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you have been battling all your
life trying to explain to people
how I feel not bearing able to
read write they don't understand

At 2 year you ~~not~~ went to
Bergrane nursery

Then Kindergarten at B.

Went there untill 3rd grade

When mother had a baby we
were in and out of homes

Came out of home ~~to~~ after
John went B.G. and they
would not take us because they
fill up.

Then went to ~~the~~ catholic
school they told us we could
stay for we had no uniform

1959 2 Distress letter

didn't go to school for awhile
because NO one wanted us.

We not told much

The worse part for me was the
schooling and I was always
put there to learn Catechism
down at the kindergarten and
I was 12 year old kids all
laugh alway getting hit for
for not knowing the work from
the Nun. after that they put
me on laundry Kitchens

No more schooling

When change the orphanage
into a special school for Mental
Retarded girls I had to do
the Kitchen or laundry and also
look after some of the new
girl that couldn't look after
their self

I was very fustrated I couldn't
help myself there was NO one
to help me and I had to look
after these kids

Nerved went on Holiday's always left behind to cook for the Nuns and wash because alot of Nuns came from abroad for there holiday.

Noone worry about that - They separated the three us all the time not to speak to each other at all.

I was 14, teen @ 11 months I went to my Nuns for the last Xmas Holiday and they said I was not to come back because I was turning 15 in Feb. how do you think I felt NO education, NO Job and going out into that big world that I didnt know anything out NO friend that normal girl grow up with.

All I could do is factory work I got a job at a sewing factory all I did was go to work and home at Nuns.

Only worked for 2 years and met

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a boy show me a bit of love
and next thing I was having
a baby I was 16teen so you
were married and had a baby
↖ by the time you were 17teen

I was only out of the orphanage when
I was 1 year and my little brother
John ~~was~~ drowned I'm so glad
six months before that mum and I
went up to see him in his
orphanage it was 4 years since
I had seen him dose anyone
know what that done to me
thats what I think I felt pregnant
2 months after his death.

Then my big sister Rhonda
died she was only 20 years ~~and~~
a few month later I was expecting
a other baby she was the only
one that didnt go to a orphanage
she was nealy 15teen she went
to older cousins

I don't think anyone could understand how hard it has been for me. and life has been a roller coaster and I am so tired of fighting for ~~every~~ ^{every} thing in life.

Years later my niece and I went at an afternoon tea and there was a friend there how said I would like you to read this joke I said I'm sorry I can't read she laugh she thought I was joking and said don't tell me that in this day and age ~~that~~ at your age you can't read I said I'm not joking you don't know how many bus strain I have got on and ended up in all different places It has made my life so hard no one know and it's not my fault and then she said to me I can help you here, I said how can you help me and she said leave it with me and I'll get back to you.

A few weeks later I got a pho

call from a lady Rita she got me a one to one teacher at home for I said I couldn't go into a classroom with my bad experience I had in the orphanage.

I had this teacher for 2 year 3 hours a week after coming home from Grandville to Eastlakes at 6.00 to 9.00pm.

~~But~~ The teacher couldn't see that I was getting any better so Rita from tafe rang me and asked me if I would go to tafe I didn't want to go into a classroom so Rita rang my sister Vesatta and asked if she and her other sister Raylene would like to learn reading writing so that is how we all got to go to tafe.

I never told my two daughters so I could not help them

I
with any school work I couldn't
write any letters I told them they
would have to wait till the
father comes home also I had
to ask my friend where I lived
to read any perscription I had
for my kids How hard it was
to even go shopping for instance
I gave my husband whiskers
I thought it was salamon

I'm suprised ^{with} myself when at 55 years
old I got my licence it took 1 year
with a driving instructor and
a lot of money and it payed off
I was very proud of myself
and I'm still driving to this
day and never had an accident
~~at~~ at the age 67 years

I'm proud of my ~~to~~ to girls and
my sec grandchildren and great
grandchildren and thats all I
can do in life I can only

get my family to help me with
the important things in life
I can't do they are the only
ones I trust no outsiders

I worried about my sister
putting this down I could go
on and on it is so hard
to get all my life down on
paper.

What I'm trying to say here
is I think I deserve better of
life than I had and someone
has to be responsible for it

I'm living in Ballina
with one of my daughters and
my sister Venetta Lohse has
done this for me.

Deane Withard