

# Smelly Sandals

Juan Acosta

I get to the second door and swear this key was soldered in because it took about five minutes to get it out of the door. I was anxious to get outside and worried that I was making too much noise. At any moment, I felt like the lights inside of the pitch-black home were going to turn on.

I make it past both doors and I am outside. With both doors locked and the keys in my pocket, I confidently I soak in my triumph. This is a big deal, I felt pretty cool.

As I breathe in the smell of relief and freedom,

became a running joke and is a story they will not soon forget. They were very supportive and told me I should make the most of my time in Brazil.

In retrospect, sneaking out was a moment of personal growth. I ventured out of my comfort zone and did something bold in a different way than I have in the past.