

Reply ID: 4fmh

Dear Rita,

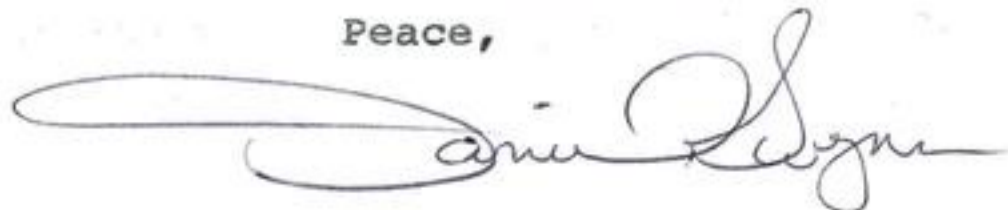
Received your kind offer to be a life-line, and I greatly appreciate your offer & accept. I do have other pen friends, but my situation calls for as much support as I can get. The injustice perpetrated against me is staggering and has a firm grip I cannot shake alone. I'm an open book, so feel free to ask what you like.

I started in a Baptist Church, but outside of that community proved very difficult to navigate with a Bible. I couldn't understand why it was so difficult for people to adhere to the teachings of Jesus Christ. Simply put: "Treat people like you want to be treated." You don't have to be a Christian to believe in that principle. Can you imagine a world where this is so? For now it's only a dream, as the world continues to spiral out of control. Because of this chaos, I had my mother for only a short time; and had to share the man I called "Dad" w/ another family I wasn't a part of. My mother was the first woman to break my heart when she chose an abusive man over me. She left me on Grandma's stoop, who was already overwhelmed by other house guests. Life was hard on a struggle inner-city family. I don't blame my parents for how I was raised, I blame Society and its' degradation.

Though Christ's teachings is in my DNA, I struggle with it as I try to survive Society & the Streets. The Church doesn't protect me from the hierarchy of Society or the gangs on the Streets. My mother, the unsung hero, taught me how & why I should be a good person in the short time we were together. Watching my mother suffer spurred my need to help people. For a long time, I felt alone & abandoned. My self-worth was in the toilet. I didn't know if the problem was me or the world. I learned some tough lessons that has made me stronger today, and the scriptures a strong foundation.

More later. That's as deep as I can go for now. Thank you for caring. I look forward to hearing from you again soon.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Annie R. Lynn". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Peace,".