

## Avalanche

Hi! I am Jules. I am 10. Our story begins in my living room.

"Bye Mom!" I yell, my heavy backpack on my aching shoulders. The door opens in front of me. "Hi there Jules!" Ms. Sean says with fresh cooking in her hands. "Hi!" I answer.

When I come home from school, my sister has a shiny gold trophy. She bursts through the door, and I follow. "Mom! You will not believe what I won today!" Amy says.

"What honey?" my mom says, smearing the table with Windex.

"I won Lagoon High's first ever... Drawing Contest! I'll place it in the trophy case."

I glance at the case briefly, and then I begin to stare. The golden plaque with Alvarez, our last name on it! So, I pull out my notebook, and start an avalanche of thoughts. I have to make my mark! My little brother, Christ comes and sits on my lap. "Hi Jewsie!" the small 3 year old says.

"Hi." I say trying to keep focused.

"What ya doing?" he says.

"I really don't have time now Chris!" I say angrily. That avalanche feeling comes again, except this time, I'm mad. He cries and runs off. Right now, I am confused. I can't make my mark yet Chris has! He won the Most Inquisitive Award in Day Care. Right now, I agree, I am still very mad that Chris chose to cry outside my door.

The next day at school, a photography contest is announced. I am very excited! I sight myself up, and I already have a camera. I The catch is, I only have 3 days! The KPC (Kids Photography Contest) is the biggest contest in town.

The night before the contest, I still have nothing! The sun is just setting on the lake behind my dark green grass... That's it!

I Take my camera and ... snap! I look at the photo. I take a few more. I can feel the picture breathe. It breathes life of pictures There it is! That avalanche again. I feel a rush of joy.

The next day, photo in hand, permission slip in the other, the first thing I hear on the loud speaker is , "Jules Alvarez! Jules Alvarez! The bus is leaving come quick!" Ah! I look outside. It's blurry because... because! That avalanche... Oh no the tears start and become a real avalanche. I spot the bus! Now, hope practically pops my veins. They beep the horn and I run. When we get there, a big crowd of people are there. My mo yells, "Jules! Jules!" I wave back,

My brother yells, "Hi Jewsie!" I chuckle, and keep on walking. I sit in my seat. I am the last to go. Fifteen other students go before me. The table of judges are very scary to walk up to. I walk up, and smile unendlessly.

"Hello contestant #16." Judge Sarah says.

"Hello! Today I present to you, my picture. I call it Bella Note" I hand her my picture. She slides it under the projector. "Oooh!" the crowd says." Thank you #16, Splendid!" I sit back down.

After the judges decide, all contestants walk up. My knees are shaking and I walk up.

"The winner is... Jules Alvarez!"

I don't know what to say! My mom and Chris are cheering loudly. I look at the other side of the crowd. My dad is here! He took off of work to see this? What an unexpected surprise!

"Well what do you have to say for yourself?" I think hard about what I want to say.

"well... I mean, photography is what I work hard for and it's what I love." That's exactly what I wanted to say.

"Good job!" my dad yells. The woman hands me my heavy award.

"Wow! Jules I didn't think you had it in you!" Mom says.

"Well, I guess she did!" Dad replies.

"Jewsie! You won?" Chris asks.

"I guess I did." I answer. That avalanche of relief satisfies me.

When we get home I place the biggest award on the shelf. My sister is proud of me too!

"You know what/ Lets go out to eat and celebrate!" Amy yells.

"To Julesie!" My dad says.

"To Julesie!" My mom says back.

So I guess the moral of the story is, just wait. You'll make your mark. Some faster than others. But, don't give up! Maybe one day you'll have your biggest avalanche ever!