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## Raindrop

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Raindrop Alexander Witt

hear the crunch of leaves falling and the chorus of nightingales from the outside. Due to its simplicity, the classroom lacked essential equipment such as air conditioning or any technological devices. However, we, the students, were never hindered by unwavering determination and striving for our dreams. Unlike the United States and other countries, my hometown's educational system is designed in a unique way where we share the same classmates in all the same subjects. In addition, each class usually consists of about 40 students, and we stay in the same classroom until we go to high school. Remaining in the same class gave us the opportunity to face challenges together and understand each other more. A really special thing is that in Vietnamese, we never have a concept called "classmate" because all class members became close friends since the first time we met. To me, those experiences are truly special; it transformed my classroom into more than just a place of learning. It became my second home! Time has flown by rapidly; it has now been four years since I left my town, the school days that filled me with joy and sorrow partly vanishing with time. Still, the school remains there, silent and solitary, always staying with me along the way.

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> **Chipping Away** A.J. Sanchez