"Imagine This" Katie Batron Dexter Regional High School

Imagine this;

A silent classroom as each student scans the room for the friend That isn't in their seat as the principal speaks over the intercom: "There's been an accident."

Imagine the hallways, filling with tears and grief until it all overflows To the streets and flows downtown to the local businesses who are Shocked at the death of their employee, customer, or familiar face.

Imagine the faces of your parents as they collapse into each other's arms As the policeman tells them what happened. Their pride and joy sucked from the world.

Imagine the cafeteria emptied of tables and instead filled with chair after chair All facing your casket at the front of the room, the town pastor praying for your Friends and family who have nothing but pain in their hearts.

Imagine the heartbreak and suffering your best friend is going through with The fact that the person they wanted to share senior prom and graduation with Most is no longer there for either event, or any other event for the rest of their life.

> Imagine the moment of silence the DJ asks for at prom before playing your favorite song as your best friends hold each other on the dance floor.

Imagine the empty seat at graduation where you were supposed to sit With your classmates, and the diploma your parents will walk up and receive for you.

Imagine the void your best friend feels on the senior trip, wanting nothing more than to Share that time with you, and make memories with you to last forever and close senior Year with a fun experience and miles of laughter.

Imagine the way your younger sibling feels as they watch your parents pack up your Bedroom forever instead of watching you do it yourself for college in the fall.

Imagine the way people you don't even know place flowers on your headstone With tears in their eyes at the idea that you'll never experience true love or college Or your first real job.

Imagine how the community will feel the hole you used to fill as it donates

Money to your school to hang your picture on the wall as a constant reminder Of what happened to you.

Imagine rewinding all that pain and suffering, back before you looked down at your phone For just a second, the same second the deer wanted to cross the road. Rewind to the fun time you were having with your friends and the decision you made To drive yourself home instead of calling your parents.

Imagine how much easier the end of your senior year would be for everyone If you had made a smart decision rather than an easy decision.

The choices you make shape your future. Why cut everything short by Choosing to drink and drive, or driving distractedly? Make good decisions and good things will happen to you, Like being able to dance with your best friends at prom And walking across that stage at graduation.

Your life is not something that should ever be risked.