

## To my younger self: Tess Magor

Self, now is the time to prepare yourself for the rest of your life.

You have dreams but be aware that dreams are not reality. Be prepared to let dreams go and fill that space with everything around you that you enjoy.

Life will give you people to love and be loved by. Embrace them, accept them and don't reject their care or their advice.

Tragedy will be in your life. You will lose dear friends to death earlier than you expect. Enjoy their company, be with them, don't sweat the small stuff.

Work on your skills and talents now, don't put off anything you can realistically do. Life has a habit of pulling the carpet out from under us. You will have children. One will be special. His life will be difficult and he will need you even when you feel you can't do more.

Remember how privileged you are to have your sanity and ability to make decisions in your life. He will not have those privileges and society isn't yet compassionate enough or advanced enough to properly support him.

Most of all. Survive. You are strong and have a big loyal heart.

You will be loved