



MY PERSONAL MICHIGAN HERO

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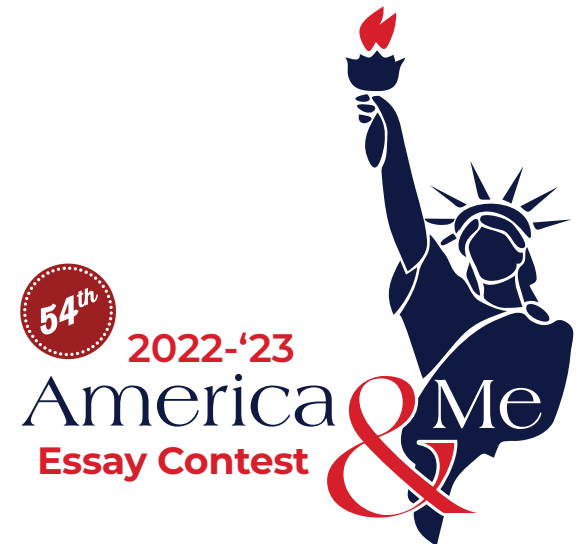
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Siblings. The one person you would throw under the bus in a heartbeat. The one person you would also sacrifice everything for, faster than the speed of light. This is typically how it goes for most families: You only have to act like you love them when company is over or when they are taking family pictures. That practically summed up our relationship. We'd smile and hug for the camera, but when we were off screen, we would fight as though we were cats and dogs. Being the younger sister, I adored my older sister, Heidi, and wanted to be just like her. No matter how much we would fight, I wanted to be her. She was perfect in my eyes, but I would still tease her, and we would fight. As we grew up more, I started to realize that she was just human, and I didn't want to be like her. Why be your sister when you could be a millionaire entrepreneur like Kylie Jenner? Heidi was just an average teen in my eyes now.

Christopher Reeve once said: "A hero is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles." This quote is why my sister, Heidi, is my hero. It was November 30th in Oxford, Michigan. While all of us were in lock down at the middle school, my sister was staring harm in the face. She was right there when the first horrific shots went off. She saw him and all the pain he was causing. Heidi dropped to the floor and didn't move; in fear he might hurt her. Despite her shaking so much, he walked right past her. When he rounded the corner, she sprang into action. Heidi began to call out to see who was still conscious. Only one girl answered. Heidi ran to the girl and carried her over to an open classroom. When in the classroom, she locked the door down and started to apply pressure to the girl's wound. Heidi was the reason the girl survived. When I was eventually picked up from school, Heidi embraced me and held me tight. That was when I knew something terrible had happened.

Ever since November 30th, I've begun to think about how Heidi has been my hero all these years. We've grown closer throughout

the nation's dark times. When I was down, she would pick me up and care for me. Whenever I needed help with friend or boy drama, she would give me some of the best advice I could ask for. Heidi is my hero not because of one event, she has proved herself time and time again. The way she makes you smile when you are mad, the help she gives on stubborn algebra homework, and the comforting presence she has when words are no use. Just because we are related, doesn't mean we treat each other perfectly all the time. Again, Heidi is still my sister. So we fight over petty things, but we still love each other. She saved someone's life, and I think that's more than Kylie Jenner can say. I'm just glad I didn't have to lose her to realize it.



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