

## Wind Burn

As I walked out the stuffy and loud yellow school bus on my first day of Pali, I was hit with an ice cold breeze that sent a chill through my body. Soon I was welcomed by the warm faces of counselors walking toward me.

“Okay kids, today we are going to go on a quick hike! Make sure you're wearing your warm clothes and layers because the temperature will soon drop to 30 degrees!” exclaimed a stout small counselor covered in a giant wool jacket.

I was filled with a sense of dread and regret realizing that I packed light jackets and pants, not knowing about the freezing temperatures of Pali.

The so-called quick and easy hike was deceiving. Instead of being quick the hike lasted for over 2 hours, with many intense hiking trails. Our group trucked up steep slippery hills that left my bones sore. The many dark green leaves of oak and pine trees covered the sky and the sun, leaving the hiking trails to look like the dark eerie forests you would only find in a horror movie. Instead of the leaves letting the warmth and happy light from the sun, it decided to let in cold, angry wind that sent shivers and armies or goosebumps to my arms and legs. The wind would also rustle the leaves of the many trees towering over us and would create a high pitched howl across the woods.

At the end of the hike, my body was weary and sore and my face bright red from all the icy wind it was struck by. All I could think about at that moment was how am I going to survive the rest of the week.

**Stella Jeffries**