

“Issy? Hello. Are you there? Do you know where Beck is? I have a question for him.” Issy didn’t answer back. Issy is my cousin and Beck is my younger brother. “Do you want to come over to my place for Christmas?” Still no answer. *Where is she? Is she asleep? No. She can’t be. It’s 11:00 am.* I decided to check upstairs. In her bedroom, there is a note to Beck saying she’s hiding somewhere in town and she wants to see if he can solve riddles. I don’t think Beck ever got the letter or else why would it still be on her dresser? I opened up the letter and it was what I expected. It was a riddle.

**While distant family lives here, we gather around the tree once a year**

*That’s obviously my house. We always spend Christmas there. A clue has been lying around my house. I should’ve seen it!* I rushed back to my house in a matter of minutes. I ran to the Christmas tree in the living room and found a single present with a note attached to it.

**If you want real fun, go to the place where water runs and we slide**

*Okay. Issy is not good at making riddles. It’s the water park. It’s December though. Why would she be there? Unless, she’s not. Maybe another clue is there near the slides! That’s an hour away!*

*Finally! I’m here.* Everything looks shut down like no one has been here in years even though it’s only been a couple months. “Hello? Issy? *Please not let there be another clue. Please please please. I need to find her.*” As I walked around to the slides, I thought I saw a silhouette of a person, but it was just a cardboard person holding up a sign. I came closer to the sign expecting to see an add for the arcade here, but instead it said another clue. *Not again!*

**We are on break right now, but in a week we will be back**

*I really need to teach her how to write a riddle. It is the school. Wait! That is all the way back near our house! Come on Issy. Why would you make me drive all this way for nothing.*

It took an hour but i’m finally back. I checked the cafe and the whole first floor but she is nowhere to be seen. As I walked up the stairs to the second floor, the lights suddenly turned on and a lot of people sprang out from hiding spots and said surprise. “Why are all of you here!?” I asked. “We wanted to surprise you with a surprise birthday party!” Issy said. “Yea!” Beck added. “My birthday isn’t until 2 days.” I explained. “Oh. oops. Sorry.” Issy said. “It is okay Issy.” *We spent the whole rest of the day partying and celebrating until we all had to go home.* “Bye guys!” I said as I drove back home.