

Why Me?

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Course: English 101

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Essay Type: Personal

I believe that everything happens for a reason. Throughout life I have faced many hardships. At the time, I could not make sense of them. Sometimes it takes time for us to realize that there is a reason that we are faced with these hardships. Sometimes we can never make sense of it.

In May of 2005, I got a call from my sister, who was sixteen weeks pregnant. When she went for her normal checkup, the doctor asked,

“Do you want to draw blood and check the alpha-fetoprotein?”

My sister, even though she did not want to do the test, inadvertently said, “Yes.”

A couple of days later, she got the call that would change everything. She was told that the alpha-fetoprotein count was not where it should be. The doctors sent her to have an ultrasound, and that is when the doctor discovered why the alpha-fetoprotein count was abnormal. My sister was pregnant with identical conjoined twins. Unfortunately, the twins were conjoined at the heart. They were sharing a chamber of an atrium. There was no hope that the pregnancy would last to term. If it did, the twins would only live a few hours. About one week after we got the news that they were conjoined, tragedy struck. The pregnancy terminated. After just facing the horrific news of conjoined twins, my family was now faced with losing those precious miracles. The only thing that I could say was, “Why?” Why would we be blessed with such a miracle yet a tragedy at the same time?

Another hardship I faced was when my marriage fell apart. It was the night of April 13, 2006, when my world came crashing down. My husband came home from school that night, and as he walked into the house, I knew something was wrong.

I asked “What’s wrong?”

Sitting on the couch across the room from me, he replied, “I’m not in love with you anymore.”

After six and a half years of marriage, it came down to this. I told myself that I was not going to be brought down by this. I started to try and put my life back on track and am now doing something I have always wanted to do but never got the chance to do: I am attending college to become a nurse.

While facing these moments, I did not understand why these hardships were happening. I now believe that everything happens for a reason. If it was not for my sister receiving the alpha-fetoprotein test, we would have never known about the twins being conjoined. It ultimately prepared us for the loss of the twins because we knew that there would be no quality of life for them. Also, if it was not for my divorce, I do not think that I would have ever had the opportunity to attend college. The pain that is experienced with any traumatic event makes us stronger. I believe that no matter how bad the situation is, it is happening for a reason.