

Chase

On a road trip to Colorado, Noel's hands tightly gripped the steering wheel as he rapidly passed by trees on the highway. This red car stood out amongst the others, the back seat packed with bags and a suitcase full of items that were, like Noel, awaiting good times. Several states away, his friends expected him to stay for a few nights in their college dorm. Noel thought about how they would chow down pints of Ben & Jerry's ice cream together as they watched movies on his laptop. But that was before a black car being chased by police came racing down Noel's side of the highway, going the opposite direction towards his car as everyone else continued forward. Before Noel knew it, the black car crashed into the passenger side of his red car and flew into a ditch alongside the road.

Now he lays unjustly in a casket at his own wake as his parents and sister stand beside him. His mom lays yet another kiss on his forehead, hoping each time her son's eyes will open and she can watch him grow up, get married, and help him raise his kids. But with each person that says to her "I'm sorry for your loss", she loses hope in that happening and tears run down her cheeks. She embraces her husband and daughter, desperately wishing Noel would get up and join them.