

Sister's by Chance, Friends by Choice

Malia

If Daddy's girl had a definition, Malia would be it. She has always idolized her dad. They say you're not supposed to have a favorite, but anyone with eyes could see who Malia's favorite was. It was weird though because Malia always felt like an outsider in her family. She didn't look like her dad at all, and she only resembled her mom around the nose. So when she found out her dad wasn't her biological dad she wasn't surprised.

In Bio Class their assignment was to take blood from their parents and compare it to their own. She went home that night and took both her parents blood and her own, went into the lab the next day and checked them. She was AB Negative while her parents were both A positive.

“Um, Mr. Keen, is it possible that I'm AB negative but my parents are both A positive?”

“No that shouldn't be run again”, He told her “only why that's possible is if one parent was A and one was B”.

So Malia went back to the lab and ran them 3 more times and still the same results. *There is no way that my parents blood couldn't make mine, that would be really weird, she thought impossible even.*

Mia

Mia's whole life is cheer. She's done it since as long as she can remember. The routines give her a thrill like no other and it's really just an escape for her. Her dad is her biggest supporter; he has never once complained about the travel, the cost, the long hours, or the costumes. He always tried to give her any and everything in the world, but little does he know that all she wants is her mom back. The pictures

aren't enough anymore; she can barely remember her voice, presence, or scent. Everything just seems to be slipping away.

Her dad makes up for it though; always been just the two of them and she hates to admit it but she loved it that way. Everything she did was perfect because he had nothing to compare it to. She's happy that her parents never had another child. She wouldn't know how to share her dad in any way, he was like her best friend.

Malia

“Mom. Dad. I have a serious question” Malia said as she entered the kitchen and the delightful smell of dinner grazed her nose. They turned to her and nodded.

“When I tested our blood you guys are both A positive and I'm AB negative and it's impossible for both of you to be A positive and for me to be AB negative”.

When Malia stopped talking and looked at her mom she saw tears burning into her skin and her dad, she couldn't describe what he looked like just pure sadness and hurt.

“Um, honey we have something to tell you,” her dad starts to say, “I'm not your biological dad”. At that moment Malia felt her body go numb and she heard her dad say that her mom had a fling that resulted in the birth of her. She couldn't stop feeling her eyes burn from so much crying, her body never felt so weak, she never felt so lost. They told her, her dad was Brad Bailey. She knew his daughter Mia Bailey.

Mia

When Malia Baker DM'd her on instagram and said they should meet for coffee she thought it was odd. They didn't really know each other, and she thought Malia didn't like her but she still agreed.

Mia walked into the cafe to find Malia already sitting at a table waiting for her.

“Hi”, Mia said, sitting down in the chair.

“Hi”, Malia said.

Mia watched Malia sip on her coffee for a good 5 minutes before she asked “So why did you exactly ask me here Malia?”

“Um, yeah about that”, Malia started “I think we’re sisters”.

“Why would you think something like that”, Mia asked

“Well my mom and dad blood type is impossible for them to make my blood type so I asked and my dad said my mom had a fling with your dad and that resulted in well me”.

“That's impossible,” Mia rebutted.

“Mia I-”, Malia started

“Before you go spreading rumors like that you should have a test or enough common sense to know that my dad only has one daughter and that’s me,” Mia stormed out of the restaurant. *It's impossible for my dad to have another kid, that would mean he cheated on my mom and he won't do that. Right?*

Malia

It's been a couple days since Mia and Malia met at the coffee shop, and Mia didn't take it well at all. Malia told her parents about Mia's reaction and they said they were going to contact Brad and Malia begged them not to. It's weird, why should Mia have to be nice to her? She barely knows her and who is Malia to be telling Brad on her. If Malia was being honest she wasn't sure if she wanted to meet Brad he had no tendency to see her over the years, so why should she want to meet him. He knew about her, and never wanted to see her anyways she always had a dad no need for two.

Mia

“Uh, Sweetheart we should talk”, her dad said standing in her room doorway. Mia knew what he had to say that Malia was lying. She knew the truth, she was waiting for him to say it.

“Yes dad”

“As you know Malia's parents called me and told me about you guys cafe meet up, and I just wanted for you to hear it from me first that Malia is my daughter,”.

“There's no way that you are her father because that would mean you cheated on mom and you wouldn't do that to her, or me, or our family. Dad you wouldn't do that to mom,”

“Sweetie, I'm so sorry,” he whimpered.

“Yea, well dad if you were sorry you wouldn't have done it,” she started to yell “me and mom were your family and you went and practically made another one. Dad just get out”.

“Okay, but they want to take a DNA test just to make sure for you and Malia's sake”.

She slammed the door on his face and layed on the bed. *Who knew her dad's new problems could open up old wounds that hurt so much, all she wanted was her mom.*

Malia

Bright and early on Monday morning Malia, and her parents headed down to the hospital to get their blood drawn for the DNA test. She was practically a nervous wreck. I mean what would she do with two families, how would that even work?

She walked into the section by herself, when she glanced over she saw Brad and Mia getting their blood done. Mia looked like she was practically forced out of bed to come and Brad looked rather nervous *yea same* she thought.

