

"I'm the same age as Carmelita. I've gone to protests before, I've been to rallies for Gaza and BLM and the teachers' union and I have even led some chants in Spanish after looking some up online. But I can't imagine how she must have felt doing all of this alone. All of those times for me were powerful because I was with so many people. And my parents. Honestly they're really cool with all this stuff even though we have some ground rules for safety. But there's always so many people who are already wanting to march or rally or cheer. I've never actually thought of being the first one to make it happen without a plan. Maybe she already had a plan that day, I guess that's part of what we'll never know. But that makes me respect her even more than how brave she must have been. She had to come up with that on her own. I hope she didn't feel lonely by the end of it."

-Isabel
Seattle, WA