

## Summer Sun

Summer. The shining light at the end of the dark tunnel of school. The reward after months of hard work. The ultimate present. Summer is traveling, relaxation, a break. Summer is the beach, popsicles, water fights. Summer is hanging out with friends and making new ones, sleeping late and partying at night. Summer is every teenager's fantasy. Summer is months full of sun.

To me, summer smells like the ocean, sunblock, barbeques, and heat. It tastes like sticky lemonade and crunchy watermelon, sugary ice cream and warm berry pie. There is nothing in this world that can beat the feeling of being at the beach, the salt-stickiness clinging to your skin, the sand nestled in your hair, the heat of the day browning and toasting your skin while the ocean still drips off your nose. You bite into a few salty French fries dipped in sweet, red ketchup, the best that junk food has to offer. It is perfectly unhealthy and totally satisfying.

A heavenly summer day for me is filled with splashing and laughing, diving and jumping in a gorgeous cerulean blue pool, then taking a tan break. Lying still on the hot cement, feeling the sun creep into your skin as the water drifts away. The chlorine in your hair and eyes goes perfectly with a tropical pina colada smoothie, garnished with a tiny, fuchsia paper umbrella. The tangy pineapple, sweet coconut, and creamy, icy coolness of the drink are insanely refreshing as you laze by the pool. Later, when sweat begins to gather on your forehead, you jump back into the rejuvenating blue water.

If my summer was a play, the sun would play the lead role. From waking up late and feeling thrillingly happy when you part the curtains and find golden rays shining in your room, to watching the very last bits of sunlight disappear in a rainbow sunset that ushers in the night, the sun is the connecting thread through every happy summer of my life.