

Section 1:

**#1** "My body trembled as the wind groaned past my ears. How could I have let this happen? How could I let her do that? Why...why?"

**Strengths:** Your opening immediately creates tension and draws readers in with strong emotional language. The repetitive questioning effectively shows your character's distress.

**Weakness: Vague Context** → Your opening leaves readers confused about what actually happened. The pronouns "this" and "that" don't give us enough information to understand the situation, making it difficult for readers to connect with your character's emotions.

**Exemplar:** *My body trembled as the wind groaned past my ears. How could I have let Daniela fall? How could I have been so careless with that stick? Why didn't I notice the cliff?*

**#2** "I stepped into the icy path. It had been so familiar over the past years – I knew the woods like the back of my hand. As I reached the steep cliff, I recalled her last giggles."

**Strengths:** Your description creates a clear setting and shows the character's familiarity with the place. The contrast between past happiness and present sadness is well-established.

**Weakness: Inconsistent Seasonal Details** → Your writing mentions both "icy path" and "snow covered path" but earlier described the accident happening on "Summer Solstice" with "bright rays" and "greener grass." This creates confusion about when events are taking place.

**Exemplar:** *I stepped into the frozen path. Winter had transformed the woods I once knew so well, covering the familiar trails where we used to play.*

**#3** "I saw a sunflower bloom at the corner of my eye. The snow covered path that only weeds would grow – there was a sunflower growing."

**Strengths:** Your symbol of the sunflower is creative and provides hope at the end. The idea of something beautiful growing in harsh conditions works well as a metaphor.

**Weakness: Sentence Structure Problems** → Your sentence "The snow covered path that only weeds would grow – there was a sunflower growing" is incomplete and awkward. The fragment makes it hard to understand what you're trying to say.

**Exemplar:** *On the snow-covered path where only weeds usually grew, a single sunflower had somehow bloomed.*

■ Your piece shows genuine emotion and creates a touching story about guilt and forgiveness. The basic structure of flashback to present works well, and your ending with the sunflower symbol gives readers hope. However, your writing would benefit from clearer details and smoother sentences. Additionally, you need to fix the confusion about seasons - decide whether the accident happened in summer and the return visit in winter, then make this clear throughout. Also, your sentences sometimes run together awkwardly or have missing parts that make them hard to follow. Furthermore, some of your word choices could be more precise to help readers understand exactly what happened. Moreover, adding more specific details about the friendship and accident would help readers connect better with your character's feelings. Your emotional core is strong, but clearer writing will make your story even more powerful.

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**Score: 40/50**

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Section 2:

#1 My body trembled as the wind groaned past my ears. How could I have let this happen? How could I let her do that? Why...why?

#2 I still recall. It was the perfect day, the Summer Solstice. The sun was shining, its bright rays hitting my back with a burst of warmth. The grass was greener than I had ever seen before, dancing in the gentle breeze. Daniela – my best friend – and I had been trading jokes and laughter while we played in the woods as I chased her with a stick. She was running backwards – a decision that affected my life [forever]. I only had seconds to ~~realise~~ [realise] the approaching cliff. My eyes widened. My heartbeat froze.

"Daniela-" I cried. It was too late. I watched as her foot ~~slip~~ [slipped]. I watched as her mouth opened to scream. I watched. It was all my fault. All my fault.

Those three words had haunted me since the incident. I walked in my town with a constant feeling of misery and guilt – I was the cause of her death. The feeling gnawed at my toes every day, every week, every year. So why did I go back to that haunting place? I needed to feel a sense of forgiveness – not a forced one out of sympathy [, but] a small genuine one. I didn't deserve it – but the burden was ~~overweighing~~ [overwhelming] my shoulders.

#3 I stepped into the icy path. It had been so familiar over the past years – I knew the woods like the back of my hand. As I reached the steep cliff, I recalled her last giggles. "You're my bestest friend ever!" If only, oh, if only she ~~would~~ [could have known] know how much I loved her. If only I could at least tell her. She was gone too soon. I felt water streaming ~~out-of~~ [from] my eyes, barely reaching the ground before freezing solid.

"I'm so sorry, Dani," I whispered, gazing off at the cliff. "It was all my fault." I started sobbing.

Then everything in the forest went silent – so silent ~~only my quiet cries were all I could hear~~ [that my quiet cries were all I could hear]. I saw a sunflower bloom at the corner of my eye. ~~The snow covered path that only weeds would grow – there was a sunflower growing~~ [On the snow-covered path where only weeds would grow, there was a sunflower growing]. I knelt beside it, gently admiring its proud petals. A ~~smiled~~ [smile] tugged at my mouth. The flower had ~~grew~~ [grown] in the iciest month. So unlikely, yet not impossible. Was this a sign from her? Was it, somehow, a ~~willing~~ [willing] symbol of forgiveness?