

adorável

FEBRUARY 6, 2013

*Letter To
An Angel*

**MY LOVE
TO YOU**

**THE PERFECT
HARVEST:
TIMING IS
EVERYTHING**

**what comes
to mind...**

MY SANDRALINA

FOR THE #1 WOMAN IN MY LIFE

\$7.99



0 726372 456888 0



adorável

The next level of relationship is here.

THE PERFECT HARVEST:

TIMING IS EVERYTHING

by Tiffany Barrow

Farmers always prepare themselves and their tools for that one, special time of the year when they are able to grow their delicious field of fruits and vegetables. Preparation for a bountiful harvest must not be left until the last hour. Harvesting at the correct time allows for peak flavor and good storage. Let's look at the apple for example. Most apples are ready to pick when they separate easily from the tree as you give it a gentle lift and twist. Some who are still unsure of the ripeness may take a bite. Under ripe apples will taste green or starchy, ripe ones will be sweet and juicy, while overripe apples get mealy.

So what, who cares about how an apple is grown, where it takes place or any preparation of such? Well this definitely applies to us as Christians believing that God's timing has been, is, and will always be correct. Sometimes in life we tend to go out looking for the right car or even the right companion for us to settle down with and we tend to fail on our own part. It's as if we are farmers searching for that ripe apple in a large orchard. We can all attest to having some bad pickings, whether it was too early or too late, our execution of releasing the apple from the tree was simply incorrect. However when we let God guide our hearts, minds, and souls, we end up with that one sweet, juicy apple.

And so today, I truly believe that God's guidance has allowed my brother (the farmer) to find his one, true, succulent apple of his eye, Madame Sandra Evora. Not only is she intelligent, successful and outgoing, she's also a loving sister, aunt, caring daughter, a friend that's easy to talk to but extremely cool. Most of all, I realize that she truly loves the Lord with all her heart; striving to be a Proverbs 31 woman, which is something I do admire. I have no absolutely idea what the future holds for the farmer, his orchard, and the apple of his eye, but I do pray that God continues to shower down blessings upon both.



"Not only is she intelligent, successful and outgoing, she's also a loving sister, aunt, caring daughter, a friend that's easy to talk to but extremely cool."

by Jessica

A Nights Tale

This story begins like so many others, at the house of the Evoras. Sandra had invited us for a movie night followed by a sleepover. There that night were Sandra, Nuris, Nelly, Jessica, William and Marvin. We rented scary movies, among them was the Exorcist which we didn't watch because it was in French. After a couple of movies the boys went home and the girls kept watching movies until dawn. None of us slept that night and at 6 am we had so much energy that one of us had the very bright idea of going jogging. We weren't really the most athletic bunch and would never have gone jogging on a normal day so clearly we were not thinking at all but off we went jogging on that morning trying not to wake the parents. We jogged down the street, to the park and through a neighbour's garden. Yes that's right all four of us stomped on flowers someone

had planted with much care. That is for sure one of the meanest things we have ever done! Then we came back to the house and after telling Manuela what we did minus the whole stomp the yard thing, the first thing that pops out of her mouth is "You girls are so stupid!". It wasn't the first or the last time she would say that to us but we knew she loved us. Why did we know that? Because she then made us pancakes! Not too long after we ate the four musketeers that were full of energy went up to Sandra's room and totally crashed from pure exhaustion. When we woke up and Manuela saw us looking dishevelled she suggested we go home before our parents start calling looking for us. I hope we have at least one tenth of the patience Manuela had for us whenever our kids start bringing their friends around.

SHE'S COOL AS A CUCUMBER

by Nigel Adams



So this chick huh? She's cool like cool breeze on a hot summer day. You can even say she's cool like a cucumber. Why am I comparing her to a Cucumber? Alright. Let me tell you why. But first, what does it mean to be cool.

The urban dictionary says it like this. Cool means: A word to use when you don't know what else to say. But wait there's more! "Cool" means Superior, desirable, worthy of approval, in or beyond the current style; in harmony with an ineffable sophistication, graceful despite pressure, relaxed, calm, low-key, mellow, agreeable, trustworthy, under self-control, reconciled, above and beyond a situation. I really hope you took a deep breath to read all of that!

Ah yes, back to the cucumbers. Most people tend to forget the importance of this vegetable. Cucumbers contain most of the vitamins you need every day. Just one cucumber contains Vitamin B1, Vitamin B2, Vitamin B3, Vitamin B5, Vitamin B6, Folic Acid, Vitamin C, Calcium, Iron, Magnesium, Phosphorus, Potassium and Zinc. Feeling tired in the afternoon, put down the caffeinated soda and pick up a cucumber. Cucumbers are a good source of B Vitamins and Carbohydrates that can provide that quick pick-me-up that can last for hours.

Tired of your bathroom mirror fogging up after a shower? Try rubbing a cucumber slice along the mirror, it will eliminate the fog & provide a soothing, spa-like fragrance.

So why all this cucumber talk? Well, when you find someone you love; you basically found your cucumber. Sandra is everything that Sean needs in his life. She has all the nutrients and vitamins that will keep him healthy all the days of his life. When Sean is feeling down and he needs a pick me up; Sandra is that girl. When situations go bad and life seems foggy; she keeps calm and collective.

So this chick huh? Yeah, She's Cool like a Cucumber!

Happily Forever After..



NEVER TOO FAR....

by Charlene Johnson

I am not sure how I should begin this. I will say that, I know, from personal experience, that we are blessed to meet people who come into our lives and have the ability to make a wonderful impact in such a short span of time. I am not only proud, but happy to say that I have been blessed with quite a few people like that, and Miss Sandra Évora.

I can say that Sandra and I became closer friends the year she was training me to do the job she was doing, at the company who shall remain nameless for the sake of my sanity, lol. There would be days where little training was done and it was just long talks, talks that included gift advice (due to it being the holidays), regular advice, encouragement, and more advice. I can say Sandra is one reason why I have my driver's license today, if it wasn't for her, I would have never signed up to Rosie's driving class and would have kept putting off going and getting my license. Just one of the many great pieces of advice she has given me over the years that has helped me in my life.

She has also always been someone to look up to. Hope you don't mind me saying this Sandra, but it takes an amazing and strong woman, to be able to rise out of some of the situations you have been in. I can hear you saying right now that you're not perfect, but you don't have to be perfect to be able to recognize a bad situation and get yourself out of it. Now Sandra and I both know that I definitely can take a few notes from her book...lol, you know I love you girl!

Sandra is one of those friends who, you may not hear from in weeks and when you do speak its like you have spoken every day from the last time you spoke. No matter what province we're in. She is the type of person that no matter what you can have going on in your life, whether it be good or bad, she is there. She will always take the time out, whether it be via BBM or phone or email, to make sure that you're alright and everything is going good in your life. And if there is bad stuff going on in your life, she is right there to help you through it.

I know this may seem like such a great friendship, what about the bad? Another great blessing that is sometimes extremely rare is the fact you can meet someone and even if you disagree on something, there is no bad vibes, no malice. That's Sandra! :) I don't remember ever having a fight or an argument with this girl and I am truly grateful for that.

I am going to end this by saying, like I said at the beginning of this, I have been truly blessed to have met a amazing person like Sandra. She has truly impacted my life in a great way. And all i really wanted to say was THANK YOU! Thank you for being that woman I can look up to, thank you for being someone who I can go to when I need help. Thank you for being there when I needed you, thank you for just being there, period, good or bad. Thank you for the good times...and the...good times, lol, and I look forward to the many more good times our friendship will entail.

