

I guess to start at the beginning. My oldest sister's best friend was the first person I knew to pass with complications from lupus. So I had an idea of what lupus could do but was not aware of what she went through. Sonya was a sweet woman I remember seeing her with the rash and her wigs and didn't understand.

Then me I was in my teens and a teen mom at the time of my diagnosis, I was very scared at the time all I could think was a hard death sentence. In the beginning, I was weak and sore all the time. I then begin to notice the rash I just couldn't get to go away. I was scared I tried to think what I could have been in contact with, and my first doctor's appointment was not a success they gave me an antibiotic and I had an adverse reaction to it. So I went back to see another doctor that gave me a diagnosis. I remember thinking I'm going to die and not raise my family or not even get a chance to live a full life.

At times I wanted to give up the pain can be unbearable and not being able to plan or having to rest to get out and do things has been a hard process
Since I have been living with lupus, I have had my kidneys, lungs, and brain affected. I also live with other autoimmune diseases. I have had to stop working and is in disability. The one thing I can say is every day is a different day, and I thank God for that.

Sandra Williams

What's your Lupus story? We'd love to hear it. Send us your thoughts and experiences to be featured in Marlene's Kaleidoscope monthly e-newsletter. Email your stories to kbutterflies2017@gmail.com