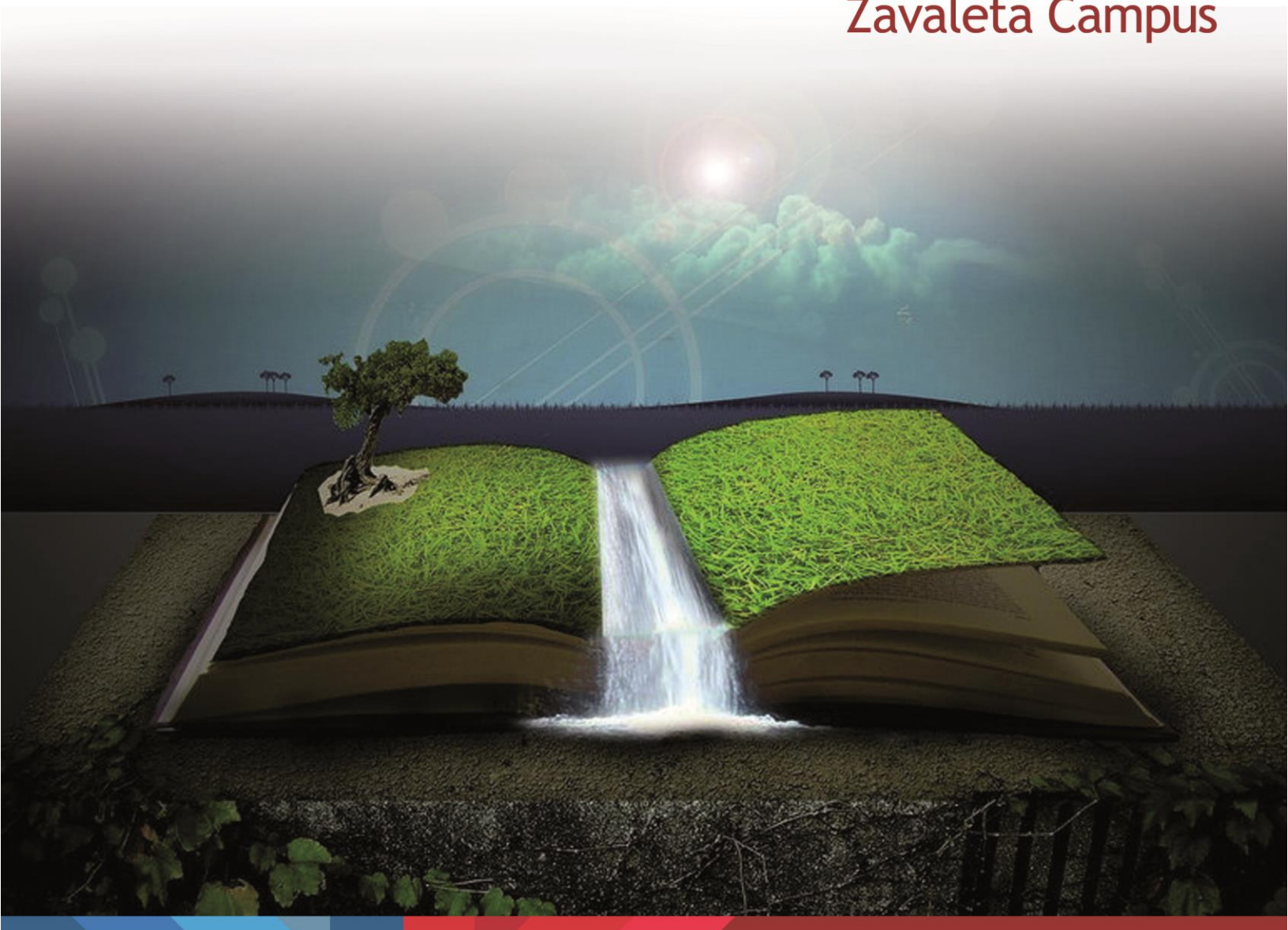




# YOUNG WRITERS ANTHOLOGY

Zavaleta Campus



# *LITERARY ANTHOLOGY 2016*

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

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# PROLOGUE

**“Writing is a calling, not a choice”**

Isabel Allende

The present work gives the students the chance to express themselves, promoting writing for enjoyment and generating a sense of pride in creating something unique.

It is important to mention that most young people are not used to reading, instead they are deeply involved in technology. Reading depends of extended periods of concentration, which are not required by web surfing activities, where adolescents do not require of any mental effort at all, therefore reading is considered both boring and unproductive. Some teenagers are not fond of reading for pleasure, (except when they are attached to an electronic device) they only read when it is mandatory.

However, this Anthology displays the inner talent of good writers who undoubtedly have been avid readers. They have immersed themselves in an ocean of words; lexical background that enables them to go beyond their own expectations...and reading has awaken their desire to write.

Young writers, the ones who stand out from the rest of the students have “that something” not easily found or acquired. For instance, all of us experience emotions, although just a few can accurately identify them as they appear.

“That something” is known as qualities, such as:

- to be patient in the presence of their own thoughts
- to find the right words
- to give shape to the pictures they have in their heart, mind and soul
- to give attention to details
- to link details to feelings and emotions

Just to mention a few.

Apart from having “that something”; enthusiasm, creativity, and the time devoted to catch inspiration are also vital when the passion to create something arises, and the more intense the passion, the better the writing will be.

The 2016 juvenile authors have shown determination and bravery not only for fulfilling their goals but also for being the target of the ones who are not in the same path with worthless opinions and judgements when publishing their own creations.

Congratulations to the Young Writers who didn’t give up and made this Anthology a proof of their true willingness and talent.

“Talent will get you through the door, but character will keep you in the room.” Anonymous

Nefertiti González Valdez

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## **A Reality that Blinds you**

Losing yourself isn't losing control

It's as if someone saw you as an object

Like you're mad and unwilling

But really they do not see what you feel

How difficult it is getting up of bed

Every morning and all the days of your life

Leave the house and feel every glance

And everything they say about you in each step you take

The moment in which you feel despair and waiting to run

Just to forget you're a film in which all people concentrate

As if you had a sign on the front that says "I'm not a problem, I'm someone with  
problems"

Not only has it felt like you're the center of attention

Think about what is losing yourself

It is as if you were arrested to be yourself

But really you don't know what's holding you back

It's like you're in a world, your world

Where only you know how they are your feelings inside

But you must not believe that you will always be lost

Because you are able to leave your world

Which blinds you to reality,

As people want to help you get out of that hole

That just makes you think that all look at you like an object and a mockery

But always think losing yourself isn't losing control.

By A.R.



