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Six Realizations

Sarah Crimmins
St. John Fisher College

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Six Realizations

Abstract

In lieu of an abstract, below is the essay's first paragraph.

"Silence. The black cloud of deadly smoke reached further and further into the sky in Worcester, MA, as I sat feeling helpless on my bed in Rochester, NY. I heard, "Six men missing...extreme temperatures...little hope..."

Cover Page Footnote

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Six Realizations

A tribute to my father

In Loving Memory of the six firemen who lost their lives in Worcester, MA

Silence. The black cloud of deadly smoke reached further and further into the sky in Worcester, MA, as I sat feeling helpless on my bed in Rochester NY. I heard, "Six men missing . . . extreme temperatures . . . little hope. . ."

Dead. Six brave firemen lost their lives in the line of duty that day. I woke at 6:30 a.m. and watched the Today Show as firemen from around the world gathered to mourn the loss of their brothers. I mourned, too.

Pictures. They placed a photo of each of the men on the screen, along with a description of their accomplishments and who they left behind. Children, parents, friends, lives.

Father. Tears streamed down my face as I thought about my Daddy and all of the times he risked his life the same way they did. All firemen tend to look the same, especially through misty eyes. I cried for him and the years I might have missed out on if the flames had swallowed him, too.

In Appreciation. Of all of those who took their last breath in the midst of the endless black air. Of having my Daddy's face there to kiss and his love and support for all of these years.

Realization. I have been lucky. I love you, Daddy.

-Sarah Crimmins