THE RED DRESS



As I got older my dresses became slimer, I didn't like the big puffy pink and purple skirts anymore. I wanted to look of age and more mature but with style at the same time. I got this dress from Justice in Cross County Mall. This became my new party dress. All my friends were wearing dresses like this

This dress was attached with a red belt and brown round marble buckle.

MY QUINZE'S



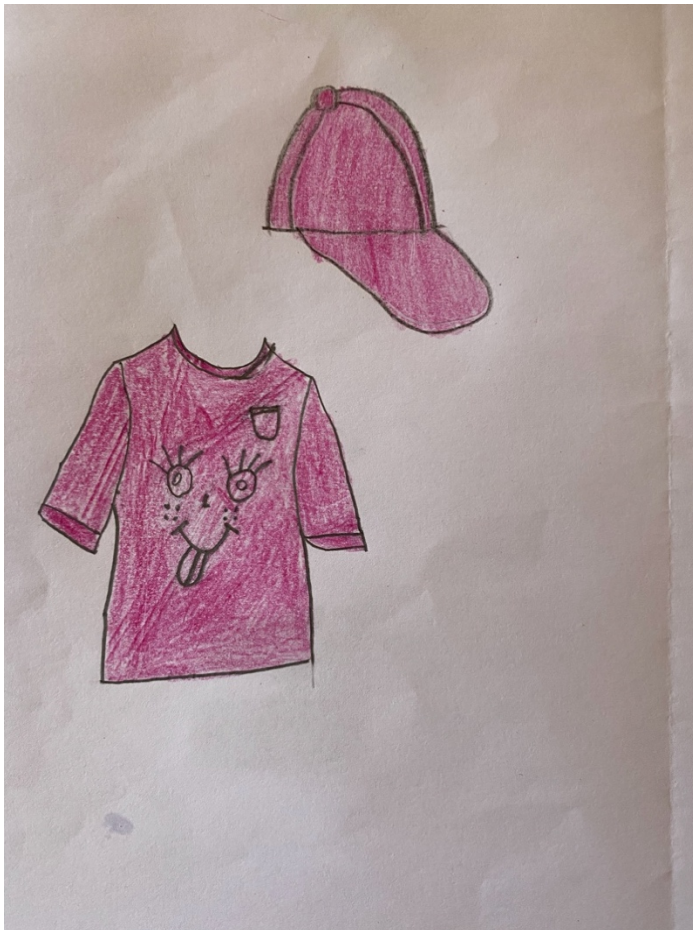
The best part of a sweet 15 is your dress.

My dress was mostly pink, and purple attached with rhinestones on the corset and a big bow.

My Grandmother has a friend who made dresses, so she made this specially for. For this occasion, you needed the biggest puffiest dress you can find.

My grandmother's friend lived all they in Baltimore, Maryland at the time so she had to ship us the dress.

MATCHING OUTFITS



Matching outfitter was my new thing. I loved wearing a shirt that matched my sneakers or attached accessories like a hat.

I would wear outfits like this to go to ps.230. Every Sunday my friends and I met at this Park to ride bikes, play and take pictures together. Being fashionable was the ultimate plan for the day especially for the pictures.

The graphic shirt section at Forever 21 was my favorite section. Even though it is called Forever 21 and I was nowhere near that age they had a lot of cool things for me

Matching. My outfits made me feel grown. I was dressing myself and I can style myself. I felt top tier.

MY FIRST REAL PURSE

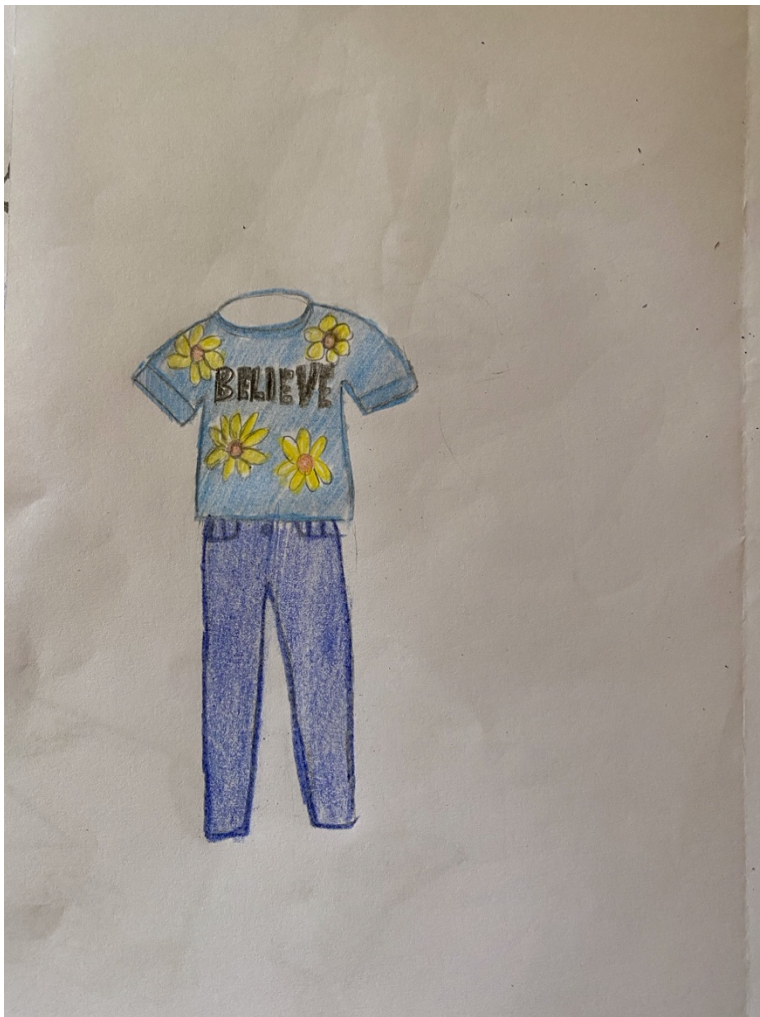


I consider this purse my first real purse because I chose this purse and bought it for myself at the store. I bought this purse in Forever 21 on Time Square. This bag was all the way on the 1st floor down.

