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English 12 Advanced

Only a Couple

As I was leaving the party, I found myself stumbling out of the door and everything was spinning. "*I only had a couple of drinks,*" I thought to myself. I almost topple over after walking down the front steps that I did not see. Walking down the same brick path that I walked up with my friends a couple of hours ago, I now walk by myself. While shuffling to my car, I dig through the bottomless pit I call my pockets, trying to find my car keys. After finding them, I struggle to push the 'unlock' button on the keys as my fingers are delaying the actions I want them to do. Finally unlocking my car, I get in and I take a deep breath.

"*I just need to get home.*" I say out loud to myself. After a couple of failed attempts of trying to get the keys in the ignition, I eventually start the car. I reach for the gear shift and put it in neutral, thinking it was in drive. After hitting the gas and realizing that the car was not moving I look down and try to focus my eyesight on the letters. I have the feeling that I am on a rollercoaster going in circles. I put the car in drive, and I push on the gas, jerking the car forward almost hitting the mailbox. I put the car in drive and I pull into the black of night.

Driving down the road, doing my best to go slow, my feet feel weird, they are not working properly. While focusing on how to drive, I hear someone honking their horn.

"*Get off the road!*" they yell. I turn my head to see who yelled at me and everything whips past me in slow motion. Once second I am looking to see who yelled at me, and the next second . . . BAM!

I slowly open my eyes. The smell of smoke fills my lungs. The sound of a school bell is rushing through my ears providing me a pounding headache. I have no feeling in my legs. I lift my head and try to make sense of what just happened. I lift my shaking hand to the side of my face and wince in pain as my fingers feel a deep gash. I pull my hand away and red is all I see. The sight of blood makes me throw up and I start to panic. My breaths get shorter and my heart starts to race. Frantically looking around I see the hood of my car scrunched up and a tree in front of me. My legs are pinned and there is glass everywhere. I can't remember what happened, how I got here or how long I have been here. I try to look for my phone but can not find it anywhere. I scream for help but nobody can hear me. "*This is it.*" I think. "*This is how I am going to die.*" Tears flood my eyes.

I should have listened to my parents,

"*If you decide to ever drink, please call us to come get you,*" they said to me. They don't even know where I am right now. I knew they wouldn't let me go to the party so I lied to them about where I was going. Now I am sitting in this car, unable to move and I should have just listened to them. There is blood everywhere, on my hands, the seats, the dashboard, my clothes. I don't know what to do.

"*HELP!*" I yell with a sobbing voice that gets choked on by blood. I try to not think about dying. I attempt to calm down, but I am in so much pain. I look around again for my phone and see it on the floor behind the passenger seat. It is shattered. I stretch for the phone yelling in agonizing pain. I can't reach it.

I begin to feel tired. I shudder as a bitter wind swipes over my bare skin. Although I can not feel my legs, I can feel my heartbeat, and it begins to slow down. My breathing begins to

slow down as well. "*I only had a couple of drinks,*" I say to myself. Those seven words echo through my head while my whole life is flashing in pieces. Memories of my life play like a slideshow in my head — holidays, birthdays, friends, family. Everyone that I love is flashing before my eyes. I feel as if my lungs are not taking in any more air and my heart is getting slower and slower by the minute. All I can taste is blood. As I take one more deep breath, I think of everyone in my life. I think of the mistake I made. "*I only had a couple of drinks*" is the last thought I have before exhaling. I close my eyes causing one last tear to run down my face and then everything goes black.