

Dear Family,

This is Emily Neil, and I'm home for the President's Day weekend, and I'm going to type while my mom dictates. (She likes the idea of being a dictator.)

Erin and I(mom) went up to visit BYU just last week. We stayed at Grandma's Wednesday through Sunday. Erin had an appointment to speak with a professor of music about being a voice major, and she had to take an entrance exam for the music department. Emily got us tickets to see the Secret Garden and it was very good.. We also got to see the Winter Choirfest that the BYU choirs performed. It was held at the Provo tabernacle. Being in that neat building reminded me of all the times that we went to stake conference there. We also shopped the numerous sales to get Erin some winter clothing for next year. She got some great deals on boots and a winter coat.

Okay, mom is sick of my slow typing, she is taking over after I say a little about me. I am in my junior year at BYU, it seems really strange to be old enough to graduate from college in one more year. I'm so old. I'm still writing to my missionary, and he comes home this summer. I am really stoked! My mom told me if I memorize my Bach Toccata over this weekend that I'm home, that she'll pay for my whole plane ticket here. (I was going to pay half.) Bribery is a blessed thing, isn't it? John is a monster, I can't believe how tall he is. Now I am the shortest in my family, standing a mere 5'8". Winter in Utah is fine for you all, but it sure is beautiful here. The sun is shining, the grass is green, the orange and the palm trees sway. (Where have I heard that before?) Erin sure has a good voice. She has improved a lot since I last heard her. My mom did a chocolate demonstration for the mutual girls last week, she let every girl dip six chocolates, she said it was just a mess. (My mom is standing behind me telling me that my last sentence is a run-on, but I don't care, so is this one.) Dad bought some new ski boots for himself for Valentine's Day, and he told mom they could be his present from her. I say, what does it matter, it all comes from the same bank account anyway. (Don't I wish I could dip into that pot.) John invested 11,000 of his megadiamond dollars into different stocks this past week. He put some in Pepsi because he liked the commercials. Just teasing. He likes checking the paper daily to see how his money is doing. Grandma would say that a watched pot never boils, but actually his pot is steaming pretty well. My dad got released from the bishopric, and immediately was instituted as Young Men's President. The Young Men are putting on an appreciation dinner for the Young Women on Wednesday. (I'm sure the Young Men didn't think of that one.) But it probably was *their* idea to serve the girls pizza. Greg's band is called Ace Is WIred (whatever that means) and they have been playing a lot around Provo. They're actually quite good, and people like the lyrics. They are very humorous. Cousin Daniel heard them play on campus on Friday, and he liked them alot. (Is this paragraph a run-on?) Greg lives in the same apartment complex as me, and we see each other a lot, it's way cool. We spent Valentine's evening together at Taco Bell, since neither of us has a significant other. I took Erin to my ward's Valentine's dance and no one even knew that she was just a little girl. It was fun. I'm excited to have her up at the Y next year. There will be three Neils in Provo. I think Greg should put me and Erin in his band. That would be cool.

Oh yeah...Here's my mom...

Well, I guess Emily said it all. We're doing fine here. It was great to be in Utah. It still feels like "home." I couldn't get enough of the mountains. When I was driving to Provo on I-15 I thought I would crash, 'cause I couldn't keep my eyes off the beautiful scenery. Sorry I didn't get to see Tracy and David. We'll be up again the last week in March and will catch you two then. The kids and Marty are hoping there will still be spring skiing in the mountains.

Love,

Emily and Liz