

Dear Nicholas Sparks,

Your emotional and insightful book, *A Walk to Remember*, has given me a glimpse into the ever-changing human soul. *A Walk to Remember* reminds the reader that a person can change, and even start over. Since I have finished reading this touching book, I have changed my view on life. Life is like a coin, and can only be spent once.

As I was reading *A Walk to Remember*, I was reminded of the value and the price of life. It dawned on me that I could influence the lives of my peers through kindness and understanding, like Jamie. Jamie helped Landon, a struggling seventeen year-old boy, put his life into perspective. Landon's self-image transforms, and suddenly he begins to make decisions with his heart rather than his mind. Having realized this, I set my plan into action. I chose my words more carefully when I spoke, trying to be more meaningful and perceptive. When I saw others were being bullied, I walked up to them and defended my peers. Like Landon, I felt as if I was becoming a different person—someone who was new and strange to me.

After leaving my quiet private school and transferring to a public education, I found myself lost, just as Landon did. He was trying to choose between his old friends and Jamie. I needed a lifeline. I was lonely and had no one who understood my feelings.

At last, after finding some considerate friends who were there for me, I felt comfortable and at home, as if I didn't have to search any further. It was the turning point for me—the beginning of my transformation.

In my private school, it was rare to find someone being troublesome or hurtful to another person. But in my public school, I found there was more chaos, possibly because there were more children to look after. Suddenly, I could help by being reflective—showing my peers how their actions could be unkind. Just as Jamie showed Landon how he could appreciate life by helping others, I could make a difference in the lives of my classmates.

Thank you for writing such a moving book. I hope that I have changed the lives of my peers, just as Jamie healed Landon when he was in need of a doctor for more than a broken heart.

Sincerely,

*Emily Auday*