



I am my Mother

I am my mother, and I decided that is not a bad thing. Try as we might to avoid it, resistance is futile. It started with hearing things come out of my mouth that sounded like her. It was scary at first but the older I got the more I realize how wise she really was. It wasn't always what I wanted to hear and tact and diplomacy were not her strong suite. She called it telling the truth but sometimes the truth hurt. It wasn't until her passing that I could fully appreciate the person she was. Sad how that works. It's similar to the sunsets I love so much; sometimes the greatest beauty comes after the sun has set and the splendor of the sky transforms. We are products of our upbringing, that is for sure. But our past does not define our future. Children learn what they live, and life lessons come on a daily basis. You can't always get what you want but you get what you need. I am grateful to have been raised by the meanest mom in the world. She made me do chores and yard work, speak kindly and write thank you notes and put others before ourselves. I didn't always like it but I always knew that I was loved unconditionally forever. That is the gift of a mothers love. You don't have to give birth to be a mom either. I learned this quickly when my quest for a family

failed. I always knew in my heart there was a reason and I finally figured it out; I don't have to understand what the reason is. 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart lean not on your own understanding' became my mantra during that time and it served me well. My baby finally came 10 years later with fur and four legs and we could not be happier. I got my mini me; she loves the beach, sunshine and people at least as much as I do. I am proud of my mom, though she was she was a little rough around the edges sometimes. She told it like it is and you never wondered where you stood with her. It's was a bit of a double edge sword but it served me well and certainly taught me a lot. We get to make many choices in life but the family we are born into is not one of them. Family has less to do with biology and everything to do with who knows and loves you just the way you are. That is exactly what mothers do. So celebrate motherhood not just one day but every day, because none of us would be who we are without our moms.

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