10127 Roulette Drive Hagerstown, MD December 5, 2013

Dear Audrey Vernick,

There are a lot of books out in the world that inspire people and out of all the books the one that inspires me is your book “Water Balloon.” It has inspired me by telling me that you can do anything no matter what happens! It has also changed the view of the real world.

Marley and I have a lot in common with each other, like feeling like you want somebody at a certain time in your life. Like Marley she wants Jack and when I want my parents they are helping my two younger brothers. At times we miss someone and I can easily relate because all of my relatives live about 2 hours away. I miss them a lot like how Marley misses her mom when her mom left on a big trip to go see friends and family. Also, I learned from the story, that sometimes, we want life to stay the same. When something goes wrong like getting a bad grade, I wish I could have done better or when I miss a day of school I wish I did not have to because I like school. Marley wishes that her parents could get back together and her friends Jane and Leah would come over to her house and listen to her and just be her best friends again. All this made me pay attention to the good memories and changed how I thought about things like losing a friend that you have been friends with since you were 2. I mean how would you would feel if you had a friend who just deserted you one day.

When I first came to Maryland I felt like a newcomer because I had been living Pennsylvania all of my life, so when I read about Marley and her going to her dad’s new neighborhood I felt like she was in my place and when her dad said that Marley that she was going to babysit, she was terrified because she wanted to have fun not a job. I really don’t like when my parents surprise me with something they think that I should do, and I don’t want to do it. Also, I don’t like when elderly die or go into surgery or go into the hospital, I have the feeling that I need to go visit them, like how Marley feels like needed to visit her grandma. Like this past week my grandpa was in the hospital and I wanted to go see my grandpa real bad.

Before I read this book, I never realized how many kids are affected so much by their parents getting divorced. I found this out by reading your amazing book. I found out that kids like Marley want their parents to get back to together and that they want life to be the way it was. Also I found out that sometimes the kids get mad at one parent for splitting up with the other parent, just like how Marley got mad her dad for splitting up with her mom. But I understand, there are all different kinds of families.

Thank you for writing this book. It has changed the way I look at divorce and true friends. Even though it makes me sad at times, I would recommend this book to everybody in the world. It is the best book in the world.

Your Reader,