## **It Doesn't Matter**

I did all the things

I needed to do

But it doesn't matter

How much time it pass

I think I will never feel the same,

I think I will never love you again.

It doesn't matter

How hard I have tried

I think, you could never make it right

when you are by my side

I don't feel completely happy,

When I talk with you

I start getting bored

I think that is because

I don't want to be with you anymore.

I think I haven't found my other half

Cause I know

Cause I feel that you are not the one

Even though I gave you

More than one chance

Yes, there was a time

When I pictured us together  
Cause I think that my feelings would last forever  
That you will take care of me  
Cause I thought You will be the same  
In the beginning and in the end,  
But I discover that  
Not only things  
But also people can change  
It doesn't matter  
How hard you are trying  
I am tired of crying  
Cause you keep making  
The same mistake over and over again  
I am sorry if I change my mind  
And I am sorry if I make you lose your time;  
But I am not ready  
For being with someone  
Who is not able to make  
A Little sacrifice  
For receiving a big reward,  
I am not ready  
For being with someone  
Who is always complaining of who I am.  
Because it doesn't matter

How hard I try  
I am tired  
Of convincing myself  
that you are the one  
It doesn't matter  
How nice you treat me  
I will never love you again  
Cause I will never feel the same way  
Cause you are not  
The one I was looking for

By Andrea Vallejo Navarrete

## With You

Being with you  
Is my favorite activity,  
Cause when I am  
With you I can do  
Many thing easily.  
Many things have changed  
Since I am with you,  
Now everything is lighter  
And nothing matters  
Because I am happier  
If I am with you.  
The only thing I want to do  
Is hug you,  
Because only in that way  
I feel safe.  
You are the only one  
Who can makes me smile,  
I love you so much  
I feel that nothing can tear us apart.  
With you  
I feel something new,  
It is more powerful than love

And is greater than passion,  
Is something I do not know  
What it is  
But I like so much  
How it feels.  
Every day I wait for you to come  
And when I see you  
I realize that there is no one else,  
Because I discover that  
Being in your arms  
Is my favorite place.  
With you  
I can dream awake  
And fly not only in my dreams.  
There is no moment  
When I am not thinking about you.  
I know that if you leave me  
I would not be able  
To forget you;  
I would not be able  
To love someone else.  
I need to tell you the truth,  
You are the only person  
I dream with,  
The only person

I am in love with

The only person

I dream with...

Cause I only picture myself with you

No with someone else,

Only with you.

By Andrea Vallejo Navarrete

## **The Way I Loved You**

This town will always  
Remember our first Kiss,  
Our love story,  
This town will always  
Remember the way I loved you  
And how difficult  
It was for me to erase you  
From my mind  
To redo my whole life,  
To have a new beginning  
Without you as the main character.  
But the most important thing,  
Is that I will always remember  
The way you made me laugh,  
The way you made me smile,  
Dream and fly.  
I want you to know  
That you were very important  
In my life,  
That without you I'm empty  
With a big hole inside  
So dark that I can't see the light  
The light that used to bright when you were by my side.

Now my heart beats slower  
Thanks to your being gone  
My life is already done  
Cause I can't live any longer.  
When the night comes  
I start to miss  
When we were in that beautiful town.  
This town will save our secrets  
Cause even though  
We made mistakes,  
I will never regret  
What happened there,  
Who would have thought  
That the love we once felt  
Is now over.  
When the sun begins to rise  
I start to miss  
When we met  
For me it was a big surprise,  
I never thought  
You would be part of my life.  
I start to miss  
All the things we used to do  
And the way we both thought  
That love would remain forever,



The way we thought  
We were made one for the other  
I start to miss  
The way I used to love you.  
When I am alone  
Many doubts come  
And many answers go  
But the only thing that stays with me  
Is the way I will always love you  
It doesn't matter  
How far you are from me  
It doesn't matter if you don't care.  
The only thing I must say  
Is that not only this town,  
But I will also remember  
That we promised that our love  
Would last forever.

By Andrea Vallejo Navarrete

## **A Simple Present Please**

Streets covered by a white coat,

Stores calling with a glaring light,

Cheerful kids playing in the park,

But there is one alone, involved in a fight

They say not together anymore,

They yell disagreements and a grouse,

They do not think and just give the child

While she is running away from the house

Walking up to the mountain she is,

Wolves crying at the crag, to the moon,

She has sat down on a generous trunk,

Watching deeply the small lagoon

I can feel the air in my face,

It's so fresh, I believe,

However I do not comprehend,

Why my parents are arguing in the Eve

Jesus Christ do me a favour

It is a simple present, please

The real meaning of a family, united

Like the other kids I want to feel  
After thinking a way to solve the problem  
The girl quickly wrote something in a paper  
Running she went to her house with them  
But she fell from the boulder  
They found out the body next morning  
A day after Christmas Eve  
The incident arrived at the child's house  
And kicked the couple like a heave  
The paper was not a letter  
It was her first drawing of school  
They told her to draw something beautiful  
She drew a man, a woman and a baby, so fool.

By Fabricio Fernando and Fernando Peralta Medel

## I Saw You

I saw you today  
when the darkness invaded the sky  
Felt your eyes deep in my skin  
while I was looking away

Distracted soul  
did we met before?  
Cause I felt your eyes deep in mine  
when I looked at you

I saw you today  
and then I walked away  
You turned around  
And kept looking at me

Distracted soul  
do we know each other?  
Cause I felt your eyes deep in me  
when I was about to cross the door

I saw you today  
one last time before leaving  
I heard you asking me to stay  
the way I did too

Distracted soul  
will we ever meet again?  
Cause I felt my heart breaking  
when I left you behind

By Mariana Alejo Ramirez

## **It Comes and Goes**

It comes and goes in waves  
The deadly feeling of missing something  
Something unknown, someone inexistent

It comes and goes in waves  
The cold wind that embraces me  
For much longer than what your arms did.

It comes and goes in waves  
The pain I feel in my chest when I see you  
It feels more real than all your lies

It comes and goes in waves  
But every time it comes back  
It stays for much longer than the last time

It comes and goes in waves  
But this time, I'll let the wind take me  
And I'll never come back

By Mariana Alejo Ramirez

## SOMEONE TRIED

Someone tried to kiss me today  
The same way you once did  
I felt so fragile, so numb  
That I pushed him back

Someone tried to kiss me today  
And I didn't know what to do  
Just like two years ago  
I felt so small

Someone tried to kiss me today  
"Why you don't let me?" He said  
I wanted to run and hide  
And cry my heart out in silence

Someone tried to kiss me today  
And deep inside, I wanted that kiss  
Will this hurt as much as the last time?  
I want to know

Someone tried to kiss me today  
The same way you once did.  
And I felt so damaged, so broken and scared  
This will destroy me... I'm sure

By Mariana Alejo Ramirez

## Words

Words, words.  
I hear them softly  
But can't understand  
They don't make any sense.