The lady walked in with a huge smile on her face.

“Hi, I'm just gonna take a small thing of blood,” she told Malia.

She wrapped the tourniquet around her arm and took the needle and put it between her skin and vein, drew her blood into the syringe. She took a pink bandaid and put it over the wound.

Malia walked out the room thinking *those little droplets of blood determine my past, present, and future.*

Mia

It's been days since Mia and her dad argued and she still couldn't look him in the eyes. Mia couldn't focus on that right now. Mia had to focus on the Cheer Championship.

Mia walked into cheer practice and started stretching next to Ashley.

Cheer was the best hour of Mia's current life after the two weeks she's been having. As she was heading out to tell Ashley about her life recently, she got an email about the results of the test. When she opened it it said that her and Malia were 99.9% related .

Malia

"Dad, I'm fine I can walk into the restaurant by myself", Malia told her dad.

"Okay honey, if you need anything just give me a call okay, love you", her dad told her.

"Okay", she said walking in.

It took Malia about 2 minutes to find their table. When she got there and slid into their table, she looked at Brad and Mia and saw pieces of herself in them. The curve in their lips, the shape of their heads, and their hazel eyes.

"Hi", Brad smiled

"Hey", Malia replied.

"Oh, yeah hi", Mia said

Brad started a conversation with her and Mia about things they enjoyed, but Mia never said anything she just sipped on the lemonade. Anytime Malia would make an approach to talk to her she would get one word answers or the cold shoulder.

Mia

When Mia and her dad got home from dinner he told her they needed to talk.

“Mia, the way you acted towards your sister was very rude”.

“She's not my sister, and why should I have to be nice to her”.

“You have to at least give Malia a chance, Mia”.

“Why should I have to give her a chance so that she can steal my only parent I have left”, Mia cried.

“No Sweetie because siblings are a part of you and you should have a good relationship with them”.

Malia

Mia texted Malia a few days ago to hang out. She was skeptical at first but agreed. They had gone out bowling and actually had a lot of fun together, so they decided to hang out two more times after that.

As Malia was leaving the house her dad stopped her.

“Hey honey, I feel like I haven't seen you wanna go out somewhere?”

“Uh, sorry dad I made plans with Mia today, another time”.

He nodded his head and smiled. Malia has been doing that alot lately. She felt bad, it has been weird between them ever since the tests.

Mia

Her dad has decided to do another family outing with Malia since they have been getting along better. They went karting and had a blast. You would think their dad could beat 15 and 17 year olds but he couldn't. When their dad went to get food Malia and Mia started to talk.

"OMG, did you see how dad crashed into the pole", Mia laughed

"You would've thought he seen it" Malia started "can i tell you something?"

"Of course"

"I like hanging out with you guys, it's nice being around people I look like and not feeling like the odd ball out", Malia said

"You'll always be welcome here little sister", Mia smiled "and while we're confessing can I confess too?"

Malia nodded.

"I didn't like you at first because my mom passed away when I was 3 and our dad is my only parent and I felt like you were taking him away from me".

"Well, you never have to worry about me taking him away because now he has two amazing daughters", Mia smiled "Big sister".

Malia

Malia has been trying to manage the life of having two families and honestly it was hard for her.

So she set up a picnic for her parents and also Brad and Mia. When Brad and Mia arrived at the picnic, her parents immediately stood up and greeted them. When Malia saw that she couldn't help but smile, her heart skipped a beat she thought *how grateful am I to have two wonderful families.*

While at the picnic they laughed about childhood memories about the girls, played some games, and laughed a whole lot. As the night came to an end and Malia, her mom, and Mia cleaned up she overheard the dads.

"You raised such and amazing little girl Chad, ugh I mean I couldn't imagine doing that"

“Now, we can raise her together and make a beautiful young lady”, her dad smiled
Malia’s heart never felt so warm and full of love.

Artist Statement

The two perspectives I chose were Malia and Mia. Malia is the younger sister who has always been close with her dad, but has always felt like an outsider in her own family. Mia is the older sister who her and her dad have always been close to since her mom died at 3.

I incorporated the essential questions of what is family and how does family impact one's identity, by them both starting off with perfect views of how family is supposed to be. The both quickly come to learn that's not always what family is when they find out they are sisters.

I created a snapshot when Malia finds out that her dad isn't her biological dad to show how hurt and lost she felt in that moment. I also used one when Malia met her bio dad and Malia for the first time.

I used dramatic irony when the Audience will know that Mia and her dad are close because her mom passed away when she was 3 but Malia won't know that until the Falling Action. The audience will know that yes Malia and her dad are closest but she has always kinda felt like an outsider in her own family.

I used thought shots when they were thinking about their dads or parents to kind of portray their feelings on everything that was happening around them way better. Also I used them when they were thinking about each other to show their sister relationship.

I used dialogue when the sisters first met and when Mia found out about Malia to kind of zoom in on their emotions when talking to each other or about each other. I felt as though in those moments dialogue gave more life to the short story rather than if I used descriptive words or language.

I incorporated a motif of the girls' relationship and bond with dads and how after they found they were sisters, their relationship changed with them, but ultimately ended up being better.