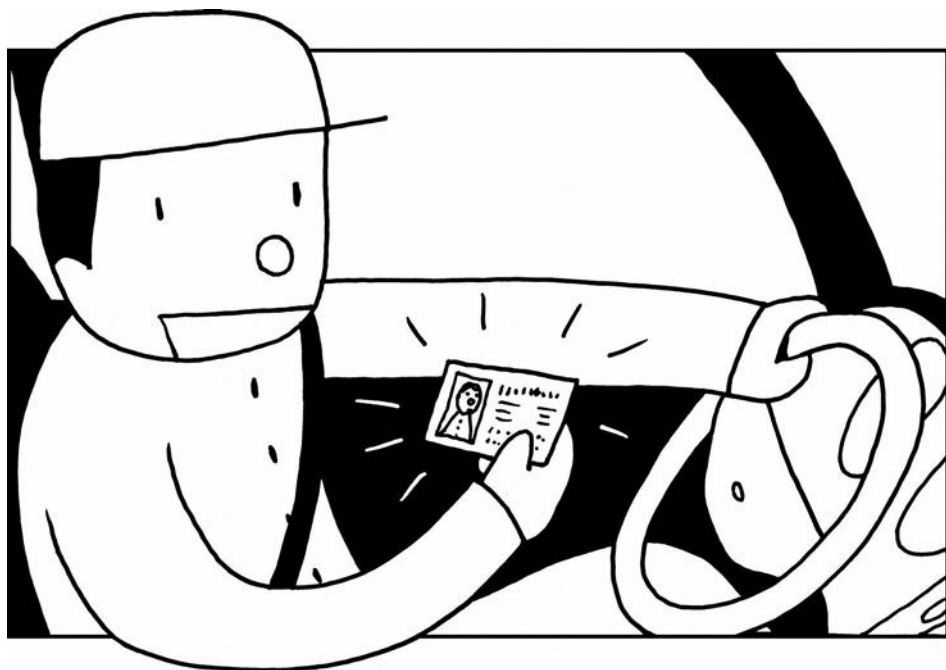


**"EL VIAJE MAS CARO" / "THE MOST COSTLY JOURNEY" presents:**

# NOW THAT I HAVE MY LICENSE



*Reflections on Driving*  
*Art by Marek Bennett*

# Sobre "EL VIAJE MÁS CARO" About "THE MOST COSTLY JOURNEY"



Aproximadamente 1,000-1,200  
**TRABAJADORES MIGRANTES  
LATINOAMERICANOS** ayudan  
a sostener la industria láctea en Vermont.

Approximately 1,000-1,200 **MIGRANT  
LABORERS** from **LATIN AMERICA** help to  
sustain the dairy industry in Vermont.



**Este proyecto representa una COLABORACIÓN CREATIVA entre:**  
*This project represents a CREATIVE COLLABORATION between:*

**NARRADORES  
de la comunidad migrante**

*STORYTELLERS from the  
migrant community*



**CARICATURISTAS locales  
de New England**

*New England  
CARTOONISTS*

resultando en una **SERIE DE  
HISTORIETAS** enfocada en los  
distintos aspectos de la  
**EXPERIENCIA MIGRANTE...**

*resulting in a **SERIES OF  
COMICS** focusing on  
distinct aspects of the  
MIGRANT EXPERIENCE...*



**PARA OBTENER MÁS INFORMACIÓN e HISTORIETAS, VISITA:**  
**FOR MORE INFORMATION & COMICS, VISIT:**

[www.vermontfolklifecenter.org/elviajemascaro](http://www.vermontfolklifecenter.org/elviajemascaro)

[www.facebook.com/elviajemascaro](https://www.facebook.com/elviajemascaro)

Arte por / Art by: Marek Bennett ©2016 [www.MarekBennett.com](http://www.MarekBennett.com)

## **Now That I Have My License: Reflections on Driving Edition 1 / June 2017**

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**Arte © por / Art © by:** Marek Bennett [ [www.MarekBennett.com](http://www.MarekBennett.com) ]

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**Transcrita por / Transcribed by:** GMR Transcription

**Traducida por / Translated by:** GMR Transcription

+ Marek Bennett + Julia Doucett + Naomi Wolcott-MacCausland

**Revisada por / Proofread by:** Julia Doucett

**Librito por / Booklet by:** Marek Bennett

# PIERO

My first THREE  
YEARS on this  
farm, I almost  
NEVER  
WENT  
OUT.



If I had to go  
to BURLINGTON  
or the CLINIC,



I had to PAY.



\$100  
to go...

\$100 to  
come back.

