

Summer Memories

It was a cold winter morning and like every Tuesday, I woke up at 5 AM to take a nice warm shower to start the day with a sense of freshness. I turned on the radio on my usual channel and the unexpected happened: they were playing the acoustic version of the song of the summer 2015. While I was making my bed, memories of my stay in Llafranc that summer took over my thoughts.

I arrived at that magical place in the afternoon of June twenty fourth, Midsummer eve's day, excited for the summer to come. I had flown all the way from London to stay there so I could get away from the stress of the city and work, not expecting at all what would happen on that beach town during those two months. As soon as I had opened the windows to let the sunlight in, the apartment I was staying in changed from a dusty old flat to a shiny white paradise. I decided to change my clothes, put on a flowy dress and some bright sandals and go exploring. The first night on the beach was probably one of the best nights of my life. I went to a restaurant called Leon where I had dinner while enjoying the views of the town, when in the middle of the first dish, a man approached me and said:

- Perdona, està ocupat aquest lloc?

In complete confusion I answered:

- I'm sorry, I can't understand you. Could you talk in English?

The man looked at me with awe and a big smile.

- Oh, you are English? I'm sorry, you blend in incredibly in this place! I was asking if this seat is taken, I'm alone and every other table is taken.

I let him sit with me and we started a conversation that would last for a whole summer, where he would show me all the secret places of this village and the rest beside it; the Lighthouse of Sant Sebastià, all the hidden little beaches of the rocky coast... Places where we would find each other and our true soulmates.

I come out of the shower while I remember with melancholy the place that brought love into my life and the place where I will always go back to in moments of desperation and stress to find my inner peace.

Júlia Freitas