

The Ride of My Life

by Alison Murtagh

I stood there,
My heart pounding
So hard,
I thought it would come out of my chest

I heard shrieks,
that pierced my ears
As I watched people
Speed down the hill
and flip, with their hair sticking out as if they'd been
electrocuted
Knowing that,
In a few minutes,
It would be my turn,
To go on this tremendous coaster

The line inched forward,
Along with my nerves
As we reached the front
My whole body was trembling
Like there was an earthquake right below me,
and only me

My whole family was ready to go,
Chattering about how extraordinary it would be
But I just stood there,
As nervous as Michael Phelps before he swam his
8th race in Beijing
It was our turn

Reluctantly, I followed my Dad to an open seat
I buckled my seat belt,
As tight as it would go,
and waited, for this exhilarating ride to begin

My stomach flip-flopped as we slowly started to
glide out of the gate
The only sound I could hear was the clanking of metal,
From the wheels of the coaster

We stopped, I waited,
and waited

Then, as we lurched forward,
I knew that this would be,
The ride of my life

The roller coaster was a bird in the wind,
With a path of its own
It was alive, and fierce
I was screaming like I would never see another day
As we headed for the loop,
My eyes widened in excitement
For the loop looked as big as the world
And we went full-speed into it
Then, my scream changed pitch

Instead of my scream being a scream of murder,
It turned to a scream of joy

My mind was like a new page,
Of all new thoughts towards these crazy coasters

Our ride then ended
As we sped to a stop
I knew that this coaster was one of a kind
So, I pleaded,
“Who wants to go for another time?”

I ran as fast as a jaguar to the end of the line,
My hair crazy as I waited to go again,
On that
Rambunctious ride