I think we  
don't have a  
NORMAL LIFE  
here in  
NORTHERN  
VERMONT...

Every day you  
go to work with  
the COWS



and then BACK HOME

You see the SAME  
PEOPLE every day,



EVERY DAY  
the same.

I'd like to get my  
DRIVER'S LICENSE...

I'd spend more  
time with  
OTHER PEOPLE...

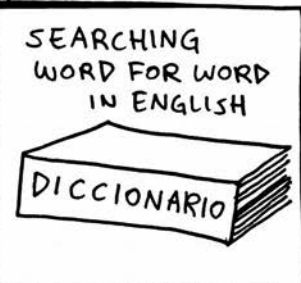
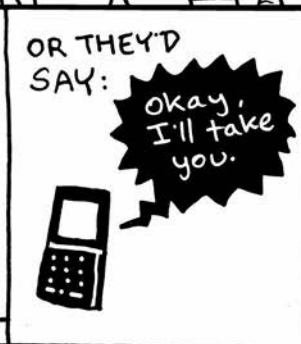
live a  
NORMAL LIFE.



But if I can't  
Go OUT, I  
can't obtain the  
DOCUMENTS  
I need  
to get it...

Still, it's a GOOD IDEA.

# SAUL + OLIVIA




# PACO



A cartoon illustration of a man wearing a cap and a light-colored shirt, sitting and reading a book. Above him, the text "OBTAIN my license ..." is written in a simple, hand-drawn font.

me a lot.



me through the process.

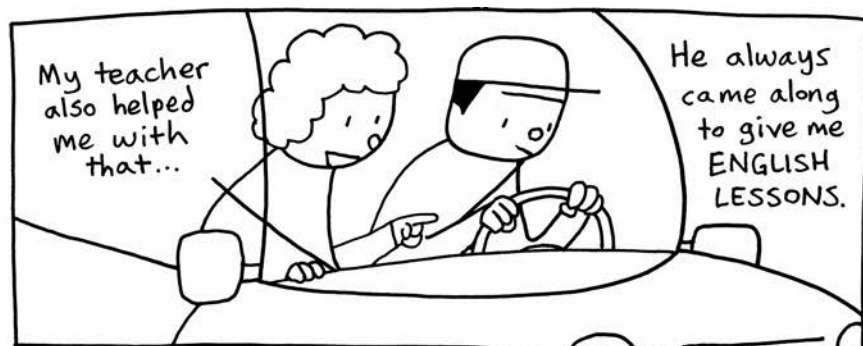


since I understood a little ENGLISH

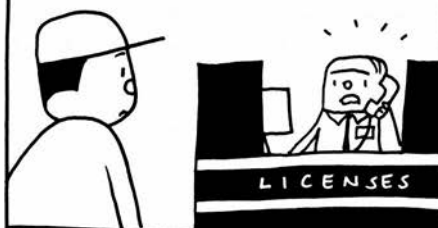
Thank you!  
See you then.

We went  
TOGETHER.

A black and white cartoon illustration. At the top, the text "I PASSED!" is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the text, a person with a wide, happy smile is shown from the chest up. They are wearing a light-colored, long-sleeved shirt with a row of buttons down the front and a fedora-style hat. Their arms are raised in the air, with their fists clenched in a celebratory gesture. To the right of the person's head, there is a small, rectangular document or certificate with a large checkmark drawn on it. The background is simple, with some vertical lines suggesting a wall or a backdrop.



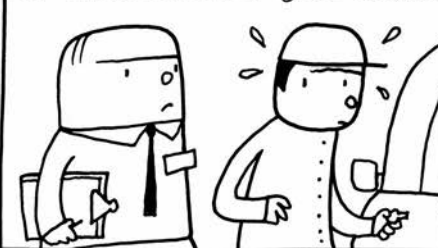
I was AFRAID the  
people at the DMV  
here in St. Albans



might call  
IMMIGRATION



or that simply because  
of the COLOR of your SKIN



the person  
would FAIL you  
on the test.



Everyone told me it was better  
to go to BURLINGTON



where they treat  
LATINOS much better.

There, they're USED TO  
the LICENSING PROCESS  
for migrants,



so it's a little  
LESS DANGEROUS.





# OLIVIA

WITH MY MOST RECENT SON, I SET UP A PLAN FOR WHEN I WAS GOING INTO LABOR...



I PHONED MY HUSBAND, WHO WAS AT WORK AT THE FARM.



HE TOLD THE OWNER OF THE FARM BEFOREHAND THAT HE MIGHT NEED TO LEAVE AT ANY TIME, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS WORKING HOURS.



