Caralin Mills Stein October 22, 2019

## Don't Do It

The weather drastically changed. I was suddenly freezing cold, my body turned to ice. I was trying to gather myself and comprehend what had just happened. My head was throbbing, my leg was all bent out of shape, and my heart was racing faster than you could even imagine. The stench of gasoline came rolling through all four windows of my car. My lungs burned as they filled with a harsh smoke that I couldn't identify. I was so discombobulated and confused as to what was going on. Until I got smacked in the face with the soberest of feelings and realized what I had done.

I look over to my passenger seat and spotted my best friend, slouched down so far in her seat I almost couldn't see her. I go to touch her blood stained skin as I say her name, but as soon as contact is made between us, I can feel the lifelessness radiating off her. My eyes grew wide and my body began to tremble. Thoughts begin racing in my mind and bouncing off my brain so fast that my headache turns to a migraine. My pain becomes excruciating, and my heart sinks to the lowest part of my body. This had to be a sick dream or something, but pinching myself didn't work like it did in the movies.

I try to find the strength to move but my attempt quickly fails as a shooting pain goes from the tip of my toes to the top of my head. I look around and see a white Ford directly across the road from me. I blink a couple times to try and reduce my impaired vision but I keep seeing double. I reach to push some of the glass from my windshield out my line of sight and see what looks like another person. Waiting for them to walk towards me or say something, I begin to cough up some words and scream for help, though my scratchy voice is almost a whisper. There was no response. I quickly realize that the figure I see belonged to the almost unrecognizable vehicle directly across from mine.

My heart practically falls out of my chest and I put the puzzle pieces together. I did this. I totaled these two nice cars, ripped the beautiful souls out of what would have grown to be two young adults, and for myself, I ruined my life. All because I wanted to drink because it would be fun. I knew I had to drive and I heard all me friends around me telling me not to, but I snatched my keys anyways and created a disaster that I can never erase.