

Dear Eric and all the Team,

It has been a long hard road to get where I am today. A bumpy road of 7-8 years.

A pain I will never forget but always wish I could, the screams and cries that would come out of me that I never even knew were possible, the screams for help.

All of this not only affected me but it affected my family too. They have gone through this hell with me. Have not had the most amazing mom. I was unable to take them out due to anxiety and fear of being judged. My family has missed out on so much because of me. Which has taken such a toll on me mentally.

I chipped my first tooth between 18-19 years old. I was so upset, I sat in my bathroom and cried for hours while texting my mom wondering why me? Why did I have to get bad gums and fibromyalgia? I didn't understand, I couldn't understand why this had to happen to me. Having teeth breaking and completely coming out at such a young age.

At first it went slow, a few chips here and there in my teeth in a year or two. But it got quicker and much more damage each time. I started losing almost full teeth.

The first time I chipped a front tooth I didn't leave my room for 2 days. I was so upset, I lost almost all my self-confidence. At this time my fibro was becoming worse, I was now getting sick at least 2 times a day and the pain in my body made it hard to do anything.

I started to hate myself. I hated the way I looked, I hated how my cheeks were starting to sink in due to the lack of teeth, I hated the way people looked and judged me, I hated that I was so scared to go to a dentist to fix it, I just hated life. I was in full depression which only made my fibromyalgia worse. I then started getting sick 3 - 6 times a day, waking up at night just to get sick. The pain became so unbearable that it felt like I was having heart attacks.

Infection after infection, many scripts of antibiotics, so many scripts of antibiotics that they started not to work anymore. My whole upper jaw became infected because there was nothing that could take it away anymore because my body no longer responded to antibiotics because I was on them for years on end.

Many nights were spent screaming and crying, icing my face or rinsing my mouth with cold water. Getting sick from the pain in my mouth. The pain from my mouth topped any pain I have ever felt. I have given birth, had a c-section, I have fibromyalgia and much more but tooth pain is by far the worst pain I have ever felt in my entire life.

Sadly in my head I wanted to keep my teeth more then I wanted to get dentures.

I was scared of having dentures because of how young I was / am.

So I suffered through the pain. Had several oral surgeries, pulling one tooth, then the next and again. One by one I kept losing my teeth.

Every time I had to go through losing another tooth I hated myself even more, hated the way I looked and felt.

The depression got worse and worse. I can't even count how many times I thought death would be so much better then what I was going through.

How many times I went to the hospital and begged them to take out this tooth at 1am because the pain was so bad that I had gone 4 full days without sleep, not even a minute of sleep and 5 days without food, all while pregnant.

They would always tell me there was nothing they could do, and to go see my dentist the next day.

Only once did they numb my tooth so I could get some sleep until I could see a dentist.

My dentist tried telling me again for the millionth time it was time to go go see a denturist and get dentures, I finally caved. I seen a denturist, who ended up changing my life. Thanks to him, my life is amazing now. I smile without fear. I haven't felt like this for years and years. I am becoming me again, and it feels amazing.

Best regards,
Andrea

