

BEFORE YOU

by Trisha Kehoe

Surely my life was empty, before you came into it; without a natural source of strength or radiance. I didn't always want to be the best I could be, didn't always wake up feeling good about myself.

But, you nourished me, cleansed me and restored me. You gave back all I could be, with you at my side, believing in me. The value of emotions I thought gone forever, you returned into my hands. You've taken photographs of me with your eyes, loved me with your smile.

I can only say I love you by staying with you, by caring for you as you cared for me. When darkness and death gathered all about me, you were there, you were my strength, the rock on which I built all my shining, new hopes ... and dreams.

The only gifts I can truly give you are words; words of understanding you as you are, accepting you as you are, not as how you wish to be, for me. By always being honest with you, trusting you never to hurt me or cause me pain that need not be caused.

We are like the two halves of a single heart. A dream that never happens ... and has.