



## TRANSCRIPCIÓN ORIGINAL DE STUDIO OCHENTA

### MIJA PODCASTS PRESENTS: MIJA ON THE MIKE

00:17 MIJA

Hey It's me, Mija. I'm back.

00:20 MIJA

Feels odd to say, since I've shared this space with other mijas over the last 3 years, and getting back into this story feels strange...

00:29 MIJA

So much has happened since that first season where I shared my story for 10 minutes every week.

00:34 MIJA

This microphone right here kept me company alongside notebooks filled with scribbles of notes and images of...

00:41 MIJA

The guitar:

00:43 MIJA MEMORIES

Chacho is playing a song in a living. Manu is five years old and he its watching him...

00:49 MIJA

The lipstick.

00:51 MIJA MEMORIES

And there in the makeup aisle, Miha saw the lipstick that her mother had...

00:55 MIJA

the music

00:57 MIJA MEMORIES

...was seven years old. He learned his first steps of salsa

01:06 MIJA

So many of you, even 3 years later, continue to tune in monthly, to relisten and discover these stories. From all around the world you have found solace in her voice.

01:16 MIJA

And I think I know why.

01:19 MIJA

It can be lonely out here. Lonely like my mother's old radio, reminding her of home, lonely like trying connect with family in between whatsapp voicenotes. Lonley like a pandemic separating us, and bringing us together.

01:33 MIJA

So where does that leave us? Well I've thought a lot about this journey, where it's going. How it ends. And the truth is I don't know. I'm still figuring it out.

01:48 MIJA

It's actually not so simple as finding your talent and succeeding .

01:53 MIJA

As daughters of immigrants, we have to work hard to make things happen. Our parent's networks are limited to their neighbors, working-class folks like them. The same folks who get excited when you tell them, "LOOK! My daughter did this thing! I'm so proud!" And its the same folks that share it on whatsapp, that talk about it over tea or cafecito.

02:13 MIJA

They are a small but strong community of thousands. They are you. They are us. So here I am. Mija, sitting down to tell you a story. A real story. I hope you it comforts you, and inspires you too.

02:27 MIJA

This season will be special because I'll be sharing stories of my own and inviting guests to share theirs. We're going to celebrate this community and make you all stars of your whatsapp groups. Because if I've learned anything from making this show, and creating Studio Ochenta with our amazing team, Is that no matter what happens, todo va salir bien.

02:49 MIJA

So, before I tell you my story, a little note: if you have a story you'd like to share, I invite you to reach out on instagram @mijapodcast and leave us a message with a short story or memory of yours that warms your heart. We'll read it out loud on the show.

03:06 MIJA

So here goes. 10 minutes to tell the real story of Mija.

03:14 MIJA

I am 10 years old standing in front of a mirror. Looking at my body. I'm getting taller. At least that's what Mami says every day. I am getting ready for school.

03:24 MIJA

My favorite thing to wear: My Jelly shoes.

03:38 MIJA

But it's raining and mami says I can't wear them. I want to jump in every puddle. I want to swim in the puddle and meet the fishes and ask them about their day and ...

03:41 MAMI

MIJA!! TENEMOS QUE IRNOS!!

03:44 MIJA

We're late. And because I was daydreaming, we missed the bus.

03:50 MIJA

So now we have to walk 1km to school in the rain. And it's not just any kind of rain. It's the kind of rain that no matter how you stand. No matter how much you cover-up. You will get wet.

04:07 MIJA

Mami sighs. She helps my brother and I into our raincoats and I giggle because I will swim today.

04:20 MIJA

Thunder claps, the rain falls in sheets. We are three little figures advancing in the early morning light. We pass a small bridge that goes over a highway. The water passing underneath makes the cars look like giant electric fish. Another bus passes us and the people inside stare at the mad woman with two children braving the rain.

04:40 MIJA

And as admirable as it is... We SIMPLY can't escape the water. No matter how much we hop, skip and jump over the sidewalk puddles. But I'm laughing. This is so fun.

04:57 MIJA

A car passes in front of us and I briefly see my red-cheeks reflected in the puddle below before... We are soaked.

05:08 MIJA

But mami is not giving up. We have towels and a change of clothes in our backpacks. We will get to school today.

05:17 MIJA

And despite the journey feeling 20 times longer than usual. We make it. And climb up the steps to the school. I change clothes and we settle into class.

05:27 MIJA

My hair is still wet and I probably look like a wet puppy but I'm smiling ear to ear. The next minute we're talking about fish and how many there could be in the ocean. I'm dreaming again.

05:54 MIJA

I awaken with a start. I am 26 and I am standing at a bus station. It's the early afternoon and it's raining again.

06:03 MIJA

Raining like that day except this time the rain makes me sad.

06:13 MIJA

I am far from home. I'm not sure where I am and there are no fish to be seen anywhere.

06:24 MIJA

I pick up the phone and dial mami.

06:29 MIJA

She answers, she hears the rain and asks if I remembered my umbrella.

06:36 MIJA

I ask her how she is and I pretend that I'm not sad.

06:41 MIJA

I smile as I ask her if she saw this TV show, we both like she can't remember any of the actors names.

06:51 MIJA

And I laugh, I hang up and I am swimming again.

07:06 MIJA

Thanks for listening. This is Mija on the Mike, a season of reflection on our shared experiences as daughters of immigrants. Over the next couple of weeks, I'll be sharing stories like these and inviting guests to share theirs.

07:18

Follow us on Instagram at @Mijapodcasts and leave us a note if you like this story tune in every Wednesday for a new story.

07:25

This is a production of Studio Ochenta, a Latina-owned multi-lingual podcast studio dedicated to raising voices across cultures. For more from Studio Ochenta, follow us at @ochentapodcasts on Instagram. That's O-C-H-E-N-T-A podcast with an S on Instagram.