

The Confused Boy

THE BEGINNING

Big things change a lot of people but in this case this little boy's life was about to go upside down. Thomas sat with his stuffed animals on the couch watching his favorite show, which at the time was Kipper The Dog. Charles, (Thomas's Dad) is a man who loves gambling and drinking. He hates to talk about his past especially after the Iraq War he recently came back from. Linda, (Thomas's Mom) is the woman who runs the house. Linda suffers from bipolar disorder and has a smoking problem. With her being bipolar it affects her relationship with the people around her like her family, especially her daughter, Thomas's sister Sofia. Sofia doesn't come around much anymore. She lives on her own and states to herself. Sofia is a person that went through the most mental trauma in the family. Sofia at a young age was abused by her mom, mentally and physically. When Sofia was 10 she had run away because of her mom's outbursts. When Sofia was found she was found shaking in the cold, on the slide at the park with only a stuffed bear to keep her warm. After that some people had taken Sofia away and Thomas rarely saw her.

THOMAS

Thomas had loved to watch Kipper the Dog. He loved to see Kipper going with his friends to the park and watched as Kipper and his friends looked at the bugs and ate sandwiches on the bench. One day while watching Kipper there was a knock on the door. When Thomas opened the door he had seen a tall white man with blue eyes, a fuzzy beard, and a big coat. "Are your parents home?" said the man with a deep and bold voice. Thomas thought to himself, "Why is this man here? I've never seen him around our neighborhood." Just as Thomas had

shook his head yes, his dad charged down the stairs, to yell at Thomas for opening the door without permission. Suddenly, Charles froze and looked as the man walked up to him.

CHARLES

“Son, go upstairs and pack your things, we have to leave”!

THOMAS

Thomas is confused and doesn't know what is happening, his dad then yells, “hurry up!” The first thing Thomas thought to grab was his favorite toys, not knowing that he had to bring his clothes because he was going to need them. Thomas says to himself, “I wonder why Dad is panicking, and who was that man at the door?”.

CHARLES

The main thing going through Charles mind at the time was ,“Oh shit I'm getting evicted. What will I tell Linda ?”. Charles knows why they were getting evicted. It was because of his gambling. Gambling and drinking had been a coping mechanism after the war. Charles used these things to help with the trauma. Charles knew he had to work up the courage to call Linda and tell her that they were getting evicted.

LINDA

“What the hell are you talking about? We paid the bill”. “I'm leaving work now”. Linda had been working as a chef for a restaurant. However, due to stress she's been feeling more anxious and began smoking. This had really set a blaze, when she got to the house she was a rampaging bull on the loose and the bull was seeing red everywhere . She not only cursed the people who were evicting her, she was mainly focused on Charles and she asked him, “If we paid

the bill then why are we getting evicted Charles?”. With tears in her eyes she said “we have to call our daughter Sofia”.

SOFIA

It had been a year since Sofia last talked to her parents. “Sofia we’re getting evicted, come and get your brother”. That wasn't something Sofia wanted to hear after a year but she understood. So Sofia left work, hopped straight into her car then raced to her parents house to see what was happening. Her mother was pleading for the evictors to stop the eviction while her father looked lost in a daze. Sofia looked for Thomas, he was sitting there sad looking at his home and thinking about his memories there which seemed to be floating away from him like a lake in the desert, full and big but as the minutes go on start to become small and dried up.

THOMAS

Thomas didn't know how to feel during all this, he was confused and wondered why his toys were being taken, his games, and most of all why he had to go with his sister. “Thomas, come and say hi to your sister, you're gonna be staying with her for a while”. Thomas with a cold sad look in his eyes said ,“ok”. When they got in the car Thomas didn’t cry or ask questions, he was just quiet. Sofia had asked Thomas if he wanted to see a movie. All he said was, “I just want to sleep.”

SOFIA

Sofia didn't know how to comfort Thomas because she had never been in his shoes. Sofia took Thomas to her home. As soon as they got to Sofia’s house Thomas didn’t say anything, instead he went right to sleep.

THOMAS AND SOFIA

When Thomas awoke he had found out that his parents were staying at Charles' mom's home without him.

Sofia asked, "So how are you feeling Thomas?"

Thomas replied, "I dont know whats happening Sofia i'm-i'm scared".

Sofia said, "So since you're my little brother I'm gonna give you some news. Good or bad first?"

While covering his eyes to not let Sofia see him crying Thomas said, "I'll get the bad first"

Sofia said, "Ok the bad thing is, you don't live with your parents"

"But the good thing is, you live with me for now until your parents get a new home but we are gonna have fun together". "Think of it as a long long sleepover full of state of the art games, food, drinks and more all at your big sisters house!

THOMAS

Thomas didn't know how to feel but he knew he felt one thing, a new feeling that he had never felt before and that was being sad. Thomas had never been sad because he had been happy for most of his life but this feeling was new. Thomas thought to himself "this is a weird feeling". "I want to tell Sofia how I feel but I can't say it". It felt like he had a frog stuck in his throat.

SOFIA

Sofia could tell something was up, because she had been through something like this before when she was young. When the people took Sofia when she was young they were always

asking her a million questions about her family. Sofia found it so hard to speak and understood that it could be hard to express yourself at times, especially after something stressful happens. So, she thought to ask Thomas slowly. She tried not to pressure him while also making him feel safe. Sofia said, “So lil bro what’s up I see something’s up? you can tell me we’re siblings”.

THOMAS

Thomas said, “I Just feel like I don’t know what’s happening anymore. I feel trapped. I don’t know what this feeling is. It’s like I don’t know, it feels like I can’t breathe and everything around me is breaking and-and”. Thomas's head was spinning like crazy, it felt like his head was spinning at 100 mph. Thomas thought that he was going to burst into tears and embarrass himself in front of his sister, but then he felt a warm hand on his back followed by Sofia saying, “you're not alone it’s ok to cry, everything is gonna be ok, because we’re family and family sticks together”.

SOFIA

Sofia has had panic attacks in the past and she didn’t know exactly what to say to Thomas but she knew to tell him that everything was gonna be ok. After Sofia said this she saw Thomas’s eyes light up and she shot up to give him a hug, then the siblings hugged and they both realized that they both had trauma and now had someone to share it with. So, Sofia told Thomas about her past and how she was abused by their parents and how she ran away.

THOMAS

Thomas found out a lot about his sister and really enjoyed their conversation. They told each other about what they've been through and even how [Sofia got to pet a gardener snake in the summer while at the park](#), which was really cool to Thomas.

Thomas was really glad he could talk to someone about his problems and be open without it. feeling pressured to say anything. [Thomas thought to himself that if he never had a sibling how would he manage, but he tried not to think about it too much.](#) In the end Thomas was glad he had someone to talk to, glad he had a place to stay, glad he had a sister to unconfuse this confused boy.