

*My head is spinning. The unthinkable has happened. My stomach keeps clenching and unclenching like an angry fist. When I heard my name over the speaker, I felt a paralyzing numbness. My name, one slip of paper among hundreds, got picked? I heard a few gasps around me. People were stunned that a twelve year old had been chosen. A child forced to fight to the death for the cameras. Those cowards in the Capitol will do anything to keep their control over us.*

*Within seconds of the announcement, I heard my sister's voice. Katniss was pushing her way through the throng, volunteering her life to save mine. She didn't even hesitate. It was not her job to save me. It's strange that she was willing to sacrifice herself for me, yet I'm angry with her. I cannot bear to watch my sister die, but then neither could she. I know she'd do anything to protect me. I'm hoping that will get her through the Games because I still need her here in District 12.*

*I keep hoping I'll wake up from this nightmare, but she's really gone. They took her away so quickly. She's on her way to the Capitol now, and within days, she'll be in the arena fighting for her life.*

*Katniss must win. Deep down, I feel that she really will. I don't know anybody as strong and brave as my sister. I don't care if the District 1 & 2 Tributes have been training their whole lives for this. Katniss will beat them. She has to. I don't know what I would do without her.*