

Julianna Kiley
“Signposts”

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President Rose, Members of the College, and Guests,

One of my greatest fears is getting lost. When I was eight years old, my dad and I got

We, the Class of 2020, have had the unique experience of stepping into our uncertain futures before formally graduating from Bowdoin. We have had to unmoor ourselves from our college lives and move forward, without knowing exactly where to go next. On that final frightening drive up to Brunswick, I realized that I was looking for signposts that would tell me where I was going, when I should have been paying attention to those that remind me of who I am.

That friend in the passenger seat has been a signpost for me, pointing me toward honesty, loyalty, and, above all, integrity. The friends I made at Bowdoin, friends I know I can count on for years to come, inspire me to live fully and fearlessly as myself. We will keep showing up for each other, no matter how far we may stray from Moulton Light Room.

My backpack, with its residue of chlorine, is a signpost, reminding me to stay grateful. Competing on the swim team at Bowdoin taught me that when I am overcome 1 12 w f 5 3 m 4 n v 1 12 Tf 1 0 0 1 2.

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signposts that will remind us of who we are whenever we feel lost. We may not always know where we are going, but we can trust that we will figure it out. Thank you.