

Molly Caplan
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Houston Poem

We arrived at the airport at 4:45 am all tired and sleepy
And we flew to Houston quick and easy

We landed and saw that there was snow on the ground
In which my smile turned to a frown

We got on the bus and headed to the orthodox synagogue
The devastation made me quickly say oh my god

We then traveled to work with Nechama on a rebuilding project
We pulled up to Peggy's home and it was wrecked

Jesus, prayers and pictures covered her walls
All of us coming to help answered her prayers and calls

We took down her walls using hammers and our hands
When the cockroaches came out of the floor -boards, we were not big fans

We got to the hotel where I roomed with Emily, Jordan and Jess
In our room, for Shabbat we changed and dressed

We went to Birth Shalom to pray
Then we journeyed back to the hotel to reflect on our day

Day two, we had Shabbat service led by our counselor, Kadisha, a messianic jew
She taught me so much I never knew

From the famous Three Brothers Bakery we enjoyed challah and cookies
We later played driedal and bingo against the Seniors at the Brookedale Senior Home, we weren't so bad for rookies

We met up with BBYO Texas teens for a Global Shabbat program
We had havdallah and sang songs such as one day, which is such a great jam

The next day we went to the Houston food bank
The largest in the country it is ranked

We packed meals for people in need
We packed a lot of meals at a fast speed

We got to try the Escape the room
My team was so close but didn't make it out, it made us all angry and gloom

We went back to the hotel to hear out trip leaders different life stories
And how we can learn to embrace our life and all its glories

We woke up the next morning sad to know it was our last day
We got on the bus and to our last project we were on our way

We worked with SBP on a house rebuild
We got to paint the house, my friends and I were excited and thrilled

After that we did the last of our reflections
It was fun to listen to everyones experiences and connections

We then headed home on the airplane
I couldn't wait to share with my family and friends about the great experience I had
gained