

Dear Denise,

Jackie has contacted me and told me that you would like to have contact with me. I can't begin to tell you how this makes me feel. It was always my dream and wish that this day would come. Now that it has I'm a little scared but a part of me is at peace finally. I want you to know that you were always in my thoughts all these years and I prayed for your happiness always. From what I have been told you are happy and that alone means alot to me. This letter is very hard for me to write and I don't want to rush everything at you so I'm gonna start with the most important step and that is try to explain why I did put you up for adaption. I was nineteen

years old, unmarried. I thought I was in love at the time but I wasn't. I couldn't marry a person that way and know that some time down the road it would cause alot of hurt and anger and people end up getting hurt. I also didn't believe in abortion and still don't to this day. I knew there was people out there who wanted children and couldn't have them and here I was pregnant and felt that I could give this life inside of me to someone who could & wanted to love and share their life with. All I could give you was love and that a mother, father and family was what I wanted for you. I was never ashamed of being pregnant and unmarried. I had no complications in carrying you to full term or in

giving birth. After you were born I had time to think things through some more. I was very torn in what to do and made a decision that I couldn't go through life not ever knowing what you looked like or holding you. I'll never forget the day I held you in my arms thinking about what was best for you and the crying I did. When I handed you back to them and walked away was one of the hardest things to do but I felt I was doing the right thing. The day I signed the papers giving you up was also very hard as I felt it was the end and in another way I knew it was the right beginning for you. I'm not asking forgiveness because I feel I haven't done you wrong but I am hoping you under-

stand. what I did was give life  
to you and give a very special gift  
from me to your family. As I write  
this I wonder what you look like  
and hope that in the near future  
we can become very special to each  
other. If you have any questions for  
me just ask and I will answer them  
the best that I can. In my next  
letters to you I will tell you more  
about myself and my life. I would  
like to tell you tho- that I am  
married to a wonderful person  
and he did know about you before  
we married. He is a very warm,  
caring, compassionate person. He told  
me that he had prayed all these  
years for this to happen to the two  
of us. I anxiously await to receive  
a letter from you. Love you  
Aunt