



Adversity

Adversity has played a major role in my life.[S] I was born with collapsed lungs, chronic asthma, jaundice, and amniotic band syndrome which claimed four of the digits on my left hand.[CX] My mother realized that many obstacles had to be overcome before I, her new baby, could thrive.[S] I persevered through two weeks of surgery but was finally allowed to go home.[CX]

Overcoming adversity has become an inspiration in my life.[S] I have discovered that the missing digits on my left hand are not a limitation but a motivation.[S] I have played both baseball and soccer at the high school level, have reached a typing speed of eighty words per minute, and have strung my guitar backwards so that I can play music.[S] In spite of these triumphs the greatest adversity was yet to come.[S]

The morning of December 12, 2000 brought an immeasurable amount of pain and suffering into my life.[S] My mother served as my hope and my inspiration; she was a tutor, a mentor, a role model, and a friend.[CD] Our bond was torn apart, however, when a house fire claimed her life and broke my heart.[CX]