Masks, masks.  
I see them smiling bright  
"Hello!" They shout  
They're freaking me out.

Hands, hands.  
I feel them cold  
Wrapped around my neck  
They're drowning me slowly.

You, you.  
You're walking away.  
Why are you leaving?  
Can't you love me?

By Mariana Alejo Ramirez

## **It Begins as a Dream**

Both smiling  
Laughing and shining  
Until it's gone  
Until you lose that someone

And loosing someone  
Is like losing part of you  
Like being broken in two  
Like something is missing  
And it's no longer there

It's disconcerting  
Cause she is not really gone  
Perhaps she is just in another spot  
With someone else  
Somewhere else

You know , it hurts even more  
Not only because she was someone you loved  
But because she was who light up your world  
The one who kept you from sleeping and kept you up dreaming

But after all  
It doesn't really ends as a dream  
At some point you gape to accept that  
The dream , has become a nightmare

By Natalia B. Urbina Alejandre



## A Soft Sound

Music is a soft sound  
It can make your heart beat faster

Other times you lay down  
And forget every single disaster.

Music is the chirping of a bird  
The strong sound of thunder  
And you remember you once heard  
A melody that sounded like wonder.

I don't like it when it rains  
So I take out my guitar  
And make the clouds go away  
As fast as a rushing car.

Whenever you feel blue  
Music will help you through  
It would light up your soul  
And you will never feel alone.

By Paola Mora Roldán

## I Give Up

Can't decide if it's a choice,  
Feeling like a bunch of toys,  
Just know that I'm going under,  
Can't get out of this thunder

The dust settles around me!  
Is this how it's meant to be?  
It's bringing darkness to my world,  
I can barely say a word

I guess it's not me  
Better said,  
It's just me  
And I laid

I'm under the weather  
Life is just "whatever"  
Every day I'm waking up  
I'm giving up

By Priscila Camela Equihua

## **In the Field**

In the field

We are always together

In the life

We're going to be brothers' forever

Sometimes you can win

Also you can lose

But can change every scoreboard

Just if you choose

You can lose the

chance to play

But you have to try it

Everything everyday

My coach always said

“Win the day”

And I'm trying it

In every way

Remember

“No pain, No game”

By Oscar Rangel Sotomonroy

## Among the Sleep

It was Monday 22 of September, it had been two weeks since school had started, and there was Ethan getting on to another day to survive the heavy work. Ethan was amazing, he was a really brilliant guy, he was intelligent, and he had an incredible mind, always a guy of good grades, and the best student in High School. Everyone loved Ethan because of his kindness, friendship and service. His intelligence made him one of the best guys in his country, he was so creative and wise that lots of institutes wanted him to help them in certain areas. But there was a defect; his wonderful and powerful mind always deceived him with his darkest feelings and darkest secrets, which always disturbed him every night.

All nights when Ethan went to sleep he had such weird and horrible dreams, his mind was terrifying him with evil thoughts and nightmares. He also had some visions that mostly became true no matter if they were good or bad. His mind not only terrified him at night, but at daytime he heard voices and sometimes he got dizzy and started to see things, have visions of writings, shadows and demons.

The next morning as always he woke up early, had breakfast with his parents and his brother Tom. After breakfast both went to the school by bus. It was a regular day in school when suddenly his visibility started to move, he couldn't even hear his teacher, the board too seemed to be getting far and far away. When the illness started to possess him,

Ethan closed his eyes. When he opened them again he was alone, in an old dirty classroom with scratches all over the walls, then he started to hear the voices again.

*“Murdering, Slaying, Destruction, Killing, Fear, Death”*

He heard all those words repeated simultaneously a while after he started hearing the noise of someone writing on the board, when he turned his head, his teacher was writing aggressively fast the same words that the voices were singing. She was on his back and his breath was deep and fast. All of the window panes started to break, the voices started to scream, the wall started to tear apart, and all of the desks started to float all over the classroom. The teacher started to turn to Ethan, but her face was white as snow, she had sharp teeth and his eyes were burning as hell, full of anger, suddenly bright light appeared, and everything just vanished, and there he was, Ethan sitting in his desk with all his classmates, but he was sweating a lot. No one had noticed what happened to him.

Ethan was very frightened so as soon as the class was over he ran from school avoiding friends and teachers, he didn't even visit his girlfriend Vanessa. Ethan ran to Tom and asked him to get out of there quickly. When they got home Ethan was hyperactive, he finished everything fast, his food, homework and little duties. Once done, he locked himself in his room for several hours. Tom came in and talked to Ethan trying to help him, he was the only one who could make Ethan get calmed and so he did. He called his girlfriend to apologize, but didn't tell her a word about his vision. It was late so he finally went to sleep.

Suddenly he woke up because he felt a hand pushing him. It was so dark he couldn't see anything, a very poor light was emerging from his right side, Ethan looked at his clock, and it was pointing 6.66. Frightened he tried to reach his cellphone which he always put under his bed when he grabbed it he noticed it had blood on it. The cellphone started to move by itself, unlocked by itself and started to open and close applications, then it started making calls to several people, his brother, then his girlfriend, Emile and Cain who were his friends and Marie who was soon to be his sister in law. None of the phone calls were completed, when the calls would go through they were instantly rejected and the phone would quickly start calling another person. After the calls were done the cell just died, Ethan tried to turn it on but then blinked and the phone disappeared. He was now grabbing a sharpened knife, which he cut himself with. He dropped the knife scared and turned to see the clock again, but it wasn't there anymore.

With his soul hanging by his feet he ran getting out of his room, when he was in the hall he stopped in the middle of it, his head started pounding, breaths started to be heard, doors around him started to shut. He tried to run downstairs but he noticed the stairs were broken and in front of him a great abyss. He came back to the hall, and desperately tried to open the doors but he couldn't, they were locked, every time he chose a door he heard a voice saying "wrong door", finally he picked up the last door, he tried rotating the handle, the door opened and he entered. He arrived to a dark room that Ethan recognized as not

being part of his own house after he started hearing some little cries, he instantly found them familiar, on the floor a turned on lantern was laying and a knife too, he took them both and started to turn in all directions to see where the crying was coming from. Running down the pale corridors he found Vanessa and Marie who were tied up with chains and adhesive, at his back he had Emile and Cain. With the help of tweezers Ethan freed his friends.