"A friend will never be in your way, unless you're falling down." I think that quote definitely applies to you. Xoxo

Love you Sandarandy!!!!

Love always,
Charlymarley

Just another evening. There I was, lying in the sofa. And Sparky, well he was sitting in a chair as we watched TV together. I remembered how Sean had arrived that evening with a girlfriend and casual said "Mom, dad, this is my friend Sandra." We both said exchanged greetings with her and few minutes later they left the room. We did not think anything of it at that time. Sometime later I had asked Sean about her, and found out he had been talking to her for about a year or so. I realized this is what he does before dating anyone. One thing I must say about Sean, he is not a flirt and is honest in his relationships.

As time progressed I learned many things about Sandra. One of the first of those things was that she sings as well as plays piano. That was more than enough to make me ask her to join the Apple Creek Cantata Mass Choir, which she accepted. From there she came to the house a couple Sabbaths for lunch and that is when I got to know more about her. This young lady seemed independent. I recall this particular Sabbath when we had choir practice. Everyone went to a particular home for lunch and Sandra said she will not be going with any of them because they would not make it back to the church on time for practice. That Sabbath she came to our home and went to practice with me on time, and just as she said, the rest of them arrived late.

Sandra depends on no one to get things done. She is punctual and very pleasant. We like her a lot, she seems like a no nonsense person, yet very kind and helpful. I had the chance of meeting her parents and they seem to be a very nice couple. I told her, her dad looks like a hardworking man and her mom very supportive of him. From that one meeting I concluded that she came from a decent, Christian family.

There is so much more to Sandra. Here's a quick snippet from my list of great qualities:

She is a genuinely a nice person, with a great personality.

She is very interesting and intelligent.

She is very independent and easy to get along with.

She would make a wonderful daughter-in-law.

She's always good company

She can hold an intelligent conversation.

She seems to be an organized person.

She is committed and dedicated when given a task. I recall in the winter when we had choir practice, she would take the bus and arrive on time at church, or she would come to my house in order to get a ride with me to ensure getting to practice on time. After practice she would insist on traveling by bus on those cold nights to go from Markham to the West end. I would not allow her to take the bus at any time after choir practice, but the gift in that is it gave us time to bond as we travel to her home. Those talks in the van gave us another couple of opportunities to open up a little more to each other.

Plain and simply put, Sandra is a lot of fun to be with. I am so glad Sean met a wonderful girl like you. I know both of you have an intimate relationship with God. As long as you continue to let Him live and lead in your lives, you have nothing to fear. Continue to make God the center of your lives and your relationship.

Love always,

Pretha and Sparky
Mom and Dad

JUST ANOTHER EVENING....

by Pretha Burrow

A man and a woman are dancing together against a plain white background. The man, on the left, is wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie. He is smiling and looking towards the woman. The woman, on the right, is wearing a black, sleeveless, deep V-neck dress. She is also smiling broadly and looking towards the camera. Her right arm is raised, and she is holding the man's hand. The overall mood is joyful and romantic.

Truth is...

I just want to
make you
smile.

A Camporee Encounter

by Lethisha Andrews

So everyone knows we have some interesting stories about childhood and growing up. Of particular interest within the Adventist community are those stories centered around Pathfinder Camporee. I can't remember which year it was but I couldn't have been more than 12 when our club went to Val D'Espoir for camp one summer. Of course this was our opportunity to meet new people; especially 'boys' who we thought were cute. What the heck did we see in these dudes back then?

Anyway, I distinctly recall the Spanish club. They had the cutest boys as well as some of the most tantalizing and interesting snacks one of which I'll never forget but looking back, I realize it was nothing more than juice in a bag lol. Yet, for some reason, when it was being handed out, the anticipation of goodness melting in your mouth was equivalent to that of hearing the ice cream truck's chime on the streets of New York.

This snack was called 'Charamuscas;' 'Chimichanga' you say, 'no CHARAMUSCAS.' This awesome snack was introduced to me by none other than this cute, dark bushy haired girl from the Spanish club with a radiant smile. That's how I remember her when I first met her. I thought she was the nicest, prettiest girl I'd ever met because she got me the best snack on that campsite Chara-chara whatever lol! Her name was and still is (thank God she's still alive, I'll tell you why shortly) Sandra Maria Evora.

From that point on I can only remember our paths crossing back at Wagar High School, and that was but a short period of time because she disappeared for a couple of years, moving back to Toronto. Then she returned to good old Montreal for educational purposes and we reconnected. I guess now would be a good time to mention why I said "thank God she is still alive." There are two reasons for this. The first is because she became my accountability buddy. It's very rare that you find someone as REAL and RAW as Sandra. Her love is genuine and pure. You can trust her honesty whole heartedly and although it may hurt, the tenderness in her voice, straight up no nonsense look or "you're a mofo" laugh is delivered with a lot of love. The second is welllllll... Sandra is VERY resourceful in more ways than one and she is VERY practical. That being said, she likes to get involved, you know, like get her hands dirty.

Her and I used to plan activities for our significant others back in the day and one time we all went away and well it was "that time of the month" so I just ruled out swimming altogether since I wasn't tampon savvy. Mz. Evora however, is the resource queen and she was ready and willing to give me a personal 411 tutorial...LIVE lolol! This is just one of the many reasons why she and I will always be sisters. It's because she gets down and dirty and I know that although life has dealt her lemons her perseverance and tenacity produced the finest of lemonade. I love you Sandra and I pray that God will grant you the desires of your heart. In fact, he already has.

Sandrita mi hermanita,

by Martha Castillo

You are such a beautiful intelligent woman Sandrita. since we were children you were always a leader I looked up to you and to this day i still do I love you.

I will never forget all the times you helped me through the the darkest moments in my life and you have also been there to celebrate the happiest moments in my life.

I am so thankful to our parents and God that we were able to meet.

I cannot wait for my wedding to have you as one of my bridesmaids as you stand for me like the true friend you have always been. God has a plan for you and i cannot wait for your showers of blessing.

I love you Sandrita

SINCERE - When I ask you for advice you are as honest you can be.

AMAZING - Woman of many talents

NICE - Always kind, loving and nicely dressed!

DETERMINED - When she wants something she always puts her heart and soul to it!

RELIABLE - Never misses her friends birthdays events etc and travels long ways for those she loves.

ATENTIVE - Always makes sure that her family and friends are well. She will always listen and be there with her undivided attention when needed.



Jeremiah and Kamora

me and
SANDRA
GOING
MFG ARE
-KAMORA USE
KAMORA-



I think that
sandra is a very
nice and pretty girl.

Jeremiah

LOTS OF LOVE

JUST A THOUGHT...

When I look at Sandra I see a grounded and focused individual with a soul just as beautiful as she is on the outside. I find she is genuine and easy to get along with. We have shared a few laughs, talks and glasses lol! One thing I must say is she gives a nice warm loving hug when needed, just like her guy. I pray that the Lord will continue to bless her.

by Keisha Barrow

HI SANDRA,

We have met at a few family occasions and I found you to be very pleasant, and a good fit into the family. For a young woman to go to another place and bike ride across a foreign country take a lot of courage and a good sense of self. I look forward to seeing you at family occasions and having more talks.

by Loreen Barrow

LETTER TO AN ANGEL

When I think of a strong, independent, loyal, kind-hearted, successful, smart, generous, graceful and caring woman I think of my dear cousin Sandra Evora. Sandra, you have been there for me in ways that you do not even know and I am forever thankful. You are a true angel that God has placed on this earth and I am forever grateful. There are way too many memories to share but specifically I will have to say the most memorable for me will be our trip to the Bahamas. All of our laughs and adventures will be cherished. Sandra you have grown into a beautiful woman and I am truly proud of everything that you have accomplished. Sean is one lucky guy! It is true what they say "match made in heaven" both you and Sean are perfect for each other! I am so happy that you have found someone who is compatible with you mentally and spiritually. I love you both and am looking forward to being a witness in your amazing journey ahead. As Genesis would say... "I love my prima and my Seany" LOL xoxoxoxoxo!

by Alana Marinhos

A WOMAN WITH QUALITIES TO ADMIRE

So that's kind of corny but those are all words that come to mind when I think about the kind of person you are. I know we haven't known each other very long but from the first day I was introduced to you we've just clicked. I never feel awkward around you and I considered you a part of my extended family along with the Barrows, very quickly.

