

Joe was invited to visit his aunt and cousins in San Francisco one summer. He bought a plane ticket and flew out there from his home in Virginia. Joe liked his Aunt Lee and his cousins, Emily and Quint. He was looking forward to visiting them as well as seeing San Francisco. He had never traveled to California before.

When Joe got off the plane, his relatives were waiting at the airport gate to greet him. "Hello, Joe, come here and give your Aunt Lee a big hug and a kiss," said Aunt Lee. Joe set his suitcases on the pavement and embraced his aunt. Then he hugged his cousin Emily and shook hands with Quint. "Hello, Quint, it's been two years since I've seen you and it looks like Aunt Lee has been feeding you quite well," said Joe. Quint laughed because many people commented on his size. He picked up Joe's suitcases and led his family to the car that was parked outside the airport.

That night they decided to take Joe to a famous San Francisco restaurant, the Fisherman's Wharf. They called for reservations. The hostess said she could have a table prepared for them at seven o'clock, so they dressed for dinner and drove out by the sea.

The restaurant was very crowded. Joe enjoyed watching different people from all over the country going in and out the large

brass doors. As they were being seated at the table, Joe noticed that the chandeliers were shaking slowly from side to side and he asked his aunt why. “Oh, we have had a few tremors the past few days, but there is nothing to worry about because they have not predicted any major earthquakes,” said Aunt Lee. Joe sighed with some relief and ordered lobster to eat, wondering whether they would experience an earthquake before the dinner was served.

After they had eaten, they ordered dessert. Joe got chocolate cheesecake, his favorite. While they were eating, the lights began to sway again and they could feel the tremors. Joe was alarmed, but everyone else kept eating as if nothing had happened. “I hope the rest of my vacation is filled with this much excitement,” said Joe.

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