When they were all free they got into a decision and got out of the room back from where Ethan came. When they opened the door they were guided to a long corridor full of doors, and on the other side there was a man sitting on a chair turning his back on them. They started walking slowly, getting close step by step to the man in the chair, doors started to get slammed from the inside. Marie recognized that the man in the chair was Tom who was paralyzed but when he saw Marie he threw himself into his arms and started to cry. The noises of the doors stopped and lights turned on.

Suddenly from that light a white shiny shape appeared, it was brighter than a thousand suns, so bright that the guys almost became totally blind, the light started to talk to them.

-You did wrong getting in here, all of you have made some bad decisions which led you to this test, your life is in your hands now, it depends on you if you get out of here, your darkest feelings and thoughts will possess you, demons will hunt you, and watch out for the talkative

shadow for he has the essence of Satan, he knows you are in here, so act wisely and learn to face demons. Fooling God with your supposedly perfect lives wasn't a wise decision.

The shape was an angel, he had four golden wings, his face was as beautiful as made of gems, he showed wisdom and pure, but also he looked strong, and powerful like a protector, a warrior. After he spoke, he disappeared. Everyone was impressed, they started reflecting on what could be the possibility for them to be there, they remembered what they did, they tried to turn their backs to God, they avoided him.

Regretting what they had done they asked God for mercy, nothing happened, they were doomed to approve that test, suddenly they heard a witty howl, everyone turned their backs to see what was happening. At the other side of the corridor the light bulb started to fail, it twinkled until it exploded leaving that part of the corridor in darkness, a dark figure appeared from it, his eyes were lighting as hell's flames, it was enormous, and was holding an axe with a hammer on the other side, light bulbs started breaking in direction to the friends until the the corridor was totally in darkness. The figure stared at them with this hateful eyes, it started to breathe deeply and heavily as a bull full of anger. The door that was behind them opened while the demon raised his weapon and tilted his body in preparation for running. The guys entered quickly at the open door, the demon started chasing them.



The guys entered the room behind them, when they entered they couldn't see a thing, the light of the lantern couldn't illuminate any of the walls of the room. Desperation filled the hearts of the friends so they started running hoping to find an exit to escape from the demon. While they were running they couldn't reach any wall, the room seemed to be eternal. Everyone was lost so they guided themselves for regrouping by talking and his hearing sense. When they were all regrouped soon they heard heavy footsteps approaching them, the floor started to shake, terror again was attacking everyone's heart, and it did get worse when they saw two red lights that were getting closer to them, it was the demon's eyes.

Everyone started to run opposite direction were the demon was. They ran about 300 meters until one of them simply crashed, followed by the others; they finally got to a wall. Quickly, Ethan turned on the lantern to look for the door, fear increased their adrenaline, and desperation began when the sound of footsteps and a roar appeared behind them. They opened the door and rapidly entered shutting it, they were in an office, cubicles were ordered as a maze, the friends started to run dispersing; the demon destroyed the door with his hammer and started running destroying everything around him. The friend's hearts were bumping as a horse's when they got out of the maze, they ran through the corridor which guided them to stairs; meanwhile the demon slipped while trying to reorder his path

and started destroying everything with hate. The friends could escape getting downstairs leading to another hall of doors and entered in the first door they saw.

The door opened to a long tunnel, they walked all through it until the path opened in two directions, friends decided to separate; Emile, Tom and Marie went ~~for~~ one way, Ethan, Vanessa and Cain went the other. They walked not a lot until the divided ways met again. All friends were in a group once more and in front of them was an iron door. It was rusted so they tried hard to open it, finally they got it opened and came in but something simply crushed everyone's heart, again they got another creepy surprise...

The door guided them to the same hall where the door that led them to the tunnel they had just left was, it was mathematically impossible for the tunnel to guide them to the hall again if the tunnel path was always straight, and the door where they got out was counter side of the door where they had entered. Everyone was confused, Emile tried to run upstairs but noticed that the hammered demon was guarding the stairs. The demon saw Emile but didn't move; he carried his weapon as a sign of killing whoever came close to it. Ethan, on the other side, had an idea. to enter the contrary door they had entered before.

But all doors got closed, leaving them the only option to face the demon. Tom took the courage "what is a demon against me if God protects me" he said to himself. He grabbed a piece of tube and walked in direction to the demon. The demon smiled when he saw Tom walking to him, he grabbed his axe and prepared for the swing.

-It is not your task to defeat the demon, but your faith Tom will soon bring answers.

Tom stopped when he heard the voice and quickly turned away, one of the doors started to vibrate aggressively and started to transform. Pieces of it started to rip apart, and strange roots like veins emerged from it. The demon looked at the door and lowered his weapon, the door opened by itself. The demon kneeled to it as a servant to his king.

The friends entered the door doubting if it would be a good choice or not. When they entered, fear arranged, the tunnel was partially dark and cold, through the window some light of the moon could enter; for its direction one could notice it was approximately 3 o'clock in the morning. In front of them a dark shadow raised, its shape could be identified easily, it was like a kind of body surrounded by clouds of deep smoke.

-I have a proposition for all of you, but before that I need you to complete a task for me.-  
the shadow said in a low and a scrappy voice.- I would like you to slay that demon out there, I will assign each of you a demon and a weapon, both the demon and the weapon depend on each other and will give you powers, my gift will be that I'll let you take this power and you will become powerful and so immortal that you will even be capable of killing angels or corrupt them. I will make you gods in your world, you will rule it, and everyone will surrender at your magnificence. Take it or...-he took a deep breath.-...you will doom yourself into a course.

The mates were all impressed; temptation to get a mystic dark power possessed them, but they rejected the shadow's assignment. The shadow boiled in fury, he became darker and bigger, the little light started to be absorbed by his darkness. He started levitating and his chest burned in flames, for the first time his diabolic face could finally be seen. He yelled curses at the humans, and then he roared and vanished.

When the shadow disappeared the walls and roof of the tunnel started to close with the purpose of crushing the friends. They ran to the door trying to escape but the distance became longer than it was before. Their run seemed eternal, space started to get smaller. The section of the door was immune to the shadow's-compressing curse, space got so tight that it was impossible to run just before Tom arrived to safety crawling just before the walls closed completely. The same hall was waiting for them again with the demon still kneeling. The mates decided to cross again the same door they had chosen before, with a delusion and anger they crossed the tunnels again and again but still nothing happened, they tried different ways to open it but yet nothing happened. It always guided them to the same hall; the hall was always the same. Cain got an idea, they would separate in two groups, and some of them would stay at the hall with the door opened, while the others would enter the tunnel and get through the other door and see if something changed. The six of them came into a decision; they divided into two groups of three, Tom would stay with his girlfriend and Emile at the hall. Ethan, his girlfriend and Cain went to the tunnel. They started with

their plan, Cain opened the door and let Ethan and Vanessa enter the tunnel. Tom and Emile sustained the door to let Cain enter the tunnel too. The tunnel was all the same during all the path until Ethan, Cain and Vanessa finally reached the iron door, they opened it and something strange happened. When the door was opened it conducted them to the same hall but not his friends nor the demon were in there, Vanessa shouted to Emile giving everyone a warning. She heard the voices of his friends coming from the other side of the tunnel when suddenly the door started to close.

