Reading reflection example- Monkey Beach

Quote- p. 46 (When Lisa comes home after ditching Jimmy to go to Erica’s house and her Mom talks to her about it)

“He wants to do everything you do. He wants to go where you go. You think he’ll want that forever? He’s going to go his way and you’ll go yours, and this is what you’ll miss.

“Won’t.”

She kissed the top of my head. “Will.”

This quote really made me think about how we often take things for granted, especially the important people in our lives. In the novel, Lisa thinks of her brother as a pain and doesn’t want to deal with him. She doesn’t like him following her around because she thinks he gets in the way of what she is doing and she doesn’t want to take care of him or deal with him because she finds him annoying. I think this is something that can happen to all of us when it comes to spending time with people we care about. For me, for example, I think about my nieces and nephews. My first nephew Brandon and niece Katie are in their 20’s now. They have their own lives and I don’t see them very often, and when I do they often just want to do their own thing and spending time with Aunty isn’t always one of those things. It makes me long for the days when all they wanted to do was spend time with me. Playing, going for walks, making things, listening to music…all the sorts of things kids like to do. I loved those times, but I also remember times when I was tired or busy doing other things when they wanted to spend time with me, and me telling them we would do stuff later when I wasn’t busy. Now I wish I had pushed through feeling tired, or found another time to do the things that seemed so important at the time. I would love to have had more time making memories with them and am so happy for the time I had with them when everything was fresh, new and exciting. When everything was funny and when I was one of their favourite people in the world. I know they still love me, but it isn’t the same anymore, and what Lisa’s mom says to her about what she will miss really hits home with me in a way that it might not have when they were younger. I know that with my younger nieces and nephews I try to make the most of those times I have to spend with them and create as many memories as I can because life goes on, and you can’t go back to yesterday.