Movie Night

By Aspenelle De Los Reyes

"First one to my house gets to pick the movie!" Luna yells as we run to her car, careful not to slip in the frozen parking lot. "Hurry, hurry" I giggle as she lights her headlights and quickly backs out of the parking space. Shivering, I turn on the heat. My frosty hair is dripping wet from swim practice, covering my ears and neck in a blanket of stinging, wet, cold. I think of the warm blankets and movie night popcorn with hot chocolate waiting for me. She hits the gas the moment we turn onto the main road, my stomach fluttering with excitement. Headlights follow close behind us as we zoom faster, zipping down dark empty roads.

The light disappears as I look to the left to see my friends making faces as they pass by. "Nice" Luna rolls her eyes, a competitive look on her face. Their car gains a little distance. We can't let them win. She slams on the gas and passes them, forgetting to turn on the blinker. Laughing, my phone pings. My stomach sinks in a wave of guilt that crashes over me.

New Message from Mom:

'Be careful, it's icy outside ⛄'

My mom is not a fan of Luna. I haven't been allowed to ride in Luna's car since the accident last year, when she broke her arm and missed the whole swim season. What would she say if she knew I was with her? I try to swallow the knot in my throat. "Luna it's pretty snowy here, you should slow down a bit" I mutter. She looks at me like I'm crazy.

"They are going to beat us there if I do, and I don't want to watch- Oh crap! I have to turn he-" The moment freezes but I don't have time to think about anything. Not my mother, not my choices, and especially not a stupid movie. As a reflex I reach out to brace myself, but the car doesn't stop. The outside world turns upside down. I feel weightless. I lift off the seat and my head hits the roof with a loud *crack*. Everything goes pitch black. Don't be like me. Drive safe.