I know we're not super-duper close, but I do admire the qualities of a woman you do portray and I wish you all the Lords blessings in everything you set out to do in life. One of my favourite bible verses are Psalm 91:1-16 in which the Bible reminds us that the Lord will never leave us until his job is complete. If you're not familiar with it, read it and in time of any doubt or worry, remember those words.

The world needs more sweet, attractive, nice, dependable, real and admirable women out there! <3 xoxo.

by Danielle Brown

SWEET
ATTRACTIVE
NICE
DEPENDABLE
REAL
ADMIRABLE

SANA: THE TRUE STORIES

by Nelly Meza

Words were never spoken, yet we swore to secrecy that whatever stupidities happened amongst ourselves would stay amongst us. So I must weigh my words wisely for my life depends on it. Nah I'm spilling the goods. SanaBanana, so many memories, where to start? Oh yes, this is a good one. Sana, Nuris, Jess and I were together on a bus ride to church and as usual we were very loud and annoying to those around us, I suppose. As we got ready to get off the bus we started singing O Canada at the top of our lungs and as we exited the bus 3 guys walked by, as we oh so proudly sing our national anthem. We realized they were staring at us and we quickly and in perfect synchronization came to a halt; and immediately try and act normal. Bad attempt for they were already looking at us as if we were crazy. 1 of my favorite memories was when we were in High School and oh I wait, I can't say that it's not Kosher, how about this one. I'm 14 years old and I tell Sandra I want to dye my hair to which she replies:

Come to my house after school (which, by the way was an hour detour from my house) I have just the thing and I know how to do it and it won't cost you a penny (Me: Sweet!). So we get to the house and we lock ourselves in the bathroom and I say: you sure you know what you are doing? Oh yeah, trust me; which I did and still do. Well Miss Sandra proceeded to empty a bottle of peroxide on my hair. YAH just great, after 30 minutes I came out looking like an orange mop to what Sandra says it's not so bad if you put gel in it as we exited the bathroom MANUELA looked at us and says her famous line: are you guys stupid? What's wrong with your hair? Thanks Sandra.

Oh yes! Every now and then we'd go out and get hungry and eat out. Well this one time it was Jess, Sandra and myself so we stopped at Pizza Hut and ordered a thin crust pizza, cause Jessica was picky about the dough, anyway, you know how it goes, you order, you eat, and then you pay the bill. Oh yes, the BILL arrives and Sandra says: who's paying this time, Jess and I look at each other and probably thinking the same thing: we thought you were gonna pay. Sandra was like: No way, no one has money? Seriously?!?! So we pull out our sad wallets and it seems like all we have is loose change. So we gather our 5¢, 25¢, pennies and loonies Yay! Well needless to say the waiter got no tip. Oh and what about the year we decided to get our ears secretly pierced. Wait am I not supposed to say this story? Oh well, so we go Down Town and it's go time. You being you, give me the good example and go first and get the top part of your ear pierced. And then it is my turn and I'm like: yah, I think I'll pass, you just rolled you eyes at me. Oh the love we share, fun times. But my all time favorite memory is when we were like 8 or 9. My sister Nuris & I had a sleep over at your house. So it was probably around the middle of the night when your brothers were fast asleep down stairs, your parents were snoozing in the other room beside us and your grandma was sleeping in the other room with Jonathana. And here we are in the middle room supposed to be sleeping but no. Nuris and I are, as usual, fighting and you are trying to solve whatever the problem was. I'm calling her a dumb dumb, she's calling me a dumb dumb and you're constantly telling us to be quiet or your dad will come beat us. Lol. And then I threaten to leave cause I refuse to sleep in the same place as Nunu. And then you say and where exactly do you think you are going in the middle of the night and I say home. You shush me cause your dad makes some noise and then you say: oh just stop talking to each other and go to sleep already and fight another day before we all get in trouble with Dad. Psst what about the time we secretly TATTOOED our oh right it "never happened"

So remember when we thought we were cool tweens because we were. This one time we were at my house and it was all 5 of us. Karla, Nuris, Jessica, you and myself. As usual we were hungry and decided to make sandwiches and remember we were cool so it was fitting that our sandwiches be cool too. So whose idea this was I can't remember but we all took stuff out of the fridge, the cupboards and made an awesome sandwich with mayo, mustard, lettuce, cold meats, cheese, ships, corn syrup, and cookies and we all sat around the table and acted like it was the best meal we ever had. Can we all please admit it after 20years, that it was gross. Seriously gross.

So I kept it kosher right? All in all Sandra is a great friend, sister always ready to help, listen, and try and solve whatever dilemma was created, while eating some cereals on the couch under some comfy comforters. I love every moment we spent together the good the bad & the hairy. I know I have a true friend in you. Love you like a sister, but never peroxide my hair again. Ever. Seriously.

Gotta Luv Her



I keep trying to pick a memory. To pinpoint that one special moment that is the true essence of what you mean to me. But I can't, as there are too many special moments to pick from. All I really see is how you have always been there for me as a friend, sister, guardian angel and on many occasions as the one in the front row pointing and laughing at me because I tripped and fell or some other silly thing. With that being said I have a few more things I want to add so I'm going start with:

1987

February to be exact, as that was when we first became friends 26 years ago and that was a very important year as I can say with certainty it makes you my oldest friend.

1989

August. Pennsylvania, I know you remember this because this is where you daring me to do stuff began. Sana decided we should have an eating contest to see who could eat fastest. Needless to say it was a horrible idea. Why you may ask? 1st I threw up and she followed suit. It was one of the funniest things I wish to forget but can't seem to forget. Hahahahaha

1992

November. Remember when you dared me to climb up the Basketball post and then hang on to the rim and then jump and then when I did I broke my foot? Well I would have never thought of doing that all on my own. Just saying.

1993

August. Camp meeting in Val D'Espoir. As usual you would find us in the gym playing with the boys (We really took tomboy to a whole new level back then). A heated basketball with one of the French churches was taking place. It was just Sana and I playing against an all boys team (5on5). They were losing and getting mad real fast. No one likes losing to girls and I remember how one of the guys who must have been more than twice my size just slammed me against the wall. If it had not been for William you would have punched him in the nose for me. And that made my pain a little worth it, knowing you would beat up someone bigger than us both.

1994

I have to say this was one of my favorite and least favorite years. YOU left for Kingsway and I was left alone with you. However, the letters we shared that year were awesome, I have them and I have read them and re-read them many times since when I miss you the most.

1995

I followed you to Kingsway.

1998

You left. AGAIN!

1999

1999- October. I can't say what happened that weekend but lets just say baby mattresses are not meant for 19-year-old teenagers.

2000+

The 21st century may have had us physically separated but never really apart. A phone call or a letter always kept us in touch and it was like we had only seen each other a few hours prior. But the most important one is how you have been there for me at my darkest and hardest moments, willing to drop everything for me at a moments notice and how you have been one of my greatest Cheerleaders when I expressed my wanting to return to school. Thank you.

