

Crestwood Junior High
Cresco, Iowa

Dear Dave Pelzer,

Usually people live in their own perfect utopia, with rainbows, butterflies, and leaves covered with dew, thinking that nothing will ever happen to them. I, too, was blindfolded in my crisis-free utopia until I read your eye-opening book. It reminded me that even though the skies on your side of the world are blue, it doesn't mean that the skies on the other side aren't gray.

My skies have been gray once in my life. My mom bought us a new TV since our other one was broken. I was five years old and, since five year olds don't know better, I spread the packing styrofoam around, playing in it. My mom noticed and she spanked me until I cried. I think she cried too, because I wouldn't cry until she spanked me hard. Even though this story of mine isn't really abuse, I just wanted to tell you that your book made me realize that the abused aren't wrong, the abusers are. Even though your mom was turned crazy by booze, she was the one that chose to drink it.

Some people don't want to hear about tsunamis, missing children, cancer, and sad, sorry, soldier stories because they don't want their utopia ruptured. They should know these things because it could happen to them and they'll know what to do. I recommend this book because the people with the perfect utopias should be unblindfolded before it happens to them.

Sincerely,

Kara Robinson