

Expectations vs. Reality

“I am so glad school is done for the summer,” my friend Alex told me as we walked home. I nodded. “Freshman year was so stressful. I need a break.” As we walked down the street, I noticed a woman stopped at the crosswalk ahead of us. She had a cane and a little guide dog by her feet. I smiled as we came up and stood next to her. She gave us a small smile in return, and turned back to face the oncoming traffic. Just then, a squirrel bolted across the road, causing her dog to start barking. I turned to Alex, concerned. I did not know much about guard dogs, but I thought that they were trained not to be spooked that easily. The dog started pulling her owner into the street, which still had cars rushing through the intersection. Without even thinking, I grabbed her arm. “Ma’am, watch out,” I cried, pulling her back onto the sidewalk. She turned to me, clearly terrified. “Thank you so much. What is your name?” “Olivia,” I told her. “And this is my friend Alex.” She shook both of our hands. “I am Joyce Wilson. It is so nice to meet both of you,” Joyce then nodded towards her dog, “This is Bella. She is a guard dog in training. I am only partially blind, so I offered to adopt her. This is her first major incident.” I nodded, and reached down to pet her. Bella licked me a few times, and I laughed. “She seems like a sweet dog.” Joyce nodded. “I should probably go, but I want to introduce you to my granddaughter Sabrina. She is around your age, I bet you three will really get along.” I looked at her, bewildered. “Is your granddaughter Sabrina Wilson, the famous actress?” Joyce nodded. “Yes, that is her. She is in town all week.” I smiled. “We will be there.”

The next day Alex and I showed up on Joyce’s doorstep. I had given her my phone number, and she sent me her address. Alex turned to me. “Do you think we will be famous? Sabrina can post this story all over the news.” I gave him a playful shove. “I doubt it. But, being famous would be nice.” I rang the doorbell, and I gasped. It was Sabrina Wilson. She was a lot

shorter off camera, and she was glued to her phone. She looked up and examined us. “Who are you two?” She snapped. “I am Alex, and this is my friend Olivia. She saved your grandmother’s life,” Alex answered. Sabrina still stared at us with a blank expression. “My grandma did not tell me anything about you two, and I do not have time for charity.” Sabrina said, slamming the door in our face. Alex stared at me, dumbfounded. “Maybe we will not become famous today.” I laughed, and put my arm around him as we started to walk home. “I guess not.”