

September 4<sup>th</sup>  
Jacob and Jose  
-written by Jose Ramos, Jr.

As an older brother, one of my very first priorities is to protect my brother from anything. From bullies, peer pressure, and even rash decisions. But for almost a year, my brother, Jacob Ramos, was dealing with a bully that I couldn't handle on my own. He tormented Jacob so much to the point where I felt horrible just looking at him. The bully's name was cancer. My name is Jose Ramos Jr. I've decided to tell you my experience of when I found out that my brother had cancer.

It wasn't a normal day. There were about 15 people in my mom's house, not including my mother, Jacob, my younger brother Jathanie, and me. Jacob and I were playing Madden and as always. I was beating him by 20+ points. That was when Jacob and I were forced to pause the game. My mom brought everyone into the small living room, so it was kind of cramped.

This when my mom called for everyone's attention. This eventually leads to her telling everyone that the tumor above my brother's eye is cancerous. Everything after that was a blur. Hearing the news made my head blank. The next thing I remembered is Jacob catching up and beating me in Madden.

When I tried to sleep that night, I cried for about an hour. And that's how every single appointment went like...I saw my brother with all this equipment hooked up to him, and I went home to cry. After his radiation treatments, I went home and cried.

But I don't cry anymore. Just like Jacob, I have to be strong.

