There's nothing that compares
To feeling your chest tighten
Heart sink and beat so hard
You feel it while remaining completely still

I came across a video that made that feeling all too real Maybe I wasn't ready to see it I should have thought harder about my decision Something I didn't think was so touchy anymore Was ignited once again

I saw myself crawling across a finish line At the end of a very important cross country race Like I said, my heart sank For many reasons

One being pure frustration

Frustration towards myself with two differing approaches

1: Being mad my body let me down at an important moment

But at the same time

2: Being mad it got to that place to begin with

To look objectively, my body didn't let me down
It fought as hard as it could
It gave me everything it possibly could have
But there was nothing left
It was depleted
My body wasn't the problem, it was me

Collapsing was my body trying to tell me it was hurting I should have seen the signs early
As it asked for help
But I blatantly ignored them for so long
It was a routine that sadly felt so familiar

Watching myself trying to crawl
Brought back every memory I had of that day
I can say I have never felt that way before
Only experiencing it in dreams when you were paralyzed and unable to move
But I wasn't going to wake up and find it to be a nightmare
It was real this time
And I know I never want to feel like that again

So here I am
Saying to myself
This next season will end differently
I owe it to my family and coaches
To show all their hard work and dedication peak at the right moment
They've done everything they can for me
So it's time I do everything in my power for them
No excuses
It's time to find out what could be
Instead of what would have been

e.g.