

TEEN PAGE

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SPRING KIT 2016



to
the girls
that

TEXT

My Son

Anonymously

Acknowledgement:
sunshineandrainydays.com/

TO THE GIRLS WHO ANONYMOUSLY TEXT MY BOY

It was Friday night and my teenage son was staying up late. I kissed him good night and headed up to bed as the glow of Battlefront on the Xbox One filled the room. Somewhere in my deep slumber, I heard Josh running up the stairs. He showed me a text he had just received. An anonymous text.

I realize there are girls who anonymously text boys. It's happened before. The thing is, we don't know who you are, or IF you're a girl. You see, we have always warned Josh not to talk to strangers on any electronic device. Doing so would be a sure way to lose his phone. How he handles it is a true sign of his character.

OK girls, I'm not sure what compels you to send anonymous texts in the wee hours of the night but, since you do, there are a few things I would like you to consider.

First off it's NOT definite who is texting. It is possible it could have come from a paedophile, a friend messing around for a laugh, or quite possibly, a wrong number. We just don't know. I'm sure I don't need to tell you, there are many cases where teens have met with someone who they thought was an online friend only to find out they were strangers who meant them harm.

In the UK, a child is reported missing every 3 minutes and at least one teenager abducted by a stranger every week.

I read every single text. That's the deal we have here. It's not about trusting my son, it's about trusting you. I learn a lot from your texts and the timing of them as well. If you wouldn't voice your texts in front of me, please don't text it!

Don't play with Josh's emotions. He doesn't know you well. He has a good head on his shoulders and isn't about to become your boyfriend because he likes the idea of being liked. He wants to know you. He wants to be friends.

I'm learning what kind of girl you are. Remember, I read those texts! The fact that you text at midnight tells me something. Playing with his emotions tells me a whole lot more.

Let me learn something great about you.

Something meaningful! I know you have good in you!

😊 + 😊 = ❤️ ??

Umm who is this?

Ur new girl ❤️

I don't know who this is

You know who I am 😊

What is your name I don't know who this is

I go to your school 😊

Top secret

You know who I am

I do not

Yes I even know your sis

What's her name

It would be no fun if I told you that 😊

Ok then I don't talk to strangers sooo

But I'm not a stranger



THE THING ABOUT EASTER

I thought 'let's lighten things up a bit for Easter' so naturally I Googled it. Yes, for teens - it was a tragic gift list: Fun, non-candy items for Easter baskets for teens: gift cards, nostalgic kid toys (wind-up cars, Lego men, yoyos), gum, themed baskets (nail spa, music list, hair, etc), nail polish, lip gloss, ear buds (what?), iTunes gift card, sunglasses, perfume or cologne, toothbrush, smelly pens, glitter glue? What just happened!! Perhaps they are right, Easter is not for Teens or children. Adults think they can't hack it.



Poem for Easter

by Steve Turner

Tell me:

What came first
Easter or the egg?
Crucifixion
or daffodils?
Three days in a tomb
or four days in Paris?
(returning Bank Holiday Monday).

When is a door
not a door?
When it is rolled away.
When is a body
not a body?
When it is a risen.

Question.
Why was it the Saviour rode on the cross?

Answer.
To get us
to the other side.

-
Behold I stand.
Behold I stand and what?
Behold I stand at the door and
knock knock.

WHAT IS THE REAL MEANING OF EASTER BY THE WAY?

All of the Christian faith depends on it. It's not just that Jesus was crucified, but he was. Vast numbers of Roman criminals were crucified. It wasn't just that his mother was a virgin, but she was. It was something harder to believe, in fact Jesus said happy is the person who does believe it without seeing it with their own eyes.

Before you decide, do the scientific thing and look at the evidence, and there is plenty, and follow it where leads. Jesus was dead but became alive. It was the ultimate sign that he was who he was. He was the WORD in John's description 'In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.'

Jesus was the 'face of the faceless'. We are the faceless. The nobility in Rome had 'faces', their pedigree, the ordinary people and slaves did not. That's why they loved him and the nobility did not. They could not stand the thought of God as a slave.

We are the faceless. God himself stood for the faceless to prove his love.

He could have made all our wishes come true but that would only prove his power over us, not love for us. So He gave up Himself.



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FREE TO BE ME

Who wants to be told what to do? I mean, at all? "I am free to choose anything I want, it's my life" people say. Some people even choose destructive lifestyles like debt, drugs, alcohol and yes, even death is an option now. In Canada a law is being made right now to compel doctors to kill a person if they qualify for it. That is a very modern idea of freedom. Whoever thought that was true freedom? Answer, Canada. In practice your modern total freedom turns out to be rather sad, mad, and not much more than freedom to shop or die!

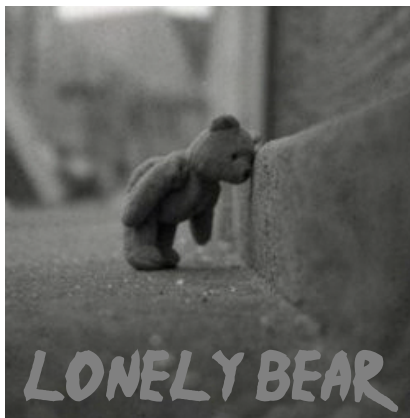
There is a down side to this new way of being free - loneliness. It can turn people into just a number of separate individuals each doing their own thing, the opposite of community. In Sweden it is reported that people increasingly live alone, have children alone and die alone, and where help is supplied solely through official channels. You don't cry on a friend's shoulder, you fill out a form. Don't let that be you!

In the in the UK, almost one person in three reported feeling lonely, not just the old and housebound but young and old alike.

So what's changed? People used to find community at church but now that has gone out of fashion. Now the Government tries to make us good but they cannot make us friends. Their new hate-speech laws cannot make us love each other. They divide us even more rather than creating the social bonds that we all need. Is the Christian guidance to 'Love Thy Neighbour' really just a TV joke?

Answer: we need to 'love one another' to foster that human necessity of community. That was the beautiful thing about Christianity, it gave us the reason to love the lonely and the unlovely by setting the example.

If you want to learn how not to be lonely then be willing to give up a little of your modern-style freedom and start thinking about making wise choices. "False visions of freedom are highways to slavery, and true freedom is to be found in self-mastery and virtue."—ROBERT P. GEORGE



The choices we make are the stories we tell

