Day One

It all started one blustery morning of, the drive from Pocatello, ID to Boise.

This girl had only been there twice before, so what adventures awaited?

The twenty miles of construction was not what I expected to be one of them.
Day One

We started everything on a fun note. Moved in, met each other, and went on a scavenger hunt.

Group 2 was last, we were blind to one of our tags. Oops!

The real highlight of the day, however, came after dinner, when we went to the Anne Frank Memorial...
The sound of water is tranquil...
The greenery lush...
But I won’t forget:

A shot rings out from a nearby hill. We hurry. Though it’s only nine o’clock, we might be hurrying toward a grenade marked ‘ours’.
Day Two

Also known as “the longest day” or in my mind, “the Weed Out day.” It was long, and it set the stage for the rest of the week.

I wasn’t sure I’d make it through!
But we did!*

*And played the longest game of Uno ever, too!
Day Three

It wasn’t all fun and games. A good night’s sleep and a light breakfast later, and the day had dawned on the beginning of the real meat of Boot Camp:
Day Three

But we still had fun!
Day Four

Dawn of the fourth day, the big kahuna. Not only was it your typical hump day, and we were all exceptionally tired, but it was the day of the networking dinner.

Time to wear our Sunday best!

But on Wednesday.
Day Four

At the event, I learned some things about myself:

I really like crackers

Lil ol’ ladies can be FIERCE

Strawberries on chocolate pudding is the bomb

I don’t know what to do with empty serving spoons

Don’t ever selfie in my kitchen again
But the biggest thing? I made a connection that can bring me one step closer to my dream.
Admittedly there are no photos or videos from myself here, so I blatantly snatch a few. I was hard at work taking notes from the panel and organizing them for our arguments the next day, since I was the designated researcher.
Day Five

Things were iffy. It felt like we had nothing set up until that evening. What would we say, what would we do?

Were it not for Senator Abby Lee to the rescue, we would have floundered. Thus, we could eat our tacos in relative peace.

Volleyballs were still a hazard.
Dawn of the Final Day

I awoke that morning ready. Confident. We had been working toward this day, after all, and after a breakfast with 25 new friends, we headed to the final destination.
Capitol Day

I’ll let everyone else’s catalogue of the day speak for itself. Meanwhile, as they did selfies, as they took the important life changing photos, I busied myself with the green side of things*, counting down the minutes...

*And trying not to trip on my own skirt.
Capitol Day

Oh yeah, we had lunch somewhere in there, too.
The Press Conference

Let’s stay calm, cool, collected.

I am aware I probably spouted some Fake News, but in the heat* of the moment, I really didn’t think about it.

*How punny
We all remember the highlights of this, don’t we?

The Committee’s microphone crisis

Page on the floor!

We need a paper bag, stat!

Camie’s demonstration

Furious iPad typing

Carole’s name crisis

No gavel bangs except at the end

Con side winning
In the End...

To misquote Linkin Park, it really does matter. While I didn’t do really any part of the selfie challenge out of interest of tourism, the journey was fun. The swollen feet at the end, not so much.