And that is where I will be stopping with those cute anecdotes. As there is something in particular you have done for me that I will always and forever appreciate and that is that your love for me has no bounds and the way you show it, proves without a doubt that you are not just a friend but a "Sister". Your honesty and frankness, though not always welcomed in moments of frustration are always greatly appreciated. Our 2 fights

and countless sleepovers, letters, phone conversations and repeated Birthday cards are treasures I will cherish always. Sana; Sandy; Mary Poppins; Joker; and all the other countless nicknames we have given you through the years. Gotta Luv Her!

WANT A DATE?
by Niris Meza

what comes to mind

by Janelle Lewis

What comes to mind when I think of Sandra?

Sociable

Ambitious

Natural

Debonair

Respectful

Amicable

So with these words I bring to you a poem:

It was not too long ago, a girl, who was real debonair,
Quickly caught a young man's glare.
Her sleek and natural look,
Made this guy real shook.
Ambitious, outgoing, and fun,
Her personality shun bright like the sun.
An amicable social butterfly,
Who truly got my brothers interest on the rise.
He wanted to make sure he gave it 100 percent,
So he prayed to make sure she was God sent.
He approached her with the highest regards,
Sending her cute notes, in handcrafted cards.
Respectfulness was at the top of her list,
The thought of them together was sheer bliss.
She's now incredibly into him,
Cheers go to Sean for the win!

so much more

by Natalie Barrow

Every once in a while if we're lucky we come across that person in our life that is so much more than a crush, an infatuation, or just given the title of a boyfriend or girlfriend.

Love is so much more than the words describe. It's about genuinely and completely loving someone for being who they are...it's about wanting to see them happy and wanting to see them smile. It's truly about remaining strong through the good and the rough times and knowing that we will do our part to make sure we come out on top. It's about wanting your love to be healthy so they will be around a long time, time you will spend together.

I know that you and Sean have developed a beautiful relationship filled with love.

I can promise you that Sean is a beautiful soul with a very gentle heart. It's so nice to know that the man you are with takes his relationship with you very seriously and just wants to see you happy. Just like he will take a marriage and family very seriously and make it his top priority.

I am so happy he has found you to love...you both are wonderful together. Your love is genuinely your best friend and as you grow together and expand your familythey will see your love for each other.

We wish you two so much love and a beautiful future.

Love Natalie xoxo

CLOSE TO ME

by Karla Avelar-Martinez

Sandy is not only one of my closest friends but more like a sister to me.

One of the most memorable moments with her was our first sleepover. After months of begging, our parents finally decided to let Sandy stay the night at our place and what a night it was! The girl talk, harassing my sisters and our crazy inventions always bring a smile to my face! What topped it off was getting on top of the bunk beds with all the stuffed animals and throwing them at the ceiling fan while it was on and seeing where they landed! Such a simple thing but how it cracked us up!

There is also the time we got caught smoking with the boys and we all got called after Pathfinder to be reprimended...

my dad gave us moral and we just sat there giving each other nervous looks! How weird was that! LOL

We also had this “zap” thing we used to... We connected our fingers and made this electric sound at each other whenever, wherever and for whatever reason! Hehe... ahhh also the day we went shopping to Eaton Center and took pictures on those booths from “Le Metro” looking like gangsta wannabees!! LMAO ...wow crazy funny flashbacks!

It doesn't matter the distance between us or the lack of calls, we always take it right from where we left off, as if it was yesterday. We manage to bring the best from each other but always keeping it real! I will forever cherish this from my Sandy!! ~ Gotta Love Her ~ ;)



Once I met a girl with beautiful curly hair that makes you want to will your own hair to curl up and whip it back and forth. This girl and I met in a metropolitan jungle people call Toronto. It is difficult to find a good friend in this jungle, in which politeness is a mask of cold indifference. This girl, contrary to the norm, was warm, spirited and genuine. The details of our introductions and first interactions have since blurred in my ever failing memory into something like: ‘it was at work and we were talking... maybe eating at the same time... she was friendly and quite awesome and her hair is irresistibly curly—friended!’

This friendship transcended beyond a vague workplace friendship, mostly likely because this girl is just one of

those cool people from high school that you are proud to know. Actually, she is one of those people with whom you can share your troubles, consume generous amounts of alcohol and delicious food, dance your limbs off and sit on a big kite in mid-air, towed by a sail boat. She is someone you look up to – you want to learn from her admirable work ethics, her morals, her courage to stand up for her beliefs, and her secret to growing such beautiful curly hair. This girl, still awesome, and forever my great friend, is one I continue to learn from and continue to wish the best things in life direct themselves in her direction because she deserves no less than the best. This girl goes by the name of Sandra and is one of the clan of Evora – but you can just look for the bestest, awesomest curly hair!

once i met a girl...

by Jada Fung

My Dear Sana,

by Peggy Lau

Remember those days when I stormed into your office and declared that I was afflicted with a gaseous mass in my gastrointestinal tract that needed, nay MUST, be expelled from my body, specifically in YOUR OFFICE? Not to mention those days where after a long, and very hard day pushing various stacks of paper from point A to point B (and sometimes when we are lucky, to point C) we decided to partake in the ancient ritual known to all bureaucrats as wetting our beaks (with lots of alcohol, mainly wine of the red hued persuasion?).

Sandra, we have experienced many things together, many of which I am grateful for, and others, more embarrassed about (I maintain that I was NOT that drunk when we went out for martini's and started speaking Cantonese). It is unfortunate that your office is no longer a short step away from my "open concept" desk, however, despite my absence from your office, I do still think of you often as angel to my devil, residing on my shoulder whispering moral guidance to my otherwise more devious inclinations to pull a nasty prank, or simply, my failings to control certain addictive tendencies towards certain substances (tee hee, I do try hard not to smoke anymore!).

GAH! Lets not forget the brilliant and masterful Seanathan who orchestrated this little anthology, sparking me to write my diatribe of just how awesome you are! I was adamant that "Seanathan" would stick, and while you initially did not believe me, YOU WERE ALSO USING IT LATER ON! HUZZAH!

You are an amazing friend, a fantastic person, and most of all, I admire your ability to inspire respect and reverence to you in whomever you meet. You are quick as a whip, sharp as a knife, and quite frankly, if I liked girls that way, would be all up in your BUSINESS! You never give up, are incredibly forgiving (HOW DO YOU DO IT???) and extraordinarily loyal. Most of all, I am very lucky to have a friend of your calibre (oh, and when you are famous from doing something awesome one day, don't forget the little people, namely me, when I brag that I know you and that you ACTUALLY ARE AWARE OF MY EXISTENCE!). I know that wherever you are, anytime I need a friend, I never have to hesitate to call on you, as I have done so many times before...even when I'm embarrassed and do not want to talk about things. You're so patient – a virtue I certainly do not have.

I love you Sandra!!

AWESOME

by Shanti Persaud

To my dearest Sandra, often words of friendship are not verbalized. I am so honoured to be given this opportunity to write and let you know how totally AWESOME you are. When I started at the HBS you were so warm and WELCOMING. As time progressed you became a very supportive friend, for example when my dad was ill you stood by my side in letting me know that you were there for me (THANKYOU). When anyone gives me heartache, you're my SOUNDING board. I admire the way you help me see the other perspective when often blinded my tunnel vision.