Cain tried to pull the door to keep it from getting closed, but it was useless, the door was pulling Cain inside the tunnel. Vanessa shouted again to his other friends to arrive before the door got closed. Tom ran to help Cain pushing the other side of the door, but it smashed breaking Tom's fingers. Cain tried to open the door again, but it was impossible, by the other side Tom was bleeding and shouting, Emile and Marie were trying to stop Tom's injury when the demon automatically stood up and ran to them into the tunnel. Quickly Tom, Marie and Emile entered-the opened door, when they were in it, it closed itself blocking their only way out, the demon was approaching them when the door opened. Marie entered while Emile pulled Tom into the door, suddenly it closed. They were in a bathroom with showers and lockers, but the only door present was the door where they came from, the demon started to hit the door trying to enter, the three guys were trapped.

Cain was angry, kicking the door and screaming, when he felt a hand on his shoulder, it was Ethan calming him. Both continued their way, again they crossed the door into a new room and there was Vanessa, but she was in shock, fear could be seen easily in his face. Ethan called her, but she didn't respond, instantly he noticed that she was staring at something. In the roof and in the walls of the entire room there were writings. Writings made with blood and scratches, there were curses, declaration of death to all of his friends, drawings of demons, blasphemies to God. The floor was dirty, filled with trash, death insects and blood. Then they noticed a group of bags in one of the corners, they got close and saw that inside of them there were corpses and pieces of flesh of ripped animals, one corpse of a fat man had a message scratched on it:

*"These souls had their decisions, for they chose to live for the father of life and yet they failed him. They will suffer and will burn in flames of hell for whole eternity"*

One of the pieces of flesh started talking, it was a pig's head.

-To escape from here it is necessary for you to find a man; he is lost in the darkness. He has the key to leave this evil place.

The door of the room opened again after the head had spoken, the three friends entered the door, for their surprise they entered another place, a house. Someone pulled the three companions, it was the man of the darkness, he told the three friends not to make a sound,

they heard voices and footsteps. The sound came from demons, which were looking for the lost man.

Trapped in a nightmare in a bathroom with an angry demon trying to hunt them, Marie and Emile were carrying Tom who was getting weak because he was bleeding out. Marie looked for things to treat Tom's injury so the bleeding stopped. But the three of them lost hope; it was about time for the demon to enter. The door busted in several parts when the demon impacted it with his hammer, when the demon came in he look right to the eyes of the three friends who were sitting down in front of him. He pulled the axe dragging it and approached them, he took the axe with both of his hands and raised it about to slice them as fruit. The demon spited blood to the three friends, he stopped the attack, the demon turned back. He had an arrow in his neck. An angel was standing on the other side, the demon took out the arrow from his neck, the angel tangled him with a bladed whip and pulled the demon to him. Blood of the demon started filling the room while the angel was beating him. The fight was epic, the friends simply ran away to avoid getting squashed, the demon's defense was useless against the angel. The angel stopped hitting him and waited for the demon, the demon bleeding stood up, took his weapon and launched an attack to the angel, but the wise angel made his counter attack, in the right moment when the demon's weapon was in the air ready to impact the angel's head, the angel unsheathed his sword and sliced demon's right arm apart then kicked him making the demon kneel.

Suddenly the angel took the demon's head between his right strong arm and crushed the demon's head making it explode.

-Don't worry any more you are safe now. -Said the angel. -You rejected the offer; the major sent me for you to tell you that now you have the right to get out of here. Look for your friends they have the key to escape, be strong, resist whatever happens.

The angel offered a crystal bottle to Tom, it contained a beverage, Tom drank and quickly his broken bones healed, his blood levels refilled again, it wasn't heaven's medicine, no one in heaven needs medicine. Tom's visibility instantly cleared, he could see more than human eyes, he acquired an incredible strength, he felt fear and became faster and more agile.

-What you just drank is angel's essence; this is what made super humans like giants long time ago. Use it as a way to escape Tom, just don't abuse it or you will attract darkness. -  
The angel commented.

They got out of the bathroom into the hall; the angel was guiding them through the stairs when they arrived to the office, the angel walked next to the window. The office was all ordered again like if no demon messed up things in there. The angel jumped cracking the window and flew in, in a few seconds his light disappeared in the deep darkness. The room started to change as the office started to get ripped, and so the floor, the friends tried to run, but everything got consumed leaving them in total darkness. The friends thought



they were death, but they noticed they were standing in something, far away they could see a sign, it was an exit door, when they walked into the door when they heard a *shh* sound. Emile frightened started walking faster and then he tripped over with something. It wasn't a thing it was Ethan.

The two groups received each other with a big hug and cries; they were glad that nothing had happened to them. Cain and Ethan presented the man of darkness to his brother and friends. The real name of this man was Paul, he explained why he was in there, he said that they fell into a spiritual dimension where dark forces hunted human spirits to make them servants of Satan. Dark souls that fell in there were condemned to run for their lives until they got caught, there was no escape unless someone had a piece of God inside them.

-I haven't seen light, it has been a long time in here since we saw light, everyone who has fallen here has fallen to his sins, including me. -Paul said. -That is why we haven't attracted any light. I guess I am the only one who doesn't want this anymore, and it is you who still have God in your hearts. You can still escape... I can help you... I'll make you escape and then I could wait for my doom because God turned his back on me.

Tom started understanding, yes he and his friends were condemned to that dark destiny if they totally turned their backs to God, but the same All Mighty knew that they were strong, they would apologize for their mistake and suddenly resist temptation; his task was not just

noticing how wrong they were spiritually, but also they were about to save a pitiful soul stuck in darkness. The man of the darkness, Paul, was the key for escaping, he felt totally guilty for turning his back to God, saving this soul was the main purpose of this friend's journey.

-You still can come with us, God will forgive you, stop thinking of you as a guilty person. -

Tom said to Paul.

Paul doubted at first, but he looked at Tom directly and he got convinced, he had something inside that convinced Paul to take away every guilt feeling.

