

Arrive alive

Hunter Poitras

The dim glow of the moons reflection shimmers across my neighbors pond. Only one thought went through my mind as I slowly drifted down my road; halloween party. I called my friend Cam wondering if he needed a ride over, and sure enough I was on my way. I spent time along the way thinking about the night and how excited I had been for it.

I arrived at Cam's house rearing and ready to go. The party was starting in 15 minutes. His mother came to the door, inviting me in without hesitation. Time waisted away as Cam took his sweet time. I yelled to him barking how we had to leave soon, he replied "let's just be fashionably late". The plan didn't sound terrible because I wanted a bite to eat before heading over. Minutes passed, and he finally came galloping down the stairs. "We ready?" He asked, I laughed and we took off. 30 minutes passed and we finally showed up. The party seemed full of life and we were both ecstatic. Friends, food, and music; it was the perfect Saturday night.

Everything seemed fine until a few friends seemed to disappear without any notice. I was imbedded in the mirage, until I finally realized that cam was missing. I searched around just to make sure he wasn't hidden among the rough. After a thorough sweep of the house I couldn't seem to cross him at all. Rounding the next corner I ran into the host of the party. I asked her if she had heard from a few of the guys that were missing. She smirked and told me they had left to get alcohol. I was confused why they would take the risk during the party.

Hours passed and it must have felt like decades. It was as if time was an endless sandpit. Trying not to worry I went back into the crowd and danced. No longer than 10 minutes passed before the crowd noticed the missing group of guys. My heart skipped a beat the moment people shouted that the people who had left ended up in a car accident.

A close friend of mine and I left directly from there, and went immediately to the sight of the accident. Realizing it wasn't far from the party we came up only to see Cam rested up against the side of the police officers car. We were confused as to where the other driver was that was involved in the accident. Cam looked me in the eyes and sorrowfully told me that the car they hit had an elderly woman that was killed upon impact. Later on, we learned that the friend of ours that was driving had drunk before leaving, leading to the crash. This was a lesson we all learned from. It's hard to believe that although kids are taught not to drink and drive, that it can happen to anyone. "That can't happen to me", is no longer just a fantasy because as we learned it can happen to anyone. No one is simply immune to the repercussions of drunk driving. CDC.gov states, "Every day nearly 28 people die in motor vehicle crashes that involve an alcohol impaired driver." Be safe, and double think your decisions.