Sandra, you're a great friend and a wonderful person. You have a no nonsense attitude that I ADMIRE. You're not afraid of speaking your mind and you're a WOMAN of INDEPENDENT MEANS. Looking at the way you lead your life and the way you interact with others make me want to strive and do better. You ENLIGHTEN the crazy person that resides in me, (THANKYOU).

I love the fact that you're family ORIENTED and when I see the qualities you have as a daughter, I hope my little one grows up with the same. THANKYOU for being such an AMAZING FRIEND. Sandra is AWESOME :

A DMIRE
W ELCOMING
E NDEARING
S OUNDING BOARD
O RIENTED
M EANS
E NLIGHTEN

INDEPENDENT

my sandralina

by Alpha Ashebar

Here is my story...I moved in Canada with my small family leaving behind all my friends and started a new phase in my life but it somehow felt it was missing something A friend to talk to, to confide in. In 2009 God presented me with a wonderful person with a beautiful soul... My Sandralina!

Sandralina, I don't even know where to start or how to finish.....

Your heart is always open with genuine love and care for everyone. There is nothing fake in you... what we see in your acts is what is truly felt in your heart.

You are never afraid to speak your Mind which is often funny... And which I must say I love so much.

I also love it that you are a real family oriented person and I appreciate your respect for your parents and the values you learned from them. You are a truly remarkable human being.

We have been there for each other during some of our happy and sad times. You are a person I can open up to and can confide in you knowing that you will always come up with the answer that I am looking for and open up my mind and urge and help me to realize and do things that I always "keep for tomorrow" LOL .

I have to also mention that you are a funny gal with your hilarious quips LOL. We don't even have to say some things out loud but we somehow get into each others thoughts and laugh out loud.

May God bless you and may your life be filled with extra happiness.

They say it is very rare to find a friend like you in these days and I definitely consider myself very lucky to have you. Thank you for being my awesome friend my Sandralina!



My take on Sandra Évora by Jorge Lima Evora

I've known my sister since 1987 when she was still a little girl (that's when I met her).

I will always remember her inquisitive face that first week when we met for the first time.

She wanted to know everything about me all at once.

Luckily I was patient and answer all of them.

A lot of people call me LIMA because of her. Since she was used to call Manny JORGE, she decided that it was easier

to call me LIMA and it stuck.

Already at a young age I noticed that she was dedicated and that driven.

I remember when we had to learn the daily bible verse (verso in Spanish), she would not miss one day because she wanted to be among the best. We

the boys had a hard time because we would always forget one or two days.

She's a loyal, loving person.

There are many stories that I remember about Sandra but the one that always comes to my mind is when we were playing

hide and go seek. Manny and I were hiding in the basement behind a door and as she approached the door

Manny decided

to take a bite of his carrot.

Poor Sandra got so scared that instead of running away she jumped into the room and started screaming.

The screeching noise was so unbearable that we had to block our ears with our hands.

Love you Sis.

GOTTA LUV TRUE FRIENDS by Tinesha Adams

True friendships are rare and don't come easy. It is often a rough journey learning what a real friendship entails. When you're young you don't quite understand what it takes. Unfortunately you may miss out on quality friendships along the way. Although they require time and effort, they don't feel like work because it's something you both want. You look forward to spending time together; you value each other as people, have a great amount of respect and admiration for each other. True friends build each other up physically, emotionally and spiritually. The friendship exists because you truly like the other, not just what they can do for you. True friends are loyal and share each other's feelings during good times and bad. They are honest, even if it's not what you want to hear. Because of the trust you have in each other you know their honesty is not meant to harm but to strengthen you, make you better. Their support for each other is unwavering. They listen to each other and truly care about the other. True friendships are treasures that you should never let go.

I was fortunate enough to meet Sandra when I was old enough to understand what is required for a true friendship. When I first met her I knew there was something special about her and could see the potential for an amazing friendship. Although our first encounter was brief a seed was planted and our friendship continues to grow and blossom. Then, I knew I had to get to know her and now, I can't help but love her.

Special gift sent from up above,
Angel who's brought joy to my heart.
No conditions come with her love
Down to earth, real, right from the start.
Rare treasure, you'd only dream of
Amazing friend she tops the charts.

You gotta luv her!

~ Tinesha Adams

THE O.G. THAT IS SEAN B

by Daniel Jackman

I barely know where to start, but there must be a beginning...

At least there was for us and all of us for that matter no matter shape, colour, passion, creed or religion.

Of course all with God's precision.

None can be claimed but by Him.

I was destined to meet you...preordained you see or maybe not.

So much of life is unclear at times but one thing cannot and will not change – God.

Love and care unmatched.

I have come upon many a friend that have done their best to do as He has done before Him, myself included and have failed and fallen short of his glory.

But there are few who go through that and make another persistent, zealous push to overcome error, humbled, to put their trust in Him, to outlast the rest through their mustard seed of faith.

This is what I call a standout; an above-all-the-rest; a cream-of-the-crop individual.

And you may know one or two or many of them that have gone about their lives, and yours, in such a way that allows you to spill words as gracious as these off your lips in admiration, in sensation and pleasant awe.

I can only say for myself, that in Gods eyes he has found that in me, while I find that in others.

Time ticks, stops on 12 for no man; for no man to get it right... to get one more shot.

So we focus, press, pray, believe and fast in the hope, we one day, will find someone closer than a friend that we can see Your face in and feel the tender-hearted care you have displayed to those of the past, to us and all who come after.

We hope to enjoy the solace you offer, your comforting voice through those around us and your word wrapped in one precious person that our life can be shared with. And when this is provided unto us, through whatever circumstance we thank You. Because that task that you do so effortlessly and omnipotently is difficult and painstaking and redundant!

Thank You for breaking that never-ending cycle and blessing us with an 'Adam' or an 'eve' that compliments us to the point where we breathe and think as one. To where the pain and joy of the other is felt no matter how near or far they are.

Thank you for Sean Barrow. And from me, thank you for blessing him throughout his life in the ways that only your eyes can see.

Thank You for the friendship that has yet to cease, though many miles, time, has done its best to take away from what really is.

I tell you, you're overtaking a joy that, for myself, I've kept to myself. But I'm sure by now you have felt the sincerity, honesty, sensitivity, creativity and, longevity of the character and being who is Sean.

Continue with the small steps...trust me it can't hurt to take time, especially when your building something everlasting. Ask Jesus...spent his whole life building. He built up the minds of the people and his disciples to face trying times, tribulations, speculations, lying, cheating, wariness and, unfortunately death. Build the house as slow as possible making sure the two minds (who will become one) are at a level; that the four cornerstones are cemented well on solid rock. There is a joy after that house is built that is indescribable when it hits you one day. Thank him for the opportunity to share that with the one you love, cherish and adore; for after this, will be so much more.

I am not writing this to give any a lesson or to give praise to myself. For I too took a long look at myself to realize that Christ is in control. Surrendering is the smartest and as a matter of fact, the only way to go. I just write true feeling and nothing more. Whatever God blesses to come off the instrument that I used to pen this is what is seen on paper – no edit, no adding no taking away.

Finally, another piece to my puzzle

Another lesson

Another treasure beneath the rubble

Ear to ear the smile became

Just to see her smile

Brought joy to my soul once again

Exploding in my mind burning in my heart

Yearning in my soul

Our two minds and souls, with one heart

I stood in awe asking if this was real

I double took a real situation

For it was too good to be true too good to feel

It will not get any better to me inside

To be beside this woman

To everyone out there with eyes and ears I confide

This is everlasting this is one day

This is a joy few can attain

And I thank god on bended knee I may

To spend the rest of my life will never feel like an eternity

But a renewed sense of love each day

While we walk hand in hand my dearest, my fairest, my lady.

my love to you
by Daniel Jackman





what is

by Dave Simpson

First time I met you it was a pleasant experience from the beginning. It's not many times where I like someone so much off the bat.

