

Melanie Chang  
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Dear Patricia McCormick,

Your book greatly impacted me inside. Books I usually read are for a reading pleasure. I don't actually remember the words and story of the book. But your book stuck in the back of my mind no matter how long ago I read it. The haunting, deep, and emotional words from your book Cut are still in my brain. The message I read from your book taught me about decisions on how they could change your life.

I never really understood why people cut themselves. I heard of it, but never understood it. Until I read this book, I finally became a little more open minded. Reading your book gave me some information in why people do it, and what they find it. When I first heard about cutters, I immediately thought of people who are mentally ill and can stop if they want too. But after reading your book, I learned that cutting yourself is not just a small problem. It is just as important as anorexia, obesity, and drug use. Like the patients at Sea Pines. How cutting is a serious problem that needs to be treated for and that if you leave it untreated it might be bad for your health. So this book also taught me not only a lesson inside, but a small informational reading on cutters, anorexia, and other sickness that are in a facility like Sea Pines.

The way Callie think, and her will power in her mind sparked my mind. Teaching me more about self control, and how it may be hard to find that power in you when times are difficult. Just like how Callie fights her urges not to cut herself anymore. How she wanted to get better. That taught me about self control. How when you think about something that you do, you think you don't have any control over it. But when you really try hard enough you just realize.

This book impacted how I live my life. How decisions and affect my whole life. How problems can be solved if you try hard enough. Not only did the book change my way of solving things and decisions, it affected my feelings. My emotions now are mostly kept inside, although in the book it encourages you to speak out. But when I really need help, I let them all out. Some emotions can be kept inside, and some just need to be let out. Emotions bottled up inside is not a good thing. It leads to corruption inside your mind, making yourself very stressed.

When I was in hard times during my 6<sup>th</sup> grade year, I had lots of bottled up emotions that was giving me stress. So stressful, I felt completely dead. But one day after reading your book, I started writing out my emotions and letting them out, and talking to my friends about it. It really helps and deals with this stress. Cut was not only a gripping story of a girl, but an informational book that taught me a lesson. Changing who I am, what I do, and how I live my life. This book turned me around and how I deal with problems that come my way.

Sincerely,

Melanie Chang

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