

**Kirsten .D. Hunt, Grade 7**  
**Mark Twain Elementary School**  
**Angels Camp**

*Tears of the Moon*, Nora Roberts

**Dear Nora Roberts,**

When I was about six or five, my parents got a divorce because my dad was too afraid to love my mom. I once remembered seeing my dad hit my mom for saying he didn't have a heart and if he did he wouldn't let her in. My mom is a book worm and I've developed it into a bad habit. I'm not saying that reading is a bad habit but for me when I read too much I forget things and I don't listen to what people say, or what they have told me. During the days that my mom had the divorce trials I would always bring a book and I got yelled at to pay attention.

During the summer of 2009 I read *Tears of the Moon*. This book was very emotional; it touched me. One character in this book pulled feelings out of me that I never knew I had. In the book, Shawn has a longing and so do I. My mom remarried when I was eight and her husband isn't very fatherly. I'm a little like Shawn; he has a longing for a wife, and after I read your book, I realized that I had a secret longing for a father. I'm also like Brenna because she has been hiding her secret, her big secret, for years, like me, and she hasn't even told anyone. Both Brenna and I have blocked away that secret and forgot about it.

When my dad left I didn't see him for three years. I didn't read one book. I remember my mom getting really concerned and she'd yell at me when I wouldn't listen when she'd talk about a book. But one day my stepdad and I went to the store and there my real dad was. That night my mom tried to set a restraining order against my real dad and I cried all night. When I read this book it brought back memories about what I've closed inside my heart. But now I understand I can't change my life and it's okay because this way now I know that I have feelings for my dad even though he wasn't that great of a father either. Thanks for helping me see that and for helping me read my own heart for once.

***Thanks from***  
***Kirsten .D. Hunt***

*One thing I like to do is write; I have four books that I'm still working on. My most favorite hobby is drawing, it's a great way to let my imagination run free. I can also paint; I use only oil paints. I play sports, and one I play very well is basketball. I like almost anything done outside, like hiking and camping. I love animals, old cars, art, photography, and dirt bikes. My final favorite thing is in school; I love to learn how other cultures live or lived their daily life—that is, History.*