

# *Lonely Child*



by  
Linda Beaupré

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When I was young  
I had a son  
But I was worried  
I would raise him wrong  
Since I was so young.



I would say to myself  
That God was around  
And He would help me  
when things went wrong.  
But things didn't go well  
For me or my son  
Behaviour problems  
is what begun.  
He would hit and yell  
all day long,  
It's a wonder I'm still around,

But I stuck to my guns

And didn't let things  
get me down

I've seen doctors  
and tutors  
Counselors and all,

And they would say

"Nothing is wrong  
with you or your son".





My mom as pretty as she is

And bright at times

I found it hard to get

close enough

To tell her how I felt.

She is very headstrong

And loves her grandson

But has her own life to run

I wasn't about to let her know

how I felt

Especially since my father

had gone.



The days would go by

And all I could do  
was cry.

The men in my life  
were so surprised  
I was so young  
and raising a son  
They would say  
good-bye.

But it was okay by me

For my son came first



But I still cry  
and wonder why  
I was so hurt inside.

My son and I  
would move around  
Town to town  
and always hide.



The biggest fear I had  
at the time  
Was my son's father would  
come to town  
His pleasure would be  
To go on a drunk  
And throw me around.

I wasn't about to let my son

Be raised my a man

Who didn't give a damn.

I let my marriage end.



I'm twenty now,  
my son is four  
My life is better than before

Being a single parent  
didn't help  
But I realize now  
what life is about.

Linda Beaupré is living in Brampton, Ontario with her son, Giles, who is now 5 years old.

She is continuing to write about her life through poetry.

Karen Sutor is a free-lance illustrator currently living in Toronto, Ontario. She is also a tutor with East End Literacy.

East End Literacy is a small, community-based reading centre in downtown Toronto. Through one-to-one tutoring and small group classes, it aims to provide adults with a good educational alternative to the traditional classroom. Adult learners are encouraged to write about their own life experiences and interests. E. E. L. works with English-speaking Canadians and newcomers.

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