

Samantha Sellers
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Dear Mr. Clive Barker,

This world that we live in is misused and misunderstood. As you say in your book, The Thief of Always, you don't know what you have until it's gone. Your book has taught me to appreciate the world that I live in. To appreciate the years and to appreciate the moments, because in just 30 days it could all be gone.

When I first heard your book my 7th grade teacher was reading it allowed to the class. I didn't really pay attention. Its like when your teacher is lecturing you on how to and how not to do act. Then I find myself sitting there nodding my head and acting like I'm interested in what the teacher has to say. Then one of my friends came up to me and asked me what I thought of the book. I had told her that I had better things to do than listen to a book, so she filed me in on what's going on and it sounded pretty dang cool. So the next day I actually listened and it turns out it was and I really enjoyed it.

I remember sitting there and thinking about when my parents got divorced and telling myself that it was all a bad dream and asking God to make it all go away and asking him if there was a place to get away from all this pain. The pain in my heart my brother's heart and my mothers because I just didn't want to feel like this anymore. I didn't want to feel like there was this huge hole in me. While my teacher was reading it I wished that this world was real this place that took away all your pain and filled you with joy and then I found out what the house was made of.

When we finally did finish the book I was actually saddened because reading your book was probably the best part of the day. The funny thing was I had forgotten about your book until a couple weeks ago. We were writing down books that we had read in the past and this girl asked me what the name of the book was that our teacher read to us in 7th grade. I told her I didn't remember and in a way that made me sad because the only thing that I could remember was that I loved it. So the next day she told me that she had talked to our teacher and she told me the name of the book.

That same night I went to the Urbandale Library to see if they had your book. Thank goodness they did. I went to go get it off the shelf and just looking at its cover brought back all those memories. I started reading the minute I got home. I read the first like seven chapters and I fell in love with it all over again. I have one question for you though, are you Mr. Hood, and if you are I have one more question for you. What makes your world more special than the real one?

I know if I was that bored I wouldn't go to this place but as I said before I would, if it took away all my fears. This magical place where every day was beautiful as the one before, this place that took away all my fears and pain. Although we feel fear every day and we have to deal with it every day. That world isn't real the people the food it's all an illusion to the real world. That world that you created may be perfect but it's not life and

I couldn't live like that. Asking myself if the person I'm talking to is made of flesh and bones or dust or muck. So no offense but I think I'll take my chances out there, in the REAL world.

Sincerely yours,
Samantha Sellers

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