



One day Elizabeth lifted her little half-sister, Emma, up on the seat to look out the window. "See those clouds?" Elizabeth said to her. "That's where God lives up in heaven and good children go there. Look, Emma, look up at the blue heavens and love God!"



Elizabeth's stepmother encouraged young Elizabeth to read Scripture and often discussed it with her. One day, she selected Psalm 23. "This is a short Psalm, but I think you'll like it, Betty Ann," she said. "Take the Bible and read it out loud to me."



When Elizabeth was a teenager, her father gave her a necklace with a small crucifix on it. Elizabeth cried, "I love it! Thank you, father. I'll wear it and pray for you." He replied, "Pray for my patients, my dear. These poor Catholic immigrants who are arriving in New York on the ships—they aren't really welcome here. And so many are terribly ill."