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## Look Up

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# Protection

DANIELLE SNUCKEL

The higher I climbed, the freer I felt.  
The sky was a breathtaking blue, perfect for a cool  
January day in the mountains.  
Those mountains stood taller than  
the most confident beings,  
as if they were shielding me from  
what lay beyond their peaks.

I could feel the sweat slowly dripping down my brow.  
The heat of the sun engulfed itself  
around my green sweater; the kind of green  
that can only be found in the lush of the trees.  
I didn't know whether to look up above or around me;  
I feared missing out  
on even the smallest sliver of the terrain.

The clouds hovered over the mountains  
like a soft blanket of protection,  
accompanied by the sun that gave life to everything  
below it.  
It was as if God was the sun and He used His creation  
to protect me from what lived beyond the walls.  
At that moment,  
I knew what it felt like to take a breath of fresh air.

