



## "EL YAJE", MAGIC DRINK

di Angela Vanegas



After 18 hours of traveling in a bus, going south from bogota, we get to one part of the world's lung, a pure and humid air begins to be breathed from the jungle, we get deep inside in a strange vegetation, sounds of animals and birds that aren't seen.... this is the amazonic jungle.

We get to a little town called Mocoa, then we walk in the deep jungle for more than 7 hours, between trees and rivers of pure and really clear water, finally we arrived to that beautiful place, next to the little river, next to a house that was two meters above the ground.

We were there for 8 days preparing to drink the native indian potion; in that virgin jungle, where you only hear the sounds of animals, and the little rain that never ends, and where maybe no one has stepped before... we were there to purify our self's from everything that civilization has, cleaning and preparing our body physically, spiritually and mentally.

Then we came back to the middle civilization of that town, to take the way to the native indian town. Pure native indians, that haven't left the jungle, who still believe in nature's power, with their drink "El Yaje", native indian drink, that takes out any sickness you have, their own ritual.....For them "El Yaje" isn't only a plant, it's a soul that goes into your body and takes away the negative things.

The ritual begins at midnight, the native indian man puts on his special dress, then turns on the fire in the middle of the place, and protects the place from the negative energies pronouncing some words in his dialect... then all of us, one by one go to the front, near the fire, in front of the native indian man... he asks for permission to the "Yaje" to be dranked, then gives it to us and we drink it. That drink, a bit bitter and with some sand in it, goes into the body, then about an hour later "El Yaje" has to go out your body, taking away the bad things you had inside.

That night... we didn't sleep.... before the alba the native Indian hits you on your back with a plant that its called "Hortiga", very good for sanguineous circulation.

The light of the day becomes to appear...instead of feeling tired, we feel like new, we have all the energy, we feel like we have been born again, without sickness, new!!! ... that is the mysterious native indian drink, "El Yaje", magic drink !!!



*Photo gallery*