Wow you made Sean so much more cooler. I can't even tell you how much of a man you made him. I truly believe he looks taller because you dated him. As for you, continue being you, and grow as you age into the likeness of God.

Funny enough I don't remember the first time we met, i just remember you being there. For the longest time I would only remember your name by literally saying the word "Sand". It's a sad fact but true. To this day when you're not around I still call you sandy or Sandi Patti. I figured you would be the one eventually because you were actually funny; a strictly male gene. Any guy who passes up on a funny woman is an IDIOT. Your long Pretha hair was always gonna put you over the top, but when i found out you played the piano and happened to join the Apple Creek mixed age Christmas Cantata Choir I said... Brownie points!

I never knew you as much as the others, and... I probably still don't. In fact I'm pleased I was selected to be in this magazine, but seeing I was chosen by Sean I guess it makes sense. I figured he choose me because he thought my poem to the left would have been better than it was. A long time ago I used to write poems that were somewhat good. I had soft hands then, now the calluses on my hand make nervous teeth mark impressions on the pencil that I write my chicken scratch with.

Anyhow your number... Oops! I meant numero uno on my list. Funny, cute, and musically inclined. You have a radio worthy voice, and you're Portuguese. You have not one, but two dimples and have a striking resemblance to Arjei Franklin when you smile which is a compliment for you, and not so much for him. Nobody really knows if he looks like his sister or his sister looks like him. They are both lovely people though.

In all seriousness, I wrote this to make you laugh, and I hope you did. Because that's what I do when I am around you. It is a great thing to meet someone like yourself, and not see each other for a very long time, and then pick up where you left off. You're truly special.

P.S This would've been my toast if I am invited to the wedding. But in Portuguese of course. Who speaks Spanish these days anyways?

Wishing you all the best.

you are...

what is, you are
you are to me
what honey is
to bumble bees

what colours are
to paintings stained
by lush meadows greens,
or vast brown plains

like food for thought
like lesson taught
in life when we
do what we ought

and in these times
i like to find
like hide and seek
peace of mind

in you i see
like blind men do
what people cant
inside of you

my hearing liken unto
what deaf are
till i hear your voice
whether near or far

and when i do i feel anew
in knowing your frank facial expressions
the silly little things
what relationships are based on

my heart is torn in every way
when clouds seems to spoil your day
but i pride myself in being noon
so i can then be your moon

so when i feel as if it's time
to find peace's pieces like clues
knowing what i always knew
so much of my happiness is with you

love of mine thee i do wed,
someday under the heavenly star bed
to validate whatever i ever said
with actions

like fallen leaves of withered trees
like buds when flowers bloom
some things change yet stay the same
such is the nearness of you

may we keep God in our hearts at all times
then love with us will always abide
in us
this is to you
what you are to me
bound ever more eternally

what is, you are
you are to me
what honey is
to bumble bees

complete

by Kayon Vaz

complete.

Your eyes
subtle smile
sense of style

Captivates and irradiates with a light that intoxicates

Your passion
hypnotic rhythm
my mind encapsulates

from across the room this sultry intensity between us escalates

You're spiritual
biblically savvy
praying incessantly

Faith enhances your beauty making it heavenly

Your presence
Fill days
stirs nights

I pray it abides with me for the rest of my life.

You're unique
Tender
Caramilk sweet

and In your love, I'm totally, utterly, irreconcilably,

complete.

FROM ONE SISTER

TO ANOTHER.....



by Crisollia Evora

Sandra Evora.....she is and always will be the best sister i have. I have two other sisters and they can never take my granny's place, she's a beautiful woman. I remember when mom came home from the hospital with Sandra, she looked like a little princess, and that is what she is to me. I'm older then her, but when i have a problem she's the one i go too. The love i have for Sandra Evora can't be explained, it's like she was my daughter in another life. Sandra is my best friend. Love ya sis, you are a very special person, and u will always have a special place in my heart.....

Love ya granny<33

more than a sister

by Andria Wilkins

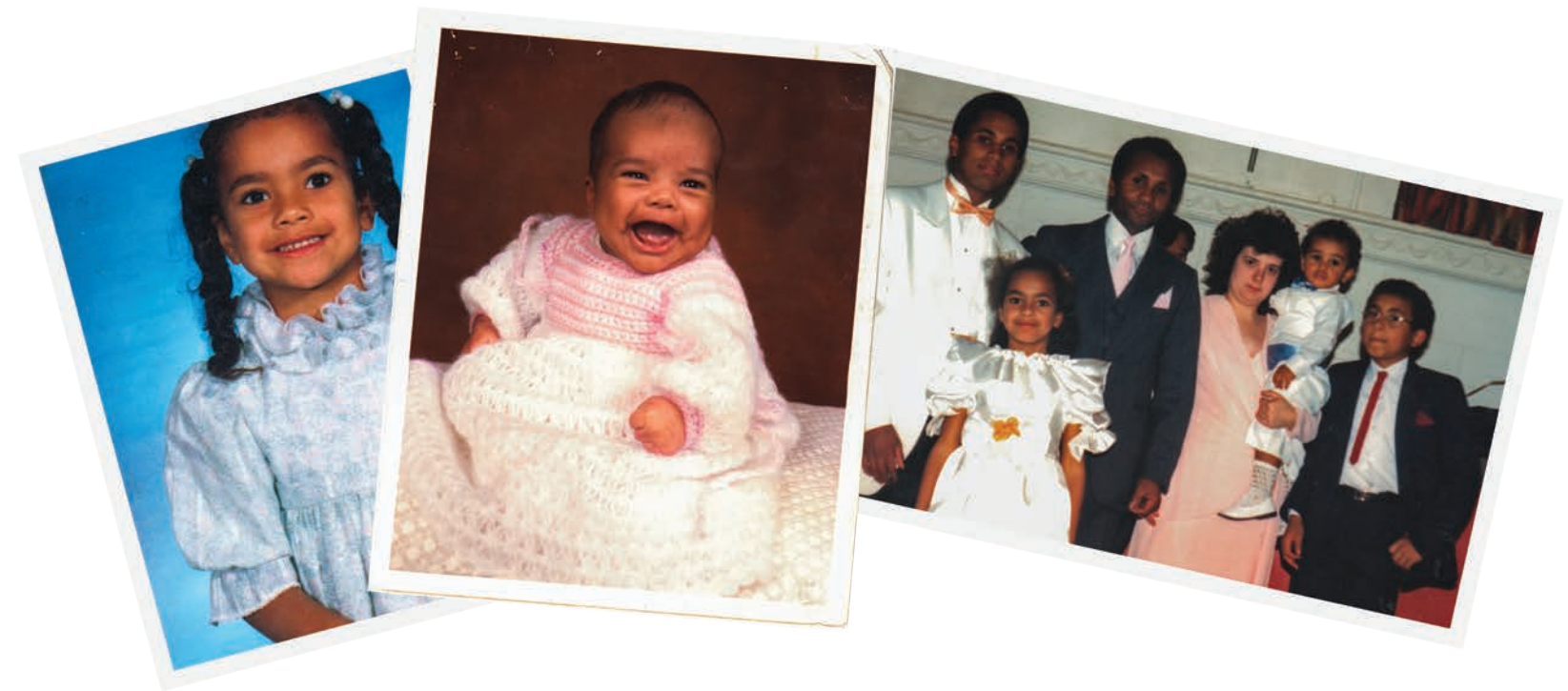
“She’s so pretty!” I exclaimed. Those were the first words I ever said about Sandra, as my boyfriend proudly showed me his baby sister’s picture. I was the ripe old age of 14, and I’m still not sure about when the first day I actually met her was, but it seems she’s been in my life ever since! Through years of high school drama and ups and downs, Sandra has remained a constant source of love and strength. She is the life of the party wherever we are, and get-togethers are pretty dull without that laugh to put a smile on our faces. Although a debate is certain to happen, whatever the topic or function, Sandra will always be right!! So, just give in to the fact that you can’t win, so don’t bother trying! Sandra is a loyal, beautiful, committed, loving, and determined woman. I know I can count on her through anything. She is the most loving tia to my two beautiful girls, who adore her so much! I’m so very grateful to have been given a sister whom I love dearly. Although we do occasionally squabble like real sisters, I know the love and loyalty will always be there and I am thankful that God has given us to each other. So, thank you Sandra, for being a most devoted, trustworthy, and caring sister to me and my little family. Life would truly not be the same without you – you are “pretty” inside and out! I love you.

