



A Letter to My Mom

Created by LISA ERSPAMER

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First Edition

INTRODUCTION

A Letter to My Mom is the third book in our letter series to date. It has been a huge honor for us to curate letters from people all over the country and from around the world for this very special book. My team and I literally spent hours and hours at my kitchen table crying our eyes out as we read your letters out loud to each other trying to decide which to put in this collection. Every letter that was submitted touched us in ways we never expected. They were funny, heartwarming, heartbreaking, and just wonderful.

What started out as a simple idea turned into a catharsis for us all. We are grateful that you trusted us with your precious stories about your beautiful mothers and that you allowed us into your lives in such unique and vulnerable ways. For those of you whom I knew before you wrote these letters, I feel like a new layer of you has unfolded with these words. I am touched that you opened yourselves up to share a new piece of yourselves with me . . . and with all of the people who will read this book. Thank you for being so brave.

Now it's my turn.

LISA ERSPAMER

Lynne Erspamer

To my mom.

Mom, as I have been curating this book, I have thought a lot about you, our relationship, and all of the things I have probably never said to you . . . like, thank you.



Thank you, Mom, for bringing me into this world.

Thank you for always supporting my dreams. I really think you believe I can do anything, even when I doubt myself.

Thank you for always thinking I was great no matter what I did or didn't do. You always think your kids can do no wrong, even when we're wrong . . . still to this day. Good for you!

Thank you for baking me many pink birthday cakes with pink swirled frosting. I

remember those cakes; they were so beautiful.

Thank you for brushing my hair until I fell asleep when I was little and for making the scary monsters go away in the night.

Thank you for killing the spiders that the men in the house were too afraid to kill.

Thank you, I think, for waking me up most mornings with an annoying song and a squirt bottle full of water.

Thank you for standing up to mean Ms. X, my bullying teacher, by throwing the plant she gave you in the trash, right in front of her. You showed her, Mom!

Even if I never call, thank you for being willing to answer the phone anytime day or night. Thank you for wishing I would call.

Thank you for wanting to spend time with me, even when I didn't want to spend time with you. Thank you for giving me the space, but not giving up on me.

Thank you for taking care of Dad when he was dying and for not being mad at me when I wasn't there. Thank you for understanding why.

Thank you for moving on as best you could after he was gone. Thank you for trying to enjoy your life without him.

Thank you for putting up the tree, the stockings, and decorating the entire house at Christmas all by yourself, every year, and making it perfect for all of us.

Thank you for being such an amazing grandmother to your grandchildren. You are so special to each one of them. They are lucky to have so much of you in their lives.

Thank you for everything that you do for all of us. It's enough. It's perfect.

You're perfect.

I'm proud to have you as my mom.

I love you.

Lisa

