

Frosty

My focus wavered as the wind blew, ruffling the overhead pine tree leaves. It was a dark night, however, the bright, beautiful stars twinkled above my hiking group. We all sat down and listened at a peak clearing, our silhouettes huddled together.

“That is the Big Dipper...” whispered our councilor, connecting the stars made by the Big Dipper constellation with her finger pointed up in the sky.

I tried to draw my attention, like everyone else was, to the story, but my body said otherwise. My body was lacking sensation from the low temperatures and both my hands and feet were freezing to the touch, giving it a numbing sensation that I have never felt before.

Then once again, a strong gust of wind blew into my face, disheveled my hair, and made my whole body shiver. The blowing wind struck my face, leaving a dramatic and painful wind burn. I trembled from head to toe while counting the seconds go by. Time was moving so slowly, when all I could think about was what would happen after; a hot shower.

By this point, I shook so hard that my teeth started chattering, but I couldn't help it. The cold shot through my veins as it started making my arms freeze up, and then my entire face, like a domino effect.

This was so out of the ordinary for me, since I only have traveled to warm places and have never seen snow or felt it before. This felt entirely new.

The astronomy class was never ending, one story and on to the next. I thought of all the possibilities to get the numbing sensation to go away and instead to feel all warm and cozy inside and out. However, my only conclusion was to wait it out in the frosty climate like everybody else.

After what felt like an eternity, I finally heard the words that I have been waiting for: “That is the end. Let's get ready to head back.”

I was so excited and ran back along the gravel hiking trail, my feet pounding on the uneven surface, hand in hand with my friends toward the cabins, leaving the cold behind me.

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