

The Big Move

Talia looked out the car window awaking from her sleep. She saw big buildings and lots of cars, nothing like her old town. Her dad got a big promotion at the company he worked for so that meant they had to move...to the suburbs of LA. Talia had to admit, she was curious of what the big city would look like, highways everywhere, big mansions. Nothing like the small town in northern California they used to live in. She knew Tamar would be bouncing up and down the moment they stepped out of the SUV because that was just something her twin would do. They both had long curly hair, dark skin, brown eyes, and were the same height, plus their 16 birthday was coming around the corner. They may be identical twins but their personalities were definitely not identical. This city was modern, sleek, and neat. A place Tamar always wanted to live in. Talia didn't mind it but she still missed her old home and friends where she was comfortable.

"Well, look who's up." Talia's dad stated grinning back at Talia.

"Ha, very funny dad," Talia responded with a grin spreading across her face, "You didn't think that I would really sleep the whole way did you?"

"Maybe, because we're almost there." he stated with excitement very visible.

Surprisingly, Tamar didn't say a thing, still looking out her window with a huge smile plastered on her face. They were nearing a neighborhood when she finally spoke again.

"So, Talia. Aren't you excited, I mean look at this place! You must be crazy if you don't" Tamar rambled, turning to look at Talia who was looking out her own window in the back seat.

"Well obviously not as excited as you." Talia responded with a laugh. She had to admit. Their new neighborhood was definitely exciting. They weren't Beverly Hills type of houses but they were definitely big, and something the girls never had the chance to live in, until now.

It was when the car started to slow down when the nerves hit Talia. She was excited but nervous. It was just a house, but it would soon be home. A place where she would make memories, friends, and grow up. But Talia didn't have any more time to worry because the car had already pulled up to their destination... and Tamar was already jumping out of the car.

Pulling her suitcase out of the trunk Tamar walked excitedly up to the door of her new house not bothering to wait for her dad and sister. She held her breath before opening the door suppressing her excitement which was obviously evident. But even Tamar wasn't ready for what was behind that door. A wide hallway opened up before her with a huge glass chandelier hanging over her head. To the left of her was a small area housing a big black piano with a small couch accompanying it. To her right was a huge winding staircase leading up to a lounge area and hallway. She restrained herself from going up there waiting for her father and twin before moving anywhere else.

Tamar let out a sigh of excitement when Talia and their dad came to the door. They had similar expressions of awe on their faces as they looked at their new house. Tamar exchanges a glance of mischief before running up the stairs with Talia following behind. Desperate to get the first glance at bedrooms Tamar dashes into the first one but stops short Talia next to her. The bedroom was a large area with a bay window overlooking the backyard. A nice large closet on one wall with an open door to the right leading into a sleek bathroom. But before Talia could say something Tamar was already dashing to the next bedroom. The next bedroom was identical to the last but still had the same jaw dropping effect on the girls.

After looking at the extraordinary master bedroom, bathroom, and balcony on the rest of the hallway, Talia and Tamar proceeded downstairs. They walked down the hallway exploring its many wonders and found their father lounging on the couch with a smile on his face.

“Didn’t take you two long to go looking around.” he said with a laugh as he got up.

“ What do you expect! This. Place. Is. Amazing!” Tamar responded with a tone that made it clear nobody could change her mind.

“ I have to admit, she isn’t overreacting... *this* time at least.” Talia said, managing a laugh of her own.

“Well, I guess you two could take a walk around the neighborhood, to look around.” their Dad said hopefully, “Maybe you too will get a feel of the place.”

It took Tamar about 0.5 seconds to grab Talia and race to the door. They started walking down the sidewalk looking at houses and seeing occasional people outside. Talia started to realize that these people were used to fancy cars, houses, and lifestyle. She doubted she would fit in with the other kids at their new school. Talia was expecting some brats if she was being honest but she didn’t think she should stereotype people like that. But in the back of her mind that thought was still nagging and she had to push it back. *You’ll be fine, you’ll make friends, and besides, you have Tamar.* She thought to herself. Tamar was her best friend. They always had each other’s backs. Tamar was the outgoing, fun social butterfly. Talia was the sporty and chill one which preferred having people she knew around her. She knew she would be going to a big school so she would probably blend in but she was still worried.

She and Tamar walked around the neighborhood for a bit pointing at cool features on houses that they thought were cool. The weekend went by pretty fast and soon enough it was time for the girls to go to school.

