& now it's all high rises

A ZINE BY MRB

ONCE UPON A TIME, IT WAS MORE THAN JUST HIGH RISES

THE BURBANK NEIGHBORHOOD, WAS THE FOURTH SOUTH BAY NEIGHBORHOOD I LIVED IN. I LIVED ON BAILEY, WHICH IS KITTY CORNER TO WEST SAN CARLOS AND BASCOM. THERE WAS A TAQUERIA AROUND THE CORNER THAT HAD AN AMAZING SAUCE. I COULD ALSO WALK TO FALAFELS DRIVE IN AND WALIA. THE PINK POODLE IS STILL THERE, BUT BABY LAND IS GONE. TIME [illegible] GONE. AND SAVERS IS GONE TOO. NOW THERE IS NICK THE GREEK AND SOME OTHER RANDOM RESTAURANTS IN THAT CENTER. THE PARKING IS STILL SHITTY. OH AND SHOE PALACE IS THERE TOO. FOR NOW. UNTIL SOMEONE BUYS IT UP AND TEARS IT DOWN. ON SATURDAY NIGHTS THE [illegible] KARAOKE NIGHTS [illegible] THEN [illegible] SING. THERE WAS AN ELDERLY KOREAN MAN WHO WOULD SING SONGS IN SPANISH. HE HAD A REALLY NICE VOICE. SOMETIMES WE WOULD ALSO GO TO THE BEAR FOR A BEER. WELL WHEN I DRINK OR THE PHO PLACE FOR NOODLES. THE FOOD WAS GOOD BUT THE RESTAURANT [illegible] FUNNY. THE DOUGH [illegible] IS GONE BUT THE UMC BOX IS STILL THERE. [illegible] WHAT [illegible] AND WHAT HAS GONE AWAY. THE [illegible] STILL THAT YOU WHEN I LIVED IN THAT ATTIC APARTMENT. LOVE AND LOST IN THAT ONE SPACE. TIME DRIFTING AND WISHING YOU COULD KEEP IT ALL THE SAME.

THE HIGH RISES ARE SO UGLY. SOMETIMES THEY PAINT MURALS ON THEM TO MAKE THEM LOOK NICER. TO ME THEY JUST LOOK FAKE.

ILL NEVER UNDERSTAND PAYING AN ARTIST TO PAINT A BUILDING THEY COULD NEVER AFFORD TO LIVE IN.

THANKFULLY OUR FAVORITE RESTAURANT VEGETARIAN HOUSE IS STILL THERE AND THEY STILL REMEMBER YOU

CHANGES. CHANGES CHANGES. PEOPLE CHANGE PLACES CHANGE SOME THINGS STAY THE SAME. THE SWEEPS ARE STARTING THIS WEEK. AND MORE PEOPLE WILL BE IMPACTED. MORE THAN ALREADY ARE. NO ONE CAN AFFORD HERE ANYMORE. THE ATROCIOUS REMINDERS OF GENTRIFICATION, INFECTING THE SOUTH BAY ONE NEIGHBORHOOD AT A TIME

SOME PLACES STILL REMAIN, SMALL REMINDERS OF WHAT WAS AND USED TO BE. THE BEAR STILL STANDS, ROSE GARDEN, TOTO EXPRESS, THE VINTAGE STORES, BLACK AND BROWN VINTAGE, STREET LIGHT, WALIA, THE MALL, DUH, ETC. BUT WE HAVE TO TRY TO NOT FORGET THE PLACES THAT DID NOT MAKE IT. THAT ARE FOREVER ENGRAVED IN OUR MEMORIES. AND NOTHING MORE

THESE ENDLESS WAYS TO SAN JOSE --

WAYS AND WAYS AND WAYS AND WAYS THAT START AND END IN THE HEART.

POSSIBLY,

THE SELF NOT BEING FUNDAMENTAL.