

My Big Brother

for Ken from April
6/15/97

Big Brother, do you know you're my hero?
I'm not sure you do.
You may not be able to see it in my eyes
When I look at you.

I may never have told you how much
I depend on you being there.
Sometimes that in itself is enough
To calm my fears.

I don't remember so much about when we were small.
Just glimpses, I see from here,
Remind me that you were there.
A few old pictures and stories we share.

Maybe I don't want to remember,
Big brothers can be such a big bother.
They pester so!
Sometimes, I think, just to see what will happen,
Sometimes to teach,
Trying so hard to make sure 'little sister'
Won't embarrass them somehow,
For the rest of their lives like she does now!

I looked up to you, I am sure,
A little sister does.
I watched you with your friends,
You had so many, and I had so few,
wanting to be part of it
watching what you do.

I'm not sure when it started, this feeling that,
With you there, I am not lost and alone.
Probably some time when I was in High School
After you'd married and gone.

I needed you then, like I never did before
With more than one insurmountable problem.



You were there with the solution
Offering me a way to face them.



But it's more than that,
It's the life you live
I've watched you all along
I watched you struggle,
I watched you learn
You never gave up.
You found your strength and
Watching you helped me find mine, too.
I'm watching you still.



I'm not sure when it started, but I remember
understanding the concept of
An older brother, named Jesus,
Who watches and protects.



An all wise brother
who would lay down his life,
if need be, just for me
Without anything special in return I could give,
Just my love, my sisterhood,
Maybe a life of adoration and quite devotion.



Some concepts in this earthly life
are difficult for me to understand
like father, husband, wife, mother
But there is one that I have no problem understanding
I have a wonderful example,
I see in you, of Older Brother.



Ken,
It's Father's Day today and I wanted you to know how I feel about you. Having some of the same problems because of our shared heritage and environment I wanted you to know you give me hope of overcoming my problems. You and I may not have always seen the best example of what a mom & dad should do but we can keep trying. You give me another reason to keep on going.

Happy Father's Day, 6/15/97
I love you,
April