

Abigail  
Roton Middle School

Dear Mrs. Katz,

Thank you for talking to all 7<sup>th</sup> grade students at Roton Middle School. Your presentation was very powerful and touched many hearts, including mine. I cried after the presentation. I understood your message about getting 3-5 adults that I could talk to if I don't feel like myself.

That night, I thought about that and I started to cry and went to my Mom, I said "what do I do?" She said, "you know they're out there and the best way to stop thinking about them is to avoid them. It's life. Always talk to me or Daddy if you need help. OK?" "Ok." Then I went to sleep.

On Sunday, I needed to rehearse a skit for church and it was about all the things that could happen if you have no salvation in Jesus. (I'm a Christian, that is why I'm doing that). One of them was alcohol and one of them was drugs. So when I heard your presentation, it reminded me of the skit. It turned into something happy.

But that is not the point. You have taught me a lot these past few years. Ian seemed like a very nice young man who was loved by everyone, just like you described him. I would have been honored to meet him. When I first read your inspiring and touching book, it was like meeting Ian for the first time. I don't think of Ian as a dangerous bad man. I think of him as a good man who just made a very unhealthy decision that he didn't know at the time. He will always be close to my heart, even if I never met him. I would have loved to meet him because his story was one of the best stories I have ever heard. I hope you are doing well with your family and your program. Thank you so much for teaching me Ian's story and for being a role model to all kids you have taught in all of your visits. Thank you for letting me be here tonight and reading this to all of you and again, Mrs. Katz, thank you for being an inspiration and coming to my school and talking with all the 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Abigail