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Autore	Blankenship Judy <1941->
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Nota di contenuto	""""where we are"" by Gerald Locklin"; ""Introduction""; ""Part One""; ""1. Planting a Tree for Plinio""; ""2. On Becoming Property Owners in Ecuador""; ""3. How Much Will All This Cost?""; ""4. Construction Begins, Poco a Poco""; ""5. "You're Going to Live Here?"""; ""6. The Lives of the Workers""; ""7. Carnival: Sins and Repentance, Abundance and Reciprocity""; ""8. Sticks and Stones, Mud and Horse Manure""; ""9. We Become Padrinos . . . Again""; ""10. Strike!""; ""11. Putting Out Fires""; ""12. Personae non Gratae in Ecuador: (or) Why We Went to Peru Last Week"" ""13. On Becoming Residents of a Foreign Country: (or) "Just Go Get Married Again!""""14. Leaving Canar""; ""Part Two""; ""15. The Return""; ""16. On This Day a Year Ago""; ""17. Reality Sets In""; ""18. The Devil Is in the Details""; ""19. A Short History of This Place""; ""20. Moving Day""; ""21. The Wasipichana""; ""22. The Mysteries of the New House and a Mother's Visit""; ""23. Mama Michi, Curandera""; ""24. Coming Home to Canar""; ""25. Neighbors and Fences""; ""26. La Uyanza: A Gift of Sustenance""; ""27. Life in Town""; ""28. Living in Two Worlds"" ""29. Epilogue: What on Earth Are We Doing Here?"""" Acknowledgments""
Sommario/riassunto	While many baby boomers are downsizing to a simpler retirement

lifestyle, photographer and writer Judy Blankenship and her husband Michael Jenkins took a more challenging leap in deciding to build a house on the side of a mountain in southern Ecuador. They now live half the year in Cañar, an indigenous community they came to know in the early nineties when Blankenship taught photography there. They are the only extranjeros (outsiders) in this homely, chilly town at 10,100 feet, where every afternoon a spectacular mass of clouds rolls up from the river valley below and envelopes the town. In this absorbing memoir, Blankenship tells the interwoven stories of building their house in the clouds and strengthening their ties to the community. Although she and Michael had spent considerable time in Cañar before deciding to move there, they still had much to learn about local customs as they navigated the process of building a house with traditional materials using a local architect and craftspeople. Likewise, fulfilling their obligations as neighbors in a community based on reciprocity presented its own challenges and rewards. Blankenship writes vividly of the rituals of births, baptisms, marriages, festival days, and deaths that counterpoint her and Michael's solitary pursuits of reading, writing, listening to opera, playing chess, and cooking. Their story will appeal to anyone contemplating a second life, as well as those seeking a deeper understanding of daily life in the developing world.

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