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I was born in Los Altos, one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Los Altos has a unique charm: in this city, the architecture blends into the surrounding green environment. The micro-climate here helps different kinds of plants to flourish all year round. My family has lived in Los Altos for about twenty years. Interestingly, most of our family memories are related to the wonderful trees of Los Altos.

My neighbor, Mike, had several gigantic pine trees in his backyard. They reminded me of the trees in Lake Tahoe: majestic, colored a beautiful vivid green. But unfortunately, Mike had to cut his trees down, for they became too large and dangerous. They could fall on power lines and their powerful roots threatened the infrastructure. It was a sad event for the whole street, but everyone understood that Mike was caring for the safety of our neighborhood. I can imagine how especially painful it was for him to make this decision, as these trees were planted by his grandfather.

Luckily, the citizens of Los Altos also plant many new trees. For instance, when my parents married, they planted two tiny cypress trees in our backyard. Today, they impress me with how beautiful, tall, and stately they are. They grew taller than our house!

Witnessing what can happen to trees in my town taught me that not only do buildings make a city look serene and attractive, but also plants. Many trees are older than several generations of families. I'm sure that many families, just like mine, treasure and cherish memories of greenery in their town. It might be equally important to protect and take care of these green riches as it is to preserve architecture as a gift for future generations.