Yes, she’s the life of the party...
The sparkle that catches your eye!
Without our dear sister, Sandra,
Life would unwittingly pass us by!
If not for her love and dedication,
Where would the Evora clan be?
She’s the glue that keeps us together,
The joy that keeps us at ease.
For this wonderful human being,
My approbation will always be.



On a personal note, I couldn’t be more proud and delighted that my “little” sister has found a caring man who adores her and will commit his life and love to her. I am so very glad that you have a partner who cares more about making you happy, than you likely do for yourself. This is love. This is real. Embrace these moments and cherish the rest of your lives together. I’m here for you, always. You’re more than a sister, you’re my forever friend.

Much love,
Andria



MY GARDEN LILY

by Manuela Evora

It all started on the day that you were born. GOD gave me a beautiful little Lily for my garden to brighten it, and that little Lily grew up into a little girl that I’m very proud of. I have so memories when you were growing up that i can’t write all of them but here are a few. The first day that you smiled, when you said MOM for the first time, when you started crawling backwards, i don’t know why, but you never liked to crawl frontwards. Your first day of school, your graduations, the day you got Baptized and so many more, and now my little girl turned into a woman that I’m very proud off. But for me you will always be my little girl that GOD gave me to brighten my garden.

SANA with LOVE MOM and DAD.





by Jonathan Evora

“My Little Big Sister”

Wow where do I begin? So many stories, trips, fights & makeups, so many laughs.....

One of my earliest memories would be us messing around before dinner and pillows getting thrown back and forth. Then came out the true Sana, crazy phyco thinking rolling up a dinner knife in a dinner napkin, launching it at me thinking it wouldn't hurt, man did it ever. I remember us making chain link streamers to decorate our basement and spending countless hours with our grandma baking. Well her baking and us licking every bowl.

One of my favorite memories was when mom & dad took us to our very first “Walt Disney on Ice” the lights, cool effects the music sing to our favorite songs. The cool flash lights and straw cups we got.

Another memory that I will never forget was our trip to Pennsylvania for the annual Pathfinders camporee. All the jokes and bonding with our close friends on the way there. All the events we entered and just having what seemed to us being the greatest time in our lives. I'm getting

goose bumps thinking of those evening we'd get together thousands of people singing “We are the colors to the World” I can't still hear it. Can you? Those laser showings. I thank God I got to spend that time and all these years with my little sis. Having someone Sana close in age made a big difference in my life. Having someone to play with and go through teenage stuff with made a huge difference.

Well I want to thank you for being there as someone I could lean on and spill my feeling and even though we didn't always see eye to eye and still don't agree on everything. I wouldn't want anyone else as my little sister. Someone who is dedicated to family first which I think is a huge part of the “EVORA” Klan. I know my precious girls which are everything to me will always have their auntie to go to if they ever need someone to talk to. “Grandma would have been proud to see the woman you've become.”

Love you always your big bro forever,
Manny Evora



MY BIG SIS

There is so much that can be said about her. To me she is a piece of the puzzle that holds our complicated family together. She is a translator when we cannot find the right words to say. The one to always bring peace in the house but I also know her as a protector and saviour. I can't say she's never been there for me because truth be told, she always has been. Although we fought we always made up in the end. We may not have spoken or said “hi” for a week or so but in the end no matter what she is still my big sis. She is the one I could always turn to and talk to and ask or say anything to. She somehow always had the right answer or solution. I'm not sure how but she always found a way of me saying or doing the right thing, even though I may have thought it wasn't at the time.

I am very lucky to know her. I never understood girls who didn't play sports, run, fight, and were smart to because she

did and was all those things. We must be lucky to have a sister who could do it all and more. I was lucky because as the little trouble maker I always had and older brother and a sister to defend me and make sure nothing happened to me. I can say this has been going on my whole life and now if there is ever a problem and she is around, she is shoulder to shoulder with her lil bro making sure everything is ok. Now it's up to me to make sure she's okay and that's why I will always look out for her.

I love you and will always be here for you as you have been for me.

Love,
Your lil bro
Jonathan
My big sis...

what's in a name?

by Marlena F

Sandra: A strong name for a strong woman

A Sandra, tends to be intelligent, witty, extremely open, honest & passionate and will do whatever it takes to uphold her morals. While these are extremely admirable traits, they also mean that they should never be crossed. Hope you are paying attention, you have been warned!!

On the flipside, if you do the right thing (and why wouldn't you?) a Sandra will go out of her way to make your life beautiful.

While fiercely independent, a Sandra has both a strong sense of community and family and will do whatever it takes (regardless of personal cost) to defend and protect those that she cares about.

A name never more fitting, for you are all these things and more! You are beautiful, compassionate, inspiring, loving and to me you are like the sister I never had.

Throughout the years our friendship has sustained all the diversities given. You have given me much more than you realize. You have lended a helping hand, an ear to hear all i have had to say, honesty when needed regardless if it hurt, but most importantly a love to let me know that no matter what you are there for me. For all these things I Thank You. I love you and cherish all our moments of laughter, tears, dancing, vinho, and absolute foolishness. I wish you nothing but the absolute best, for you deserve nothing less.



sandra



The definition of compassion is a feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another who is stricken by misfortune, accompanied by a strong desire to alleviate the suffering. Sandra, you truly demonstrate how to seize the moment and being proactive in being compassionate. You take every opportunity to help their neighbor, family, and friend and you are selfless when doing so. Through the willing desire to do whatever it takes, and by being very friendly and approachable, you have made me feel like family from day one. When you met Sean, he reignited the sparkle in your eyes that made you visibly radiant. Just as he looks at you with love that dives deep into your eyes and enlightens your inner self. That's same love you then add to your own and gives you the ability to share with those around you. If I could sum it up into one word I'd say its

contagious. I see how hard he works to make you happy and gives selflessly to make it happen; although it honestly comes naturally i see the side you don't see. Long days and longer nights preparing for you to read this and piecing it together amongst family and friends to immortalize this moment when a smile goes on your face. 2, 5, 10, 50 years from now he did this so you can look back and start the conversation with, "do you remember when..." and that same smile will return like it does now. I can honestly say that he has treated me like a brother and just as you're glad you have crossed paths with him, I am too. I couldn't wish any better for you because this is a reinforcement that soul mates do exist. I am happy that you are going to enjoy a long and happy life together.

by Jada Adams with Daddy's Help



jada & malachi



what love



by Malachi Adams

looks like





A FRIEND

by Anna Dunscombe

A friend means different things to different people. To me a friend is someone you can count on. A confidante. Someone who is supportive of you, who is there in good times and bad. Someone that you care enough about to provide these same kindnesses to in return. Although friendship can start from shared interests (like croissants, travel and over analysis of everything over a bottle of wine), friendships last when you share the same values and have a kind and giving heart.

