

Terra sweetie, Terr-bear, darling daughter,

You are the love of my life, my first born child. I cannot imagine a love more pure and beautiful than my love for you. I learned this on April 30, 2000. I love you Terra more than I love anything else in this world, including myself. You completed me when you were born. You taught my heart how to love deeply, completely, and unconditionally. I didn't realize my life was empty until you filled it with the beauty of your smile. My life has never been the same since and I am so incredibly grateful, grateful, SO grateful!!!

I have always wanted the best for you and try my best every day to give it to you. I am not the perfect parent and won't ever be.... I simply try to be your mom and use my maternal instincts to guide me. You never really needed much parenting. You have been the easiest child a parent could hope for...you practically raised yourself. Perhaps, at times you wished that I would have parented you more (and I know you think I should parent Sam more) ) I am the only mom that I know how to be and I have to believe that I am exactly the mom that you needed me to be. I have always joked that you are more mature and wise than I am (but I was truly more serious than joking). I think that you teach me more than I teach you! Unfortunately, we are both growing up WAY too fast right now. You see my flaws and have the grace to ignore them (most of the time). You are the perfect daughter for me and I am the perfect mom for you. It IS just what it was meant to be.

It broke my heart to have to be away from you half of the time. I wish desperately that your father and I could have worked out our differences so you and I didn't have to spend so much time separated from each other. I am sorry for that, truly sorry for that.

Everybody loves you!!! It is hard sometimes to share you because everyone wants to be with you. Your friends love you because you don't judge them, you accept people for who they are (especially if they are geeks). You appreciate people for who they are, and that is why they love you...I love that too. You are so very humble despite your talents and beauty. Your heart is enormous and you reach out to creatures big and small.

I regret that I never built you a fort/hideout (since I couldn't build a treehouse). I wish we would have planted a yard full of fruit trees, bushes, vines.... (and a fairy garden). I really wanted to have a bunch of pets.

Doing more art/craft projects together would be nice. I wish I hadn't worked so much and been so tired afterward. Time moves on so quickly and each moment is so incredibly precious. I know that now.....so many things I have yet to share with you sweetie.

The world is a better place with you in it. You shine brighter than anyone in any crowd! You have SO much grace for such a young lady. I think grace is one of the finest qualities I know of and I am so proud of you Terra. You amaze me! You have exhibited immeasurable strength and grace in the face of adversity and trauma. You are my hero and always will be.

I love you forever.... and for eternity. We will ALWAYS be together my

Love, The only mother you will ever have,

Mom