

~~Dear Sea,~~  
Dear Sea, I remember the first time I saw you as a child... I only had the opportunity to go only at 10 years old and before I turned 10 I imagined every kind of way the sea could have been and I wrote it all up ~~in~~ in my ~~childhood~~ childhood diary. I imagined you big and smooe, ~~deep~~ deeper or low... but now... after 40 years I can still feel the biggest emotions and sensations I've ever felt in my life. ~~and so~~ So I decided to write about it. ~~and so~~

~~and~~ when I go to the sea, with my sons, they always ask me how it was ~~seeing~~ seeing the sea for the first time, and I always tell them how ~~it~~ it was the first time I tried to swim in it. ~~It~~ <sup>It</sup> was ~~choking~~ <sup>choking</sup>! But then, the fear of choking became smaller than ~~my~~ <sup>almost</sup> my brave and made ~~to~~ it to swim!

So, thank you, my dear sea, for teaching me <sup>A</sup> to beat my fear every time and to find a way to be stronger, and thank you for being my anger, sadness, and ~~source~~ source of anxiety ~~and~~ relief ~~and~~ when I see, hear and feel you, every day.

~~Thank you.~~  
Thank you.

My dear sea,

it's been 10 years since you changed my life forever, since you saved me and my ~~mother~~ mom.

I was just a child when I had to leave all my toys at home and go away... it was a Monday night... I was sleeping when my mom went and told me to wake up because it was dangerous to stay there, at my home.

Then, an hour later, I saw you.

You were calm, a little boat was waiting for us, there were so much people for just a little boat.

It would 've become my house for a while.

The travel ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> long, not easy at all. someone died, someone lived, but we all had the same dream: to be happy and safe.

After a long time, we saw the port, and we all cried.

You saved me, you gave me a new life here in Italy,

I'm happy now, I have friends and a house.

It has not been easy, especially for my mom, but she's a strong woman, and she has DONE it.

I ~~was~~ will always owe you one, we <sup>all</sup> will.

Thank you.

Dear Sea,


I was thinking about you today.

In fact, today is the day where you saved my life. Indeed<sup>a</sup> in August 2009 you ~~wen~~ thanks to you. A military ship went

to my Country as a support for the war. Without you, I would be dead, I'm very grateful, ~~to~~ ~~all~~ ~~of~~ my family. When the troops arrived on earth, it was a relief. This battle marked our history. It ~~is~~ destroyed our community and our legacy. ~~Some~~ of several children died there.

I know that I'm lucky given that all my family was saved at the last moment. The privates of this navy who came in reinforcement, freed them from hell. Since my parents were on the beach ready to be shot.

I cannot thank you enough.



Dear sea,

when I see you from far away

I can't help but be ~~feel~~ filled with emotions.

If the sun look at himself in your crystal clear body,  
the calmness in me return from that little room in my body,  
your unmistakable smell that ~~can give me the salt and the sand~~ <sup>let me</sup>  
let me feel the salt on my skin the sand on my feet,  
in your sound I can find the quiet that I achieve every day,  
and the ~~far~~ ~~from~~ from your waves ~~can~~ create seem to reach  
me, be closer to me.

But when I'm the one close to you, I can't help but be  
astonished by your ~~so~~ ~~unreachable~~ unreachable limits,  
If I can't see my feet under you, I feel like I don't exist,  
~~to~~ I try to lay on you, to trust <sup>in</sup> you ~~rocking~~ lulling me  
in the warm hug that you, mother of the nature ~~is~~ want  
to give to us.

But when the wind comes across us and you start to get  
nervous, I start to rock like a boat,

I lose control, I can't help it,  
Your waves ~~start~~ want to crush me with force,  
I can't find a shelter in you anymore.  
I feel the water in my eyes, in my mouth,  
I feel ~~panic~~ panic all over my body.

Oh sea, don't do this to me, bring me peace, bring  
me love, bring me home.

My dear sea,

We've know each other for seventeen years now and for all of these you've always been a mystery to me. You have too many secrets that nobody knows, like a trunk that you can't open. Inside you you carry a huge number of souls, some who are fighting for their lives or others who have lost themselves looking for it. For many you remain the only escape route for the search for a better life. You're rich in unknown life forms that I'm really afraid of. Don't take it if I won't be able to get to know you in full one day but you're the home of too many monstrous creatures, big or small, who get angry if ~~to~~ you invade their territory. Keep them with love.

- your little stranger