

Life Attracts Life

By Anika Panet-Carino

I've always wanted to find independence and disliked the idea of being dependent on others. In 2018, I obtained a job and my dream of travelling at 18 became realistic. I became obsessed with being independent, working hard to leave Toronto, Ont. This year, I achieved that and flew to Costa Rica. I lived and worked at an eco-lodge called Dolphin Quest, situated deep in the jungle. While there, I was able to connect with nature. Every day I observed life. I watched the plants grow, the monkeys fight and the birds mate. The closer I looked, the more I felt connected and the more I realized how important it is to embrace dependence. I finally felt at peace, and through nature, I discovered the importance of dependence to obtain independence. I realized that trust is essential. I have been in Toronto for a month before leaving again for France and I have decided to spend this time strengthening my connections with family and friends. Relying on them a little more, no longer being afraid of dependence.



Two baby hummingbirds at the mercy of the jungle are awaiting their mother's arrival. The next day, they were nowhere to be found.



Two fungi share the wealth of Costa Rica's rainy season.



Ants indulge in the fruit of the noni tree.



A male spider builds his home within the same tree, depending on the structure of the branches and the fruit to attract his prey.



Pollen exchange. The interdependent relationship between moth and flower.



These parrots have just been released by a private animal rehabilitation centre near the eco-lodge. Due to their unnatural upbringing, they are not afraid of humans. If they do not learn to live on their own, they will be recaptured by the centre and live their lives under the roof of the facility.



A hawk and horse are building a mutually beneficial relationship. The hawk rests on the horse while the hawk eats the insects around the horse. Each provides a service unattainable otherwise.



Scarlet macaws, monogamous, soar together completely free. They are one; one with each other, one with the sky and one with the ecosystem.