-Paul you belong to us. -Multiple voices said

Everyone turned where the voices came from, a pack of armed and corpulent demons were staring at them disposed to attack. One of them jumped to takedown Paul but Tom kicked the demon while it was still in the air. A cracking of bones was heard when the demon flew to a wall far away. Tom stood in front of his friends as a protecting leader and started to hold the demons. Demons were too big for Tom, but he still could fight against them, while he was immune to the demons weapons, demons were not to Tom's attacks. Tom had had before military training before, he held two demons with his arms, while he broke the neck of another with his legs; with a strong punch he ripped a demons head while with another punch he stuck his hand into a demons chest, held his column and pulled breaking it. Demons and demons started coming from nowhere, jumping and trying to hold

Tom. Tom started pulling and throwing the demons as if they were simply toys; he hit a demon against a wall, and then against the roof, he whipped it against the floor a several times until it died. Another pack of demons appeared, ten demons held Tom while others went for the other friends who were watching everything from a distant door three demons approached to Ethan who was holding the door ready to close it, he made eye contact with his brother, Tom told them to escape and leave him. Ethan disposed to close the door, the demons were close to him now when a blinding shine filled the room, the demon closest to Ethan got squashed by the light making some limbs and his weapon disperse in the floor, the other two demons stopped, the demons holding Tom got scared.

Three really majestic and immense angels arrived, in teamwork they started slaying the whole demon army slicing them with their swords, cutting their limbs and heads, crushing his bones and ripping them apart with facility. Tom ran to the door where his brother was when a demon took him down, the demon stood quickly to kill Ethan but Tom grabbed his leg and pulled him down; Tom held the demons arms with his knees and started hitting him on the chest breaking his ribs and making the demon spit pieces of lungs, then Ethan started hitting the demons head until it broke like a water melon. They entered the room and closed the door; chains trapped Ethan and Tom and pulled them. The chains emerged from the shadow still with his flaming chest, all of his friends were trapped

between the chains which were like tentacles of the shadow. The shadow attracted Tom to see him face to face.

-Imagine what you and I could do if we joined our powers, we could rule completely this place and then we will rule your world. -The shadow said.

Tom spit on the demon's face, it instantly got evaporated, then he started to wrestle and free his hands. The shadow hit Tom against the floor, Tom quickly stood up and started pulling the chain that was trapping him. The demon tried to pull Tom, but it couldn't, instead Tom continued pulling the chain until he cut it from the shadow with a piece of flesh, Tom was now unchained and saw that the chain was nailed to the demon. The shadow shouted with pain, then roared with anger and started to heat the chains for incinerating everyone else. Tom took the chain and stroked the shadow between his two eyes. The friends fell free.

-Run and get away from here! -Tom shouted

The friends started to run, but Ethan turned and came back for his brother. The demon hit Tom several times with the chains as a whip, and hung his limbs then his neck one by one. With two other nailed chains, the demon tried to stab Tom but he couldn't, he heated the chains that were almost melting and again tried to stab Tom, this time slowly the chains started to cut Tom's skin. The demon smiled and laughed because he was about to get a victory. Ethan came running, and saw the shadow killing his brother, on the floor he found the chain that Tom ripped from the demon. With courage and anger Ethan grabbed

the chain and ran to the demon. He rounded the chain against the demon's neck and started to strangle him. The demon didn't have any chains left; the others were occupied with Tom. The shadow started to get weak, fire that emerged from him started to extinguish so as the smoke, the body of the demon could now be easily seen. The chains of the demon fell one by one; Tom was freed and fell with the boiling chains stuck on his chest, Ethan continued strangling the demon until it fell on its knees. The demon couldn't talk any more, so telepathically started to poison Ethan's mind. Ethan struggled in his mind resisting temptation as he was resisting the demon that started to move to get free.

Tom stood up and took off the nailed chains from his chest, they were still boiling hot. He grabbed them and saw he could control them as the demon did before; he walked weakly towards Ethan.

"Do you know what we could have done together if you had not rejected my proposals? You are a fool kid; I am more powerful than you. You can defeat me, you just doomed yourself to death."

Ethan heard the demon's voice inside his head, and pulled more strongly the chains that the demon's eyes were almost pumping out of his face.

-Stop, shut up! -Ethan shouted.- I will not listen to you anymore, you are nothing... All glory to God!

Tom stuck the chains aggressively on the demon's belly and took out the chains through its mouth burning the inside of the demon and killing it. The demon fell down death with the bloody chains emerging from his mouth. Tom looked at Ethan.

-It is over, my dear Ethan.

Ethan lost visibility, everything just disappeared.

When Ethan opened his eyes again he was in his room, he was sweating and breathing heavily, it was 3: 30 in the morning. He went to sleep again waiting for the day. At breakfast Tom was quiet, and staring at Ethan strangely and coughed, in the trip to school both brothers didn't mention a word. At school Ethan's and his five companions regrouped. Everyone looked at each other with a serious face. Tom coughed and held his chest

-Let's not say a thing. -Cain said.

Ethan understood that what just happened, happened for real, it wasn't a dream. Later he would surrender to God.

On the newspaper, he read a title. "Man is freed from 3 month possession" it said. As intro sentence he read: "Paul, got possessed by a demon who put him on a coma for three months, wen he woke up he praised the name of the Lord and apologized to him."

Ethan smiled, he would pay a visit to Paul.

By Israel Fernández Domínguez

## A Short Story

Today is the first day back from spring break. I am very excited about this because I can finally see the football team practice for their upcoming season. It's last period and I'm anxiously waiting for the bell to ring. 3..2..1.. "Finally!" I exclaimed as I walked out of the classroom with my friend Ally by my side. Ally was a tall girl, about 1.70. She has black, straight hair that falls all the way to her shoulders. Her eyes were a deep blue that stands out with the black top she was wearing. All in all, she is beautiful and also happens to be my best friend.

"Hey Ally. Are you still coming to watch the football team with me?" I asked.

"Of course I am! What kind of friend would I be if I let you go alone?"

"I don't know, a bad one."

We laughed a little while making our way to the back doors of the building and to the football field. Normally, I would've felt weird coming down to the field without the volleyball team, but today it felt as normal as eating.

Ally and I found an empty spot on one of the bleachers that is right in front of where the team usually practiced. There wasn't an exact reason for Ally to be there because she didn't know any of the guys that practiced, well, just her brother and his friends. I, on the

other hand, knew many of the players on the team. But I didn't come down to the field to see them. Not exactly.

“Why'd you wanna come down here, Sam?”

The question took me by surprise. Almost as if she'd read my mind.

“Sam, did you hear me?”

“Uh..yeah. Sorry.” I answered.

“So, answer. Why are we here?” She asked. Her tone a bit curious, but also amused to see what I was going to answer.

“I like football and I thought it'll be fun to watch them practice,” I said hesitantly.

“Do I look dumb? Or like I was born yesterday? There's something else going on here and it's just a matter of time before you talk,” she smirked as she finished her attempt of a threat.

