

Dear Luke,

The day I found out Mom was pregnant was the best day of my life. Sitting there in IHOP, with Nathan, Mom and Dad shared the good news. Nathan and I never thought we would have another sibling. We both had a smile from ear to ear. The hard part was now waiting 8 months for you to come.

October 6, 2011 was a great day. It was the day that you were born. We were so excited to find out if you were a boy or a girl. Then we arrived at the hospital to see mom hold our baby brother. It was so much fun naming you. What a beautiful name, Luke Matthew.

The 7 months you were here with me was so great. You made our family bond. Nathan and I finally got along with each other. You made us laugh. You were a good baby that never cried. You were so cute and adorable with your chubby body. I loved when you smiled with your gums showing. It was awesome.

May 3, 2012, was the worst day of my life and the last of yours. Dad didn't mean for you to get overheated in his truck. He just forgot that you were there that day. I am sorry that happened and I was not there to protect you. I want you to know that I forgive Daddy for forgetting. It was an accident and he didn't mean to leave you in the truck.

My whole life changed the day you went to heaven. Now, every day, I paint a smile on my face. I try hard to be a cheery positive person, but know life would be better if you were still here. I hardly ever laugh for real; I keep my feelings bottled up inside my heart. There are pictures of you all over the house; they are so hard to see every day. Family and friends have moved on, but we have not. I try to be strong for everyone, but it hurts so much. I act like the brave soldier but when mom and dad talk about you, I get uncomfortable and walk away. I don't want them to see me cry, I do that alone. I still wake up in the middle of the night and ask why you died. You didn't do anything wrong, my family didn't do anything wrong. Why Luke? Why me? Why my Dad?

It has now been 18 months since you left. I try and express my feelings through drama and karate now. You would be proud of me; I joined a dojo and learning Taekwondo. I really like it and it helps me get my feelings out. I will never forget you Luke. I miss you every day. I know I will see you again someday. This is just a see you later, not goodbye.

Love your best sister,

Lauren  
aka sissy  
XOXOXOXOXO