

I Dream of a Better Life

By Ralson La Plant



I was born in the small town of Bainet, near Jacmel, Haiti. The people of my country are in dire need of a better education system. Thousands of children do not go to school because their families have no money to pay their tuition. One of my dreams is that all the children of Haiti will go to school free of charge.

At this time, I am fortunate because I am a student at Toussaint L'Ouverture High School for Arts and

Social Justice in Delray Beach, Florida. My English teacher is Ms. Newton, and she is a great teacher. When I have too much fun in class she stops me from playing around. I now understand I must focus and learn English so I can have a successful future in the U.S.A.

When I am not in school, I go looking for a job to help my grandfather and cousins who are living in Haiti. I especially want to help my mother because she believes in me and loves me so much. My mother desires only positive things for my life and I owe her much more than money.

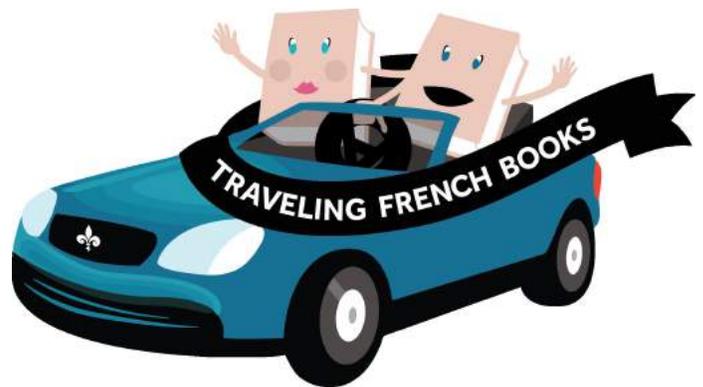
I'm twenty-one years old. I want to earn my diploma and find a good job. Sometimes, I cry. I am sad my time in Bainet included such little time in school. My family had no money to pay the teachers. The time I spend in school now, at the age of twenty-one, is very valuable.

I believe all my dreams of helping the children of Haiti, of helping my family and of earning my diploma will come true. I will work hard and with the help of my mother, my teachers, and God I will become a successful adult living in America. I will be able to find a way to help the children of Haiti get the free education they deserve.

Editor's Note: Ralson submitted this essay in English, his second language.

Traveling French Books project to aid Haitians

Migrant Worker Outreach is spearheading a drive to bring French books to schools and libraries in Haiti. Canadian tourists who travel to New Jersey in the summer, are being invited to bring French books with them. Some of the books will go to public libraries in NJ, to supplement their collections. Other books will be sent to Haiti via Haitian Americans traveling there, from Canada and from the U.S.. The last portion of books will be distributed at migrant camps in NJ. For more information about the Traveling French Books project go to: LivresFrancaisVoyageurs.Org



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