



'Monster, Mummy and Me'

A letter to: My Child

Dear Sweetheart,

Every day when I look at you, see the sparkle in your eyes, hear the excitement in your laughter, the imagination in your stories, my heart melts. It melts for two reasons: one is for love, the other for fear.

Yes, a heart can melt from fear. Like icebergs, with their white, towering crowns, one day gone under, into the black waters. When my fear overtakes me, I too disappear into the those black waters; there's no light there, no air, no way forward.

You know none of this. And I don't want you to. I want you to stay unaware for as long as possible. To stay innocent, open-minded, trusting, free-spirited and happy. To put your warm, little hand in mine and go for a walk through town. Say hello to all the people we know. Buy ice-cream, listen to the man who plays his guitar and sings his songs, all year round. Feed the ducks by the river. This is your safe little world. And I wish it would stay safe, for you, always.

I wish there wasn't darkness all around it, and also within it. Dark matter, that grows and changes shape and direction every minute. Dark material, that gathers more body the longer its left to run wild. Madmen-and women, who don't want the best for you, or for the world that's yours. The future, that's yours. Not theirs.

But you don't know about insane grown-ups, who have none of your intelligence. None of your empathy. None of your wisdom or love for nature and humankind.

And when my heart melts with love, which is most of the time, I wish I could extinguish all these dangers. Make them go away, once and for all. If they were evil monsters (which they are) like the ones in your drawings, I would cut their heads off with a sword. I would push them over a cliff-edge, so they would never be seen again.

But I can't do that 'in real life' as you call it. I can only live between my two states of meltdown. I'm sorry, my darling. My love, my miracle. This world, that I brought you into, is a dangerous place to be.

Anonymous