

mary's story / 3 / **our lives apart**

lisa **bought** a **place** in iowa city **while** I returned to minnesota. I **grew up** in minnesota and my parents still live there. I **don't think I could** live anywhere **else** now. I **actually** wouldn't **mind spending** the rest of my life there. especially now. soon after I **got back** I started **dating this** great guy named alex and **before I knew it** we were engaged. he's the kind of guy I've always **dreamed of marrying**. we never **fight** and he **treats** me nicely **even when** I'm depressed. we **have been** married for five years and we **have just had** a second baby. I **couldn't be** happier.

lisa and I keep in touch **although** we don't write to each other **as often as** we **should**. she **used to visit** quite often but **since** she moved to california we **haven't been able to** meet. **hopefully things** will **get** better soon. I **would really hate it** if we never **saw** each other again. **there's** so much we can talk about and **look back on**. no one can take those two wonderful years **away from** us.