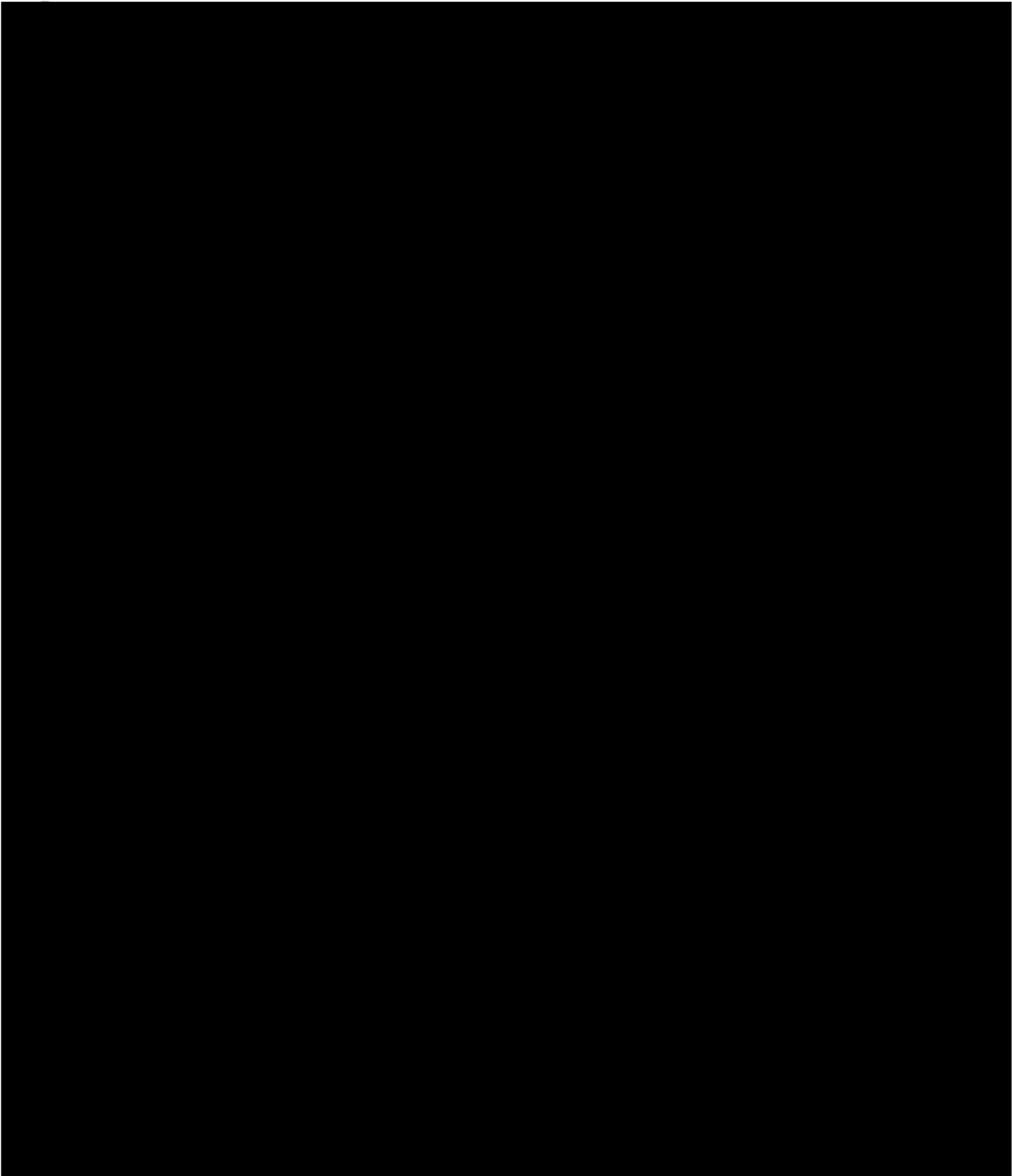




To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of my niece and nephew, Colin Kerr and Nadia Kerr (also known as McSwegan), regarding their experiences in foster care.

My sister struggled with alcoholism, and from around 1981, Colin and Nadia were taken into care on and off over a period of time. As their aunt, I remember this as an incredibly distressing period for our whole family.

We attended Children's Panel hearings and did everything we could to have Colin and Nadia returned to their wider family. We genuinely believed they would be safer being cared for by relatives, and we repeatedly expressed those views. Despite our efforts, they remained in foster care.

Over the years, it became clear that the placement had been a tragic one and that both Colin and Nadia had suffered horrific abuse while in foster care. Learning what they had endured was devastating for our family. Knowing that the children we had fought so hard to bring home experienced such trauma is something that has never left us.

I have carried the sadness and regret of this for many years. I firmly believe that our family acted in Colin and Nadia's best interests and tried to protect them with the knowledge and means we had at the time. Sadly, our concerns were not enough to prevent what happened.

I provide this letter in support of Colin and Nadia and to confirm, to the best of my knowledge and recollection, that the family consistently sought their return from around 1981 onwards. I hope my account assists in understanding the circumstances surrounding their time in care and the lasting impact it has had on them and on our wider family.

Yours faithfully,

Juliet Blue

