

Individuals all over the globe have their own definitions of who their hero is. As a toddler, when someone would ask me who my savior was, I would proudly shout, "Spider Man!" I can assure you that today my response has drastically transformed into, let's say, something more realistic. The superstar in my eyes is my oldest cousin who is almost impossible to describe. This person is a paragon of virtue who I admire and someone who brings hope to my dreams.

Growing up, she had it rough in almost any situation that you could possibly think of. Despite of what she went through, she overcame it, and she didn't let her hardships define her. Instead Miriam took what she experienced and converted her life obstacles into lessons that would soon aid me and several of other family members. Being the oldest cousin, 24, in our family, she was practically the first one to do everything! The first to step out into the real world and get the entire taste of it. The very FIRST to graduate, to get a job, to go to dental school, and to even get married! In other words, the amount of pressure she carried on her back was severe, especially since her parents had high expectations.

I'm a junior in high school and I'm unsure of what I want to pursue in college once I graduate. I always tend to overthink my future and I get worried, but that one person is always there to assure me that one day I'm going to become someone. When it comes down to my education I have my whole bloodline supporting me, no matter what, but just knowing that my go to person is there for me, makes me feel motivated and at the top of the highest mountain.

No one is ever going to understand how much I appreciate this special human being. Other than my parents of course, her significance in my heart plays an enormous role, like a second angel by my side. Honestly, if it wasn't for Miriam, I think by now I would have already had multiple mental breakdowns or maybe even a life crisis. She, in a way, is my mentor and she provides me with important advice that I could apply to my life. Because of mainly her, I have matured rapidly compared to most teens my age now, cause she expands my mentality on different types of levels. Whenever I'm having a doubt on something particular or I need another person's opinion, my name is already buzzing like crazy on her phone screen. I joke around all the time and tell her that she's my personal Google. The perfect word that fits her personality is "Gregarious", out of all things that I enjoy best is that there is not a single time where I don't see her and we're not cracking laughs left and right, she sure does know how to have a good time.

Overall, I don't think there is a trophy big enough out in the universe that could be handed to her. I applaud and respect her high morals and outstanding values. I'm extremely grateful for her and I feel like I don't tell her that enough, and not only that, but I will always love and care for her like she does me. I once looked at a fictional character as my hero but little did I know that my true hero was Miriam Irizarry, my superwoman.