IT WAS QUICK—BY THE TIME SAUL ARRIVED HOME, I ALREADY HAD CONTRACTIONS!



THE BABY WAS PRACTICALLY OUT BY THE TIME WE GOT TO THE CLINIC!

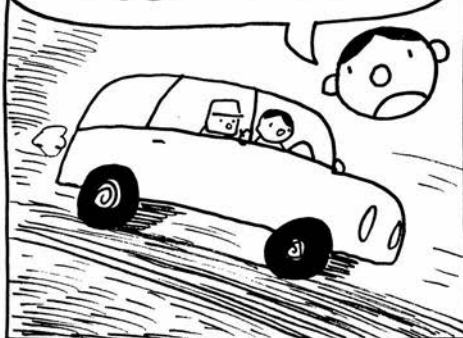


IF WE HADN'T HAD THE CAR AND THE LICENSE, I WOULD HAVE HAD TO DELIVER THE BABY HERE AT HOME!



# SAUL

The POLICE have stopped me ONLY ONCE — for the SPEED LIMIT.



I was coming along near here, because it was almost WORK time...



And on this road, I was doing like 50...



So they put on their LIGHTS to stop me



I pulled over to the side, and they asked for my LICENSE...

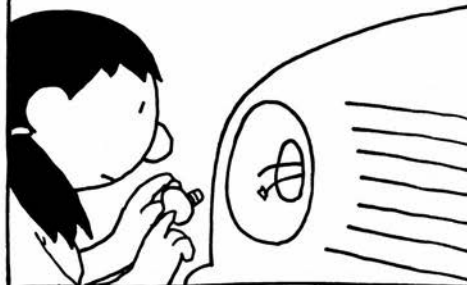


But since this was the FIRST TIME ANYBODY stopped me, they didn't give me a TICKET.





IF SOMETHING IS BROKEN,  
WE FIX IT IMMEDIATELY.



WE HAVE TO HAVE THE  
CAR IN ORDER SO THEY  
HAVE NO EXCUSES  
TO STOP US.



IN FACT, THE  
POLICE ARE  
LOOKING FOR  
EXCUSES TO  
BE ABLE TO  
STOP YOU...



IT'S LESS EXPENSIVE TO  
FIX A \$2 LIGHT BULB  
THAN TO PAY A TICKET  
OR MAYBE GO TO JAIL!



# OLIVIA





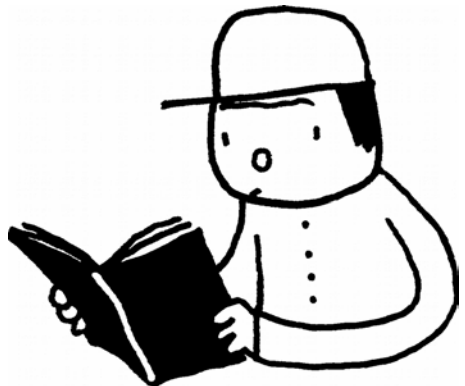


**For information and assistance in obtaining a driver's license or other identification, or for other relevant resources, contact the group  
“Migrant Justice”:**

**migrantjustice.net  
802-658-6770**

***Their website offers various downloadable  
resources in English and Spanish,  
including the following:***

- **“2014 Transportation Guidelines for Volunteer Drivers in the Solidarity Transportation Network”**
- **“Driving Manual of the State of Vermont”  
(in Spanish)**
- **“Frequently Asked Questions by Allies About Why Get a Driver's Privilege Card/ID”**



# "EL VIAJE MÁS CARO"

Una colaboración entre narradores migrantes y caricaturistas Nuevainglaterra.



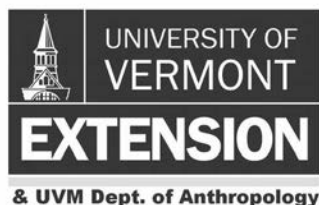
# "THE MOST COSTLY JOURNEY"

A collaboration between migrant storytellers & New England cartoonists.

Farm artwork from "A New Type of Work" by Delmar & Tillie Walden.

[www.vermontfolklifecenter.org/elviajemascaro](http://www.vermontfolklifecenter.org/elviajemascaro)  
[www.facebook.com/elviajemascaro](https://www.facebook.com/elviajemascaro)

## **SOCIOS DEL PROYECTO / PROJECT PARTNERS:**



**Agradecemos el apoyo de / We appreciate the support of:**  
VT Farm Health Task Force / VT Community Foundation's "Innovations and Collaborations" Grant / UVM Humanities Center