



## Raúl's Dream

Julia Medina Martin



Raúl, a brilliant student, is completely absorbed in his digital tablet, drawing worlds bursting with color and modern shapes. His face glows with passion as intricate designs swirl around him, each stroke a step closer to his dream of independence and a life fueled by art.



At a bustling coffee shop, Raúl and his best friend Blas chat animatedly about their futures. Suddenly, Raúl's phone buzzes, and his expression dramatically shifts from casual to pure disbelief and exhilarating joy as he reads a message confirming a top design studio scholarship.



Overwhelmed with excitement, Raúl and Blas animatedly plan his new independent life, their faces alight with anticipation. Blas, sharing Raúl's joy, encourages him to find a place bathed in natural light, perfect for creative projects, as Raúl eagerly scrolls through apartment listings late into the night.



After a long search, Raúl meets Inés, a cheerful real estate agent, who leads him up the grand, winding staircase of an old city building. Raúl's imagination soars, picturing himself returning home through this very entrance every evening after a fulfilling day of work.



Raúl's hopeful expression shatters as he steps into the apartment; it's a tiny, dark 'dungeon' where a drawing table barely fits. The walls seem to close in on him, making his grand dreams feel suffocated and small within the cramped space.



Undeterred, Raúl dedicates himself fully to his new internship at the design studio. He learns quickly, crafting powerful logos with professional flair, surrounded by other focused designers. He believes that by working harder than anyone else, success and a better home will surely follow.



Despite his dedication, Raúl faces the harsh reality of an intern's salary. He looks forlornly at his nearly empty wallet, realizing the meager pay barely covers bus fare and food, leaving nothing for even the cheapest storage unit, let alone a decent apartment.



Raúl confides in his friend Leticia, who shares his frustration, feeling equally overwhelmed by the challenges of starting a career. They commiserate, both feeling like the world isn't designed for young people just beginning their professional journeys.



Later that evening, Raúl, Leticia, and Blas gather for a relaxing evening, hoping to lift their spirits. Suddenly, a brilliant idea sparks in Raúl's mind, illuminating his face with a flash of inspiration: 'What if we shared an apartment, the three of us?'



Blas and Leticia enthusiastically agree, almost in unison, exclaiming how wonderful the idea is. The three friends spend the rest of the night planning their exciting new life together, their faces beaming with anticipation for the challenges and adventures ahead.