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Edgar Aguirre - Written Story

Edgar Aguirre
Carleton College

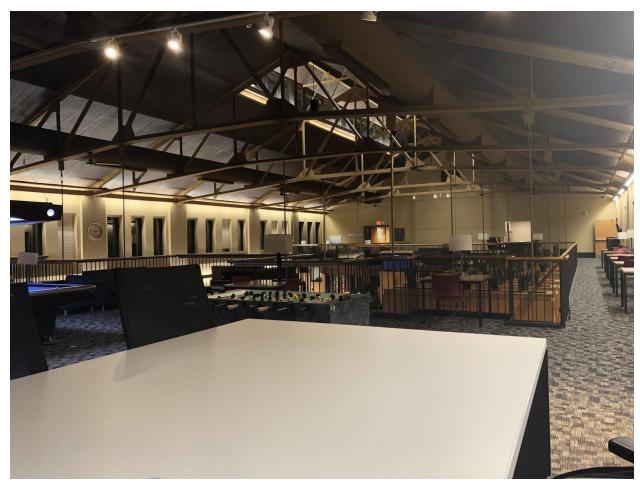
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I believe this image of Sayles gives an impression of my experience during quarantine. I've tried to maintain as much of my old routine in order to help adjust to this new experience on campus. However, things are noticeably different. Being from New York City, I'm used to always hearing noise of some form. When I came to Carleton, the peaceful quietness of a small town ironically disturbed me, and I tried to find a comfortable environment within the school. For me, Sayles and 4th Libe became those environments providing me with an atmosphere of noise and space to focus on school work.

Unfortunately, I no longer have access to the libe anymore, so Sayles has become a sort of refuge for me in adjusting. But, the space no longer has the same meaning that it used to. Without the chattering of people, the sound of students playing pool, and the noise of the printers going off, the space has lost the aspect that made it comfortable for me.

Now, Sayles is just an empty space, filled with silence, and its no longer the environment I need to be able to focus. The biggest challenge with quarantine has been learning to adapt, but it has been hard to do so when I'm trapped in an environment I'm familiar with, but is no longer the same. Learning to adapt has taken time, but the time that's passed has given me a lot of personal time. And grow to appreciate the little things that I miss and took for granted, like a space to do work in.