Maybe, but just maybe, she was right. I do like football. Well, “like” would be an understatement. I love football, so, that was a reason for me to be there, but it wasn't the only reason I wanted to be there. The other reason is a guy. Yes, a guy. His name is Ethan. He is just your average football player. Tall, with big muscles. He has brown hair that looks amazing. His brown eyes are something else. They could easily take my breath away. I truly



don't know how to describe them. His smile is beyond perfect and the way his cheeks start forming a set of dimples, man! It was a sight to see.

I met Ethan at a party during spring break. We talked a bit and started to become friends. After talking for the rest of the break, feelings started to appear. I didn't mean for it to happen, it just did. I'm still deciding if it's a good thing or not.

“Hey Sam.”

I knew that husky voice, the way it said my name. I knew the owner of that voice.

“Hey Ethan,” I managed to say with a slight smile on my face.

“How are you today, gorgeous?”

I blushed a little.

“I am great today, thanks for asking. How are you? How was your day?”

“I'm fine, thanks. And my day just got a whole lot better now,” he said while smiling that perfect smile.

Damn, I melted when he smiled. I just don't get it. How can a simple smile and a sparkle of his eyes take my breath away? It doesn't make sense.

“How did your day get better?” I asked, intrigued.

“Ask me again after practice, gotta run. Bye!” He called out as he slowly trotted to where all his teammates stood, waiting for the coach to tell them what to do first.

I smiled as I saw him greet the other guys.

Stop it, Sam. You can't let him do that to you.

“Hello?, earth to Sam. Are you there?” Ally asked with an entertained tone in her voice.

I had forgotten that my best friend was standing beside me the whole time, which meant she had heard the conversation that had just taken place.

“Yeah, sorry Ally. I got lost in thought.”

“Lost in thought or lost on Ethan?”

“What?” I tried to sound as if she wasn't right, because she was.

“Don't act dumb. I know you like him.”

How can she possibly know? Maybe she didn't. Maybe she was just messing with me, like friends do.

“No,” I lied, “I don't like him.”

What was I supposed to tell her? The truth isn't an option because I know her, like the back of my hand. She'll ask millions of questions and talk about it nonstop, something I obviously was trying to avoid.

“Whatever.”

I smiled and sat down at the bottom of the bleachers. Ally did the same, but after she sat down, she started taking her books out of her bag to do homework. I thought about it for a few seconds and then followed her action. We worked and talked while listening to music for a little while.

After 30 minutes of doing so, we both finished every assignment that was due tomorrow.

“Hey, Sam?” Ally spoke, breaking the silence between us.

“Yeah?” I answered.

“We're best friends, right?”

That question took me completely off guard. Suddenly, I was feeling quite nervous and I don't know why.

“Obviously, stupid. Why would you even doubt it?”

At first I thought it was a joke, I mean, we have been best friends since we were 10 years old, but after seeing the seriousness on her face I changed my mind and I knew I had to take this seriously.

“Then why won't you tell me the real reason of why it's 5:30pm and we are still in this hell hole people call 'school'?”

There she was, the sarcastic and joking Ally I know.

I rolled my eyes and said, “I did tell you.”

“Sam, I'll beg if you want me to, just tell me the real reason.”

I laughed a little as I saw Ally getting on her knees to actually beg for me to tell her.

“Get up you fool. I'll tell you, just shut it.”

She got up extremely fast. I was surprised to see that she didn't get whiplash, but that surprise was replaced by amusement when I saw her rocking back and forth on her heels.

“Speak, go on. I promise not to say a word to anyone,” she said.

“Remember I told you that I met a guy at a party a few weeks back?”

“Yeah..” Her smile suddenly grew wider. I suddenly felt my cheeks heating up.

“Well,” I started, “the guy is Eth..”

I was abruptly cut off by Ally. I don't understand. Ally screamed and now she was smiling, but not her usual smile. Her smile showed nervousness.

I was about to speak again when I felt two muscular arms wrap themselves around my neck. Now everything made sense.

“Hey ladies,” he said in his tired, yet incredible voice.

“Hi,” that was all I managed to say.

“Um, yeah, so I have to go Sam. My brother is about to leave and if I don't get home with him, my parents will kill me,” Ally spoke trying to bring me out of shock, which I didn't know I was in.

“Bye Al, see you tomorrow,” I called out.

Ally ran off with her school bag on her shoulder to reach her brother. When she was beside him, she slowed her pace down to a walk, swaying her hips as she always does. Jake, Ally's brother, is a year older than we are. He is tall, with dark hair that is almost always styled upward and back. His eyes are a beautiful hazel color, outlined by very long eyelashes. He has that typical perfect white smile that melted every girl. I could say Jake is like a second brother to me. one reason being that he is my brother's best friend. How crazy, right?

My real brother is Elliot. He plays football with Jake. I normally don't see him around the house as I did a few years back because he spends most of his time in his room, playing, doing homework, watching TV or something of the sort, but my relationship with him is amazing. He could actually be my best friend if he wasn't my brother.

"What are you thinking?" Ethan asked with a playful tone in his voice.

"Nothing really," I said while I let out a small giggle.

"You don't have to hide it anymore, you know?"

"Hide what?" I felt confused.

"That you like me, of course."

I started blushing. Was he serious or was it just another one of his silly jokes? Honestly, I couldn't tell.

"Yeah," I managed to say, "right after you acknowledge that you're madly in love with me."

Great, now it looks as if you are flirting with him, I thought.

"Are you hitting on me?" He seemed surprised.

"You started it." I said smirking. I figured it was a joke, so I went along with it.

"Ethan, let's go!" yelled a man, from a car that wasn't too far parked from us.

“We aren't done talking princess, but your prince has got to go. See you tomorrow Sammy,” he said as he gathered his things and ran up to the car.

I just smiled at him while he got into the car and drove off. After a minute of thinking, I started walking home, like I usually did. I walked past a park that was quite peaceful at this time of day. The walk from school to my house isn't very long. I usually take 15 minutes to get there, but today I decided to stop at the park and do some jogging.

The park is very beautiful. It has a big soccer field with the most well-kept grass I've ever seen. Next to it, 4 big picnic tables were placed under a kiosk (in case it rains, or snows). A few feet away from it, the playground. It had 2 swing sets and a lot of other cool things to do, like the big slide. Around all this, a path. This path is used to run, bike around the park or simply to walk your dog around. The path was a site to see, not because of the concrete, but because there is a smallish cliff at the end of one path and you can see the tops of the pine trees inside a forest. Yes, there is a forest after the cliff.

After 30 minutes of jogging around and clearing my head, my phone started buzzing inside my jacket.