Sandra is my friend because she has all of these qualities and so many more. Although I haven't known Sandra as long as some of her other friends, we clicked right away and our similar interests and values brought us together for what was to become, now a few years of close friendship. Sandra doesn't judge. Her honesty and frankness is such that for most people, only those in your family would get away with it. She is always there to listen and offer advice, to offer a warm hug during tears or just when saying hello or goodbye. She loves to laugh and even when she rolls her eyes at my silliness, I know she is laughing on the inside (or at least I think so). She loves to dance and sing and can turn any evening into a salsa party. She's patient, whether it's waiting for me to get off the phone so we can go for our morning break or whether it's hearing me say how I ended up in the same awful predicament again that we both knew was coming. She never loses her cool. She never says I told you so and never stops giving you that hug, that she also gave you the last time you made that very same mistake.

Sandra is smart and hardworking. She's proud and independent. She's a bundle of energy who's always off to do something for someone or with someone who's important to her. And there are so many people who are important to her. From her large and close family to her many friends spread all over the province, country and throughout the world. And she makes time for all of them. Most people can only count their true friends on one hand. Sandra needs both hands, feet and more to count all the people who truly care about her and would be there for her if needed. Her fun, no nonsense, tell it like it is personality can be intimidating (not to me of course) but it is her honesty and integrity that not only draws you to her but that makes you respect her even when having an opposing opinion. Debates with Sandra are the best, even though I usually lose, but it's having that intelligent conversation and the sharing of ideas and opinions that makes our conversations so fun and makes the time fly by. She's so passionate about life, her values and her family. She has her direction and her goals and she is marching to the beat of her drum to get there, and she makes everyone want to come on the ride. There are so many reasons that Sandra is a wonderful person and a great friend. I'm just glad I can count her as one of mine. XOXO



1995, Kingsway College Girls Dorm... I saw her T-Shirt before I saw her. A black baseball cap covered her pretty face and lovely curls, all I saw was attitude... her T-Shirt read: "Black by Nature, Proud by Choice." I thought to myself, now she seems like a peach! Some hours later we officially met in the TV room. Well, if you call, "what kind of [expletive] glasses are those?" an official

introduction, then yes, that is how I met Sandra Evora. To further improve the first impression, I had the joy of having my first conversation with her and her brother Jorge to the tune of, "What kind of Portuguese person doesn't speak Portuguese???" Yes, my first encounters with Sandyman, were just awesome!!!

1995

by Yvonne Maidment

I don't recall how or when, but during the months that followed, we became very close friends. We attended Kingsway College together for 2 years and in our last year we were suitemates, an experience which strengthened and solidified our friendship. Naturally, we have kept in touch ever since. Just a handful of memories include my big 17th birthday bash, Florida Choir Tour 1998, many birthday outings in our 20's, to Choir practice at Toronto Portuguese SDA followed by gallivants at La Cervezeria on College! My short-lived residences in downtown TO and North York, her many trips to Hamiltonia and a few good runs through Montreal! Nowadays we celebrate birthdays in our 30's, housewarmings and baby-welcomings. Sandra has become my dearest, bestest friend, my sister, mi hermana, minha irma, my confidante, my baby's godmother, my soulmate among friends. I could write endlessly of the ways in which

Sandra has enriched my life, the times she has been there for me, the problems we have tackled together and how we have triumphed jointly through one another's trials. While we have a long history behind us, I know it is only the beginning of the rest of life's experiences we will share together.

When I take an inventory of the blessings in my life, counting Sandra as a friend ranks among the highest blessings for which I am eternally grateful. I can't wait to be there for all the exciting moments that are upcoming in my dear Sandra's life as I know she will be there for mine. I couldn't be more proud of where you are in life and I'm so glad to be there along the way. I love you Sandy!





TRUE FRIENDSHIP

by Altpy Bokpe



How do you summarize over 15 years of memories? From the shenanigans we got into after meeting in grade 9, to our summer of fun in Montreal - you know the one I mean. Countless debates, class trips and choir tours (special shout out to "Warn the town, the beast is loose", "Peaches" and seeing Bill Clinton!) to re-connecting and re-establishing strong bonds in adulthood - again I say, how do you distill so many memories into a paragraph? Sandra and I go back years, she is my friend, my defender my sister. Remember our first time at disney world? Man, we must have been the oldest "kids" in line to meet Goofy and Mickey! The countless bus rides you let me sleep on your shoulder/lap because I was in pain, the delicious grilled cheese sandwiches I make - lol - or the fact no matter where we are, no matter what we do - we

are always the best and loudest in the crowd! Man, in our time so far, we have made so many great memories. As you know, I will always have your back, be there for you in good times and in bad and yes, I will contantly make you laugh! Remember "Classrooms Apart" the greatest song ever, I wrote for you in our KC days? Ha ha I actually still remember the words! Anyway for a second, I will stop the jokes and just say - you are a remarkable woman and I am blessed to call you my friends - through thick and thin we are there for each other - now and always! I look forward to many more years of friendship, travels and special memories!

ShAmmal forever hehehe.



SANA!!!

Well I guess it's time. No... I know its time. Figuring out the right time was easy. Why? Because when you have the right girl it makes everything that much easier. You knew I wanted to marry you, but I know that need of showing you this wasn't a dream was important to what we commonly refer to as us. As I type this I reminisce on all that went into making this night happen and how right this feels even now.

God, You have orchestrated this masterpiece and I want to thank You for all that You've done to see us through. The communication, the worship, the questions, the books, the love, the availability and the beauty inside and out. Please continue to see us through.

By now Sana you have part of the physical pledge on your finger that I want to seal this deal for life. I love you sooooo much, I am glad that you're mine and happy that you said yes (that's a bit cocky on my part so lets hope you do/did!)

Words well never express what you mean to me or the way you have ultimately changed my life for the better. February 6th, no matter the year will always hold a heavy significance for being the day I found my angel and now the day I asked my angel for her hand in marriage.

Do you remember this?

So many good feelings flood my heart when I think of you. To reminisce on a time you were not a part of my life is becoming increasingly hard to do.

And now it seems that we're in that stretch where the rubber meets the road and decisions are due.

To spend the rest of my life with a Godsend that embodies my truth.

The Yin to my Yan, and a love that shows others it IS possible and becomes their undeniable proof.

Sigh...

There's always been her, you, me, us
God, Communication, Love, Trust.

It was quickly understood that this relationship was far from wandering lust.

And even more undeniable that our "getting together", for me, was a must.

How could I give you up?

I told you I could've never dreamed of you. A woman that surpassed my very dreams. And this is not an embellishment.

You are more than I could ever dream of. And much more than a dream, you are my reality. To be blessed to wake from an great dream to look into the eyes of my amazing reality and future every morning? What more could I ask for? But I definitely do ask for the strength and the power of the Holy Spirit, to do right by you, every step of the way.

Do you really know who you are?

My sunshine, my calm, my beauty, my love, my heart's song, my woman, my sexy, my intellect, my friend, my confidant, my body, my music, my rhythm, my heartbeat and still... So much more.

There is so much love for you coursing through my veins. You are the reason I write. I need from time to time to just get this stuff off my chest, through to your eyes and into your heart. I have no end to this for they were random thoughts so I will say...

To Be Continued... Forever



adorásával