

Prologue

Hello. My name is Katie. My life is a very hard life. I've been through so many things and I'm only a kid. I really want to let it all out. The sadness, pain, fear, confusion but also the happiness and joy. So, this is how my story goes...

The Greatest Gift

by Sarahi P.

So, I have a short temper and I'm 10 years old. I'm Hispanic because most of my family is from Mexico and I was born in America. I have an older sister. Her name is Alex. She is 23 months older than me and she is in middle school. She is in band and she plays the flute. My mom's name is Luna. She was born in Mexico and came to America in her 20s. My dad's name is Bruce. He was born here, in America. He grew up on a farm, so he is very strong. He is a business man and my mom is a parent educator, so she's like a parent teacher. This is just to tell you about myself and a little bit about my family.

I've had a lot of sadness in my life. Hurricane Harry came and flooded my home. I was so sad. I couldn't be in my house for a long, long time. It took a long time for my house to get fixed and during that time I stayed in a not-so-good hotel. It was always so cold in the room and the restroom door didn't even close right! I have three pet birds. They were in my hotel room. One day when I came back from school, I came to see they had drooped my birds' box and there was a big mess in there! My poor birds were so scared. I was mad at the people. They didn't have very good breakfast either.

I gone through things you probably can't even imagine. I've been through a false alarm shooting at a mall on my birthday party. It was so scary! I was just having a good time with my family and friend Emily. Then my mom suddenly said we needed to go. I had to use the restroom so I went. I was washing my hands when I heard... screaming? I was a little curious, so I went to go look. My sister comes into the restroom screaming "MOM! MOM!". I got scared right at that moment. A few seconds later, a whole bunch of women just come running into the restroom, panicked. I heard my aunt calling for me at the far end of the restroom, so I went to her. The restroom was blanketed in heavy silence. That was until I heard a familiar voice "Luna?". It was my dad! The women slowly come out the restroom. The

police escorted us out the mall. My family, Emily, and I all got into my dad's truck and drove away from the mall

That was only one of the experiences I've gone through. Hurricane Harry was also a scary experience. It was at night when I had to evacuate my house. I saw water slowly creeping into my house, spreading like a plague. I stayed close to my mom the whole time. My dad was just running around the house putting stuff in high places so it wouldn't get wet. When I went outside, it was too much to bear. The whole street was flooded with water, about 5 feet high. My sister and I got on the inflatable bed and my mom and dad pushed it all the way to my neighbor's house. I will never in my life, forget that scary night.

I've also gotten very confused in my life. When I was about 3 years old, my parents divorced. At first, I was very confused, but then when I was told what was happening, I got very, very, very sad. I would cry sometimes, wishing that my dad was there with us. I started to get used to seeing my dad on Wednesdays and weekends only. Sometimes he would come to the apartment and sometimes I would stay with him longer than what I was supposed to. My mom let me because I guess she understood that I missed my dad. After about 2 years, they decided to get back together. I was so happy! Now I would get to see my dad every single day! The first thing I did was run around my old house, which became my house again. I had missed having such a big living space

There has been joy and happiness in my life, not just negative moments. I remember when my little cousin, Alice was born. I was so happy when I found out I was an older cousin. A few months later, my other aunt also had a baby girl. Her name is Elena. I love them both very much! About 2 years later, my same aunt that had Elena, had a baby boy! When I first saw him, I was filled with joy. He was such a cute baby! His name is Maximo. He is so adorable, and I love so much! I remember earlier this year, in January, my first niece was born. She is an adorable baby girl with big eyes. I think she is the cutest baby girl ever seen. Her name is Anna. Also, in September, my nephew was born. He is still a little baby. His name is Gabriel.

I think everyone has negative and positive parts in their life. As we all know, life is the greatest gift we could have.

Dedication

This story goes to anyone who has gotten down moments in their life to prove there are happy and joyful moments in everyone's life.

Credits:

My mom, my dad, my sister, my friend Leyna for supporting me and understanding what I've been through, and last but not least, my fourth grade writing teacher, Ms. Gardner for teaching and showing me how to be a great writer.