“Hello?” I answered.

“Is this Samantha Jackson?”

The voice sounded like a man's voice, not someone I recognized.

“Hum..yeah. How's asking?”

“We need you to come down to the hospital.”

I stood there, shocked. Who was in the hospital? Was I the only emergency contact of that person? All these questions started filling my head.

“Is everything ok?” I said trying my best not to show my cracked voice.

“Yes, nothing serious. We just need you to come, please.”

“Alright, I'll be there in a few minutes.”

When I got home, I quickly changed into a washed out tee that wasn't sweaty. After that, I left my mom a note saying I would be back soon.

“Elliot, I'm going out. Be back soon!” I yelled.

After that, I grabbed the keys to my car, got out of the house and walked to my black Jeep. I sped down the main road of town until I got to the hospitals' parking lot. I locked my car and then walked through the parked cars and into the big, white building. I walked around for a while, then found my way to the reception desk.

“Hello, how may I help you?” said a nice woman behind the desk.

“I received a call saying I needed to come. I don't know why.” I said. The nurse looked at me confused, but immediately shook it off.



“What's your name, sweetie?”

“Samantha Jackson.”

She typed something in her computer and then said, “Here you are. Go up to the third floor and look for room 326.”

“Okay,” I said, “but before I go, can you tell me why I'm here?”

“Can't, sorry pumpkin, now go up,” she smiled.

“Thanks.”

I walked into a silver elevator and pressed the number 3 next to the doors. After stepping out of the elevator, I looked for room 326. It seemed quite odd that I got called to the hospital because none of my family members are sick, or not that I know of.

After what felt as a very long time, I found the room number.

“May I come in?” I asked, seeing as the door was wide open.

“Yes, come in.”

As I walked in, I saw a man about 40 years old in a white coat. It was the doctor. He left the room with a certain confusion as to why I was there, but I just shook it off.

“It was about time, Sammy,” said a voice I knew very well.

“Ethan? You called me over here?” I asked.

“Technically, the nurse at the front desk did. I did, however, tell her to call you.”

“Why?”

While I was trying to get answers, I didn't see that he had some stitches on his right eyebrow. He also had a bandage wrapped around his left hand with some cuts on his arms. Something happened to him.

“You were the first person that came to my mind. Besides, I don't trust other people like I trust you,” he responded.

“What happened?” I asked, concerned about him.

“Remember the guy who picked me up after practice?”

I nodded.

“He's my uncle. But when he dropped me off at home, I saw that he had been drinking, so I asked him about it. Turns out, he was past the legal limit while he was driving with me in the car. I got mad and told him off, but he got even angrier, so he slammed my head against his car window. After getting up from the ground, I pushed him, not wanting to have more problems, but the alcohol took a hold of him. He grabbed one piece of glass from the ground and cut my hand open. He stabbed my leg. I punched him and that's when my big brother, Mark came out and tackled him to the ground. My uncle passed out and

Mark brought me here, but he left a while ago, something about trouble at work that he knew how to fix it.”

I wouldn't have guessed that as the reason why he's here.

As the days went by, Ethan and I started hanging out more, talking more and I kept feeling the way I felt when we first met. He told me that things with his uncle were better because he decided to go to a rehabilitation center for alcoholics. I am actually glad Ethan has decided to open up to me. It makes me feel happy. I was suddenly pulled out of my thoughts by Elliot and Jake.

“Sam, you've got a visitor,” said Jake coming in my room.

“Is it Ally? She told me she was going to be here at 3. It's 4:30,” I responded.

“No, your visitor is tall, strong and handsome.”

I knew that voice very well. It wasn't my brothers' voice and I am pretty sure it was not Jack who spoke because he is sitting in front of me. The owner of the voice appeared outside my bedroom. He was accompanied by Elliot.

“Ethan, so you are the mystery visitor?” I ask.

“I am, beautiful. I just need to tell you something very important,” he replied.

“Well, we'll be in my room playing videogames. Have fun and scream if you need anything Sammy,” said my brother.

After Elliot and Jack left, Ethan sat on a bean bag chair near my bed. I was on my bed looking at him. It was very strange, he moved as if he was going to break something. He was acting very cautious like. It was freaking me out a little bit.

“You seem nervous Ethan,” I said.

“Nah, I'm fine. I just...I just need to say something I've been wanting to tell you.”

“Well,” I started, “go ahead. The day isn't getting any younger and Ally will get here soon.”

“Okay. What I wanted to tell you is that I like you, a lot. At first, I thought you were quite beautiful, and I mean, who wouldn't? The day you went to get me at the hospital I felt happy that we still talked and stuff like that. Now, I am sure I like you because when I see you, my heart beats faster and, well, I couldn't keep it in anymore.”

My heart was pounding so hard I was afraid he could hear it. He likes me. I couldn't believe it! I am so excited.

“I really like you too,” I said.

After what seemed as a long, uncomfortable silence, he hugged me. It has been a very good day.

By Natalia Zambrano Santiago

## What if Pasta Could be Healthy?

### What are Some Health Benefits of Eating Pasta?

It gets quite confusing to decide whether to go for pasta or veggies, but which one would actually fill up your stomach? Most of the times, when it comes to making up our permanent diet, meaning keeping a healthy eating habit, we usually assume that all carbohydrates contained in all versatile food such as pasta, tuna, even yogurt are bad or will mess up our diet. But versatile food don't always means fat or gaining weight. However we can manage to take advantage of any type of food, for example when mixing 100% natural veggies with pasta, we get a nice result regarding its benefits.

Eating large portions of any food is going to result a weight gain, and that just comes out to the simple calories, in calories out equation. The same is true for weight loss and scientific studies have shown that reducing calories not carbs help with weight loss and helps you maintain that weight. All really restricted carbohydrates can leave you feeling sluggish and tired and that's because carbohydrates provide the main source of fuel for muscles and our brains.

Nutrition experts recommend eating a balanced up diet to ensure that you are getting all of the essential nutrients you need. All varieties of pasta provide a source of complex carbohydrate and that is going to provide longer lasting energy. Pasta is also a low glycemic index food, which means that it is not going to raise your blood sugar too quickly.

Pasta is very naturally very low in sodium in class for all free, and enriched varieties of pasta provide a source of iron and B vitamins. They are fortified with folic acid, essential for women who are trying to become pregnant. Whole grain varieties provide an extra boost of fiber and some wheat pasta can provide up to 25% of your daily fiber intake in just one cup. Fiber filled veggies and beans are contained in pasta, which makes them a great duo. For heart-healthy fish and oils anti-oxidant rich tomato sauce and protein packed cheeses, poultry and other ingredients.

By Jani de la Cruz Bello