

Kayla Moore

November 18, 2006

Dear Dave Pelzer,

Your book, A Child Called It, opened up a whole new world to me. I felt how you felt in your time of pain, and I realized that child abuse, just as you were abused, happens everywhere. You made me realize that I live in the real world. I used to believe that nothing like that would ever happen to anyone, but now I know that's not the case. Now I wish that I could save every person, child or adult, that has felt that pain that you showed me through the words in your book.

I wanted to climb through the pages of your book and claw your mother's eyes out when she made you drink ammonia. For anyone to do that to their child is unbelievable. The way you explained the punishment made me feel like I was in your shoes drinking the ammonia. It felt like it was me who was delusional afterwards. I would have expected you to just give up, but you never quit. I hope that some child gets ahold of your books and reads and receives the idea that no matter what happened to you, you still kept going and they can too.

I have always grown up in a family-oriented lifestyle. When I read that you had to sleep in the garage on an army cot and not be included in the family, I didn't really believe it. I couldn't do anything without the support of family members. I've always relied on family members to cheer me up or to just be around them knowing that they are always there for me. For instance when we are together for Thanksgiving or Christmas, I love the feeling of security around me when they're there with me. I admire this most of all about you because you love your child so much that people would never even realize that you were neglected and excluded in your family.

The one person I feel that most disappointed in wasn't your brothers or your mother, it was your father. I felt terrible about how your father never had the guts to do anything about your abusive life. I actually felt the hurt and betrayal that you might have felt when your father started to call you "It" along with the rest of your family, instead of your real name. After I read that excerpt, I felt like my father was doing the same thing to me; it was that real.

Because of your book and how it made me feel I am starting an awareness group about abuse and how it affects the lives of children and adults in families. I want as many people as possible to understand what abuse can do to a child growing up. I want them all to read your book and feel the same things I felt. By doing this, we might be able to save lives around us, in our town, or even in our own school.

Sincerely,

Kayla E. Moore

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