This purse caught my eyes because it was the color and design of a rainbow. So, I knew I could wear this bag with anything I wore.

This was my new attached accessories. I can wear this bag with anything and wear it anywhere.

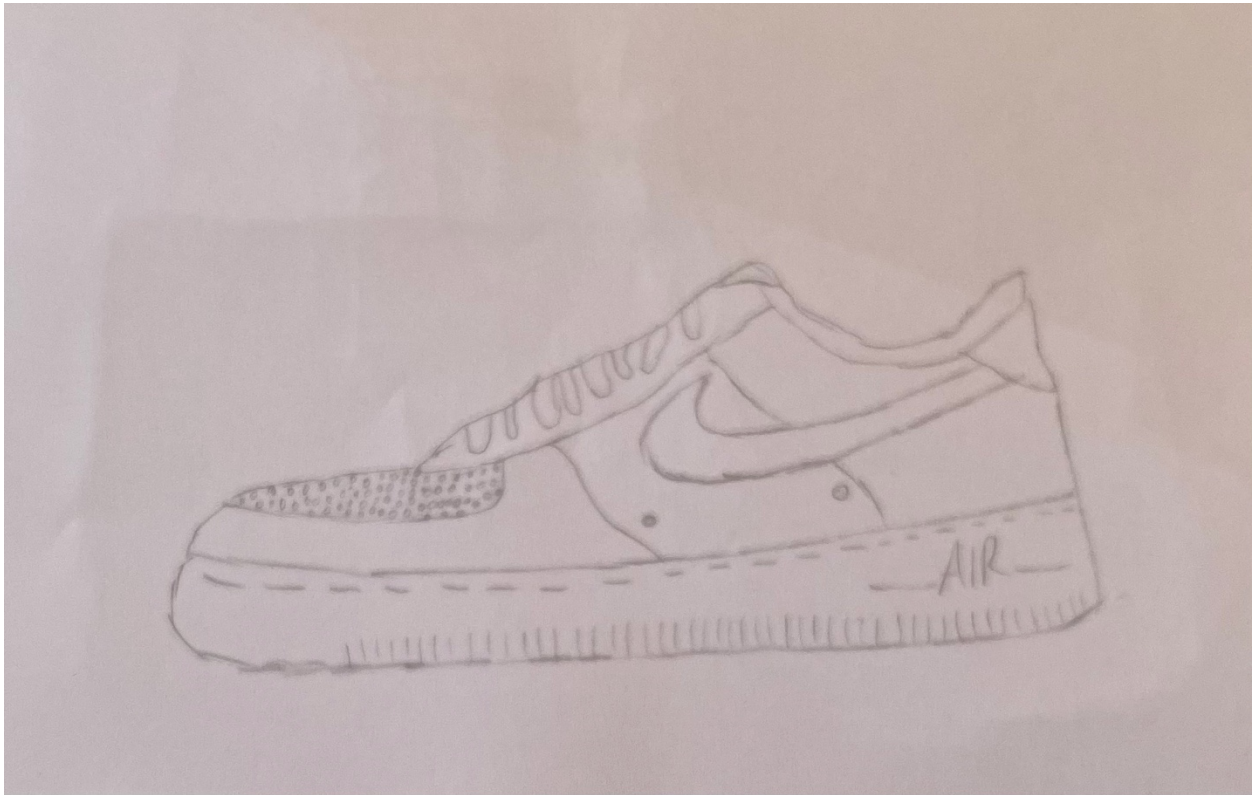
HIGH RISE JEANS AND CROP TO



High rise jeans with crop tops were beginning to be the new style. I would ask my parents for money and always shop at Forever 21 on Broadway in Soho, Manhattan.

My go-to be a graphic T-shirt so when I saw this Shirt it reminded me of a spring feeling. Because of the sunflowers I figured this was the perfect shirt to wear as the weather became warmer. This was the new teen-style.

AIR FORCE 1



The all-white air force 1 was my first sneaker culture shoe. It has been my very favorite sneaker ever. It is so simple but still so fashionable. It can be worn with any outfit. And I really mean any outfit. From casual to dresswear this shoe will make any outfit look better.

I bought this show from a Foot Locker in 5th avenue in Manhattan. The streets were always so crowded around here and everyone walking was holding shopping bags and shopping.

These shoes made me feel more than confident. These shoes made me feel like I was From New York and part of the sneaker culture. This was the first show that sparked my sneaker enthusiasm.

SLEEVELESS SHIRTS



Sleeveless shirts were my thing at a teenager. I had a red and blue striped sleeveless shirt and I always paired this shirt with skinny black jeans.

This was the ideal outfit for when me and girlfriends went out to eat. We would normally go to a chain Restaurant like Applebee's or Fridays.

Wearing this outfit made me older than I actually was. I felt very mature, so I liked wearing things like this. I thought the more mature I look than the more boys can notice me. Tight jeans made me feel like I was cute and knew how to dress.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



Liana Rodriguez is a Senior at the New York City College of Technology studying Fashion Marketing. She aspires to be a stylist for magazine covers and shoots. Liana was born and raised in Brooklyn Ny.