Kuzzins Kamp

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"Kuzzins Kamp"

Calendar Custom/Tradition

Informant:
Nicole Baldwin was born and raised in Riverton, Utah. She is an undergraduate student at USU who is majoring in Journalism with an emphasis in Public Relations. In her free time, Nicole likes to hammock, watch movies, bake, and chill with friends. She also really likes dogs and motorcycles. Nicole’s favorite holiday is Christmas because she loves her family, the snow, drinking hot cocoa, and the cheesy Christmas movies.

Context:
I did this interview with Nicole over the phone and she had just woken up from a nap. The noise level was very quiet with a faint interruption from my roommates once or twice. The feeling was very relaxed and comfortable because Nicole and I were roommates last year at Snow College and we talk to each other every few weeks. The following piece of folklore was in the response to my question about whether or not she had any holiday or family traditions. Nicole explained that her Kuzzins Kamp takes place every year in the summer with her mother’s side of the family. This tradition is directly about Nicole’s family, specifically her mother’s side.

Text:
“My family has a tradition they call Cousin’s Camp. We even spell it weird too. Instead of spelling it c-o-u-s-i-n-s [is that how you spell cousins? Yeah so c…] c-a-m-p, we spell it k-u-z-z-i-n-s k-a-m-p. Um it’s on my mom’s side. All of my cousins, my aunts and uncles, my mom’s siblings and stuff, and my grandparents come down usually to my house-in Riverton-and we just do like a week of activities. We always go bowling, swimming, and mini-golfing. And then every year is different like we go to a different place like a museum or a different place I can’t think of.”

Texture:
Because she had just woken up from a nap and was still tired when we did the interview, Nicole had a hard time remembering some of the specifics about her traditions. This resulted in a lot of um’s, like’s, and statements about not remembering or being able to think of it. Nicole also talks really fast as her normal speed, so she had a lot of little interjections about details to add in here and there for clarity. She spoke with a fondness in her tone as she reminisced about these
beloved Kuzzins Kamps and getting together with family every year. She spoke in a tired voice and wasn’t very energetic, at least not the way she normally sounds, but I assume that is because she had just woken up from her nap. Nicole and I have been roommates and friends since last year, so she was also very informal and casual in telling her story. Nicole has a strong tie to Kuzzins Kamp because she lives a very family-centered life and family is one of the most important things to her.