Tamar was ecstatic as the girls pulled up to the school. It was a private school but nobody wore uniforms so it made it seem a little more homey. It was a big modern building with neat trees and shrubs lined perfectly along the sidewalks and buildings. There were lots of kids walking around the grounds busy talking and walking towards the big glass doors.

“C’mon let’s go find the office, we’ll get our schedules there.” Tamar said practically pulling Talia towards the giant building.

“Um, Tamar,” Talia said, amused as they set foot into the massive lobby, “do you even know where it *is*.”

“Oh, yeah, right. Let’s just ask somebody I guess.” she responded walking towards a tall girl with long black hair and almond eyes. “Do you know where the main office is? I’m Tamar and this is my sister Talia and we’re new here.”

“Haha, yes I do,” she said laughing, “I’m Irissa, follow me.”

Tamar gave Talia a smirk and Talia couldn’t help but let a giggle slip through her mouth as she rolled her eyes.

The girls got their schedules and decided to see if they might have any classes together.

“This is a big school so your first period is your homeroom where you basically get work done and hear announcements.” Irissa told them as they told her their schedules.

“I have Mr. DeMar.” Tamar said, glancing at Talia’s schedule.

“Damn, I have Mrs. Bengard, what are your other classes?” Talia responded hopefully.

“Second period Geometry, third period chemistry, fourth period spanish 3, D lunch, fifth period history, sixth period english, and seventh period gym. Wow thank heavens gym is seventh period.” Tamar answered grinning.

“Well that means I have gym, chemistry, and geometry with you. Hopefully I'll at least *find* the classes.” Talia said nodding at the huge school.

“Good, I have Mrs.Bengard for homeroom and some other classes with you guys!” Irissa said happily. “I'll show you guys around, Mr. DeMar's class isn't far from there.”

In Mrs.Bengard's class Irissa sat down next to Talia as they listened to their teacher speak. Mrs.Bengard was a woman with formality in her walk. She wore a dark blue skirt with a white blouse tucked in her brown hair loose over her shoulders. The classroom was very neat and tidy. She seemed like a pretty chill teacher but if you were messing around too much she wasn't the person you wanted to deal with.

Mr. DeMar's classroom on the other hand was a whole different mood. He was a tall man around his late twenties, wearing shorts and a casual shirt. Kids were chatting in the classroom but he didn't seem to mind calling it “their time” since the bell was yet to ring, signalling the beginning of the class.

Talia eagerly waited for the bell to dismiss them from the first period so she could meet up with Tamar in geometry. She and Irissa had chatted for most of the class and all of Talia's worries of not fitting in slowly seeped away. Meanwhile in Mr.Demar's classroom Tamar found herself relating to a girl named Selene. She found out that they even lived in the same neighborhood which led to her talking about how she just moved here.

The school week sped by as the girls made new friends and got used to the humongous school and basically every other building in the city. Talia began to enjoy the school and neighborhood they lived in. She also realized that making friends was a bit easier than she thought as she and Irissa got together and studied a couple times that week. Not to mention their big house that she found herself getting lost in more than enough times. Tamar also spent time with Selene as she showed her cool shops and food places she should try out downtown.

Their dad decided that they should go walk around downtown and get some food in celebration of the first week of their move. The city was filled with tall buildings, shops, highways and busy streets. People walked along sidewalks shopping bags and drinks in hand as they enjoyed the hot saturday. There was a big park in the middle of downtown filled with bikers, runners, and people walking their dogs in the bright sun.

Their dad decided to park in a parking lot instead of on the street (Tamar complained about walking since she was “tired”) they ended up walking in and out of stores which added hours to their little city adventure. Tamar and Talia got to pick out some outfits from the stores which Tamar was ecstatic about since she “needed to fill her big closets.” Talia had a different approach getting some new shoes and managing to convince their dad to get her a volleyball net set since she left their old one at their old city. The three of them got some food, walked around a park and then headed home.

Although the girls moved to a completely new city and they still missed their old town and friends, they managed to get used to their new home, school, and city. Talia despite her worries about fitting in managed to make a new friend and get used to their new environment. Tamar loves the new city and also made a new friend, Selene. Tamar and Talia may have had different perspectives about moving to a new place but they still made it work and now they've

come to love their new city. The girls continue to grow in this new place and learn more about themselves, but for now, they are still Tamar and Talia.