
Run away from the truth
By: Sophia Queiroz

ABOUT THE AUTHOR— SOPHIA QUEIROZ

The author Sophia Queiroz is a 13 year old in seventh grade. Her favorite animal is elephants, and she used to have a dog named Mel who passed away a few years ago. Her favorite color is blue. She also has one sibling who is seven years younger than her. Unlike many people she really enjoys having a sibling. Sophia goes to Oakridge middle school, in South Carolina. Sophia started thinking her novel was going to be the worst thing she had ever written, but now she thinks she is way more ahead than she started with. In the beginning she couldn't write one good paragraph, now she wrote an entire short story.

DEDICATION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This novel was inspired by other stories I had written in sixth grade. They had been about adventures people went to, or mysteries people had to solve. This particular story was inspired by a cliffhanger I had left in one of my stories in sixth grade. I also am grateful for my teacher who helped me write this story and make it better.

CHAPTER 1

The last thing I remember since the day I did it was how much I ran into tears. Crying so hard and trying not to look back. And that was the day they found out my deepest, darkest secret.

It’s been about a week since we moved to this new town. It’s way different from my last one. Everything is different, the people, the houses, the schools. We haven't been to school yet, my sister is going to the elementary school that’s about 10 minutes away, the Creek Wood Elementary school, and I'm going to the high school that is the closest school to our house, Creek Wood High School. To be honest I'm really, really scared. But I hope I have fun.

It’s been about five minutes since I’ve been waiting outside for my sister to come out so I can drop her off at her school.
“Hurry up! We’re going to be late, Izzy!” “Comiiingg!”
“You seriously take forever to get ready.”
“Shut up. You take waaaaaayyy longer than me when you have to put on the makeup you wear to church.”
“Fine, whatever. Get in the car.”
Smirking, she gets in the car and we drive all the way to her school. I drop her off, give her a hug, say goodbye and good luck, and drive to my new school.

When I get in, there are crowds of people talking and running, playing with their basketballs. And they’re so loud! But not even close to my old school. There are posters everywhere. One says, Science fair on Tuesday! Another one says, theater additions on Friday! As I'm walking to class a blond girl approached me with her friends.
“You must be the new girl! I'm Ava.” She said.
“HI! I'm Ariel.” I say trying to sound cool.
“Nice to meet you, Ariel! It looks like we have the same homeroom!” She says as we walk in.
“Wow, I love your hair!” One of her friends says. “This is my friend, Lisa and this is Kemmy.”
“Hi!” I say.

Homeroom goes by super slowly. It felt like hours until the first period. And to my bad luck, I sit beside ava. I like her but I don't, it's kind of hard to explain. She’s always like, “yaaaayy let's have a party!” While I'm more like, “yaaayy! Let’s talk and do nothiinnggg!” But I still like her.

It’s lunch and I’m troubled because I don’t have anyone to sit with. As expected Ava asks me to sit with her.

“C'mon Ariel! Sit with us!”

Of course, she sits on the most crowded table so I don’t have anywhere to sit so she shoves somebody off.

“Oops! Sorry! I didn’t mean to do that!”

She says to the person, then she turns to me and says, “sit right here beside me!” Of course, I’m a people pleaser so I do as she asks.

Chapter 2

After school, I pick up Izzy and we go home.

“How was school?” my dad asks.

“It was meh,” I say.

“Why?” Izzy asks me.

“Well, there’s this girl and she’s really enthusiastic. Now I’m not saying I don’t like enthusiastic people but she is too enthusiastic. You know what I’m saying?” My dad looks at me with a puzzled look.

“Well, is she a good friend to you?” He asks.

“Yeah, she’s super nice! But she kind of freaked me out when she shoved someone off of the table so I could sit beside her.” I say trying to sound as nice as possible.

“Well if she’s super nice why don’t you like her?” She says.

“It’s complicated!” I yell.

After talking about my terrible day we eat dinner and go to bed.

Chapter 3

After a few days I get used to Ava being weird and just keep on going with my week.

“Hey, Ariel!” Said Kemmy.

“Hey Kemmy,” I say, sounding gloomy.

“I just wanted to talk to you about Ava for a sec.” She says,

“I know she’s kind of weird but try to be your best to her. Her mom was murdered. At the place Ava used to live. I’m pretty sure it was called a wide town. What a weird name.” She says with a weird face. Suddenly my mind goes blank, and that night comes up. The night I killed somebody’s mom in the same town Ava is talking about.

I was young, in eighth grade exactly. My dad works as a construction worker and that day he and I went to somebody’s house to fix their kitchen. It was 5 at night and I went up to somebody’s room out of curiosity, while my dad was fixing their kitchen. I was exploring because I was curious about that room like something was dragging me there. I was looking around and that’s when I saw on the nightstand an adoption paper. I was about to pick up the adoption paper when a woman walked in.

“What are you doing here?” She asked. That woman looked luxurious with a lot of jewelry on.

“Sorry, I thought this was the bathroom,” I said scared.

“It’s okay honey, the bathroom is down the hall to the left.”

“Thank you!” I said with relief. I walked down the stairs and I saw my dad talking to a man.

“Sir, I really need this money. If I can’t earn this money I will have to sell my house.” My dad looked sad and disappointed.

“Sorry, but we found a better construction person.

“But I already fixed part of your sink. Sir, please I’m a single father of a 7-year-old and an eighth grader.” My dad said.

“Oh well! Sorry.” We walked out of the house, my dad looking sadder than I have ever seen phim be since my mom died. I was mad, so mad my head could just explode.

“Dad, what are you going to do?”

“I guess we’ll have to move.” I went in the car crying and angry. That night I realized I lost my childhood home and the home I made so many memories in. After we left I stomped upstairs and cried. A few minutes later I heard my dad tell my sister. I heard her come up and hug me until we cried so much we fell asleep.

I woke up in the middle of the night with so much anger and hate I had to do something. I remembered that my mom had a tazor. I went into our garage and I found it in a chest-looking box. I opened it and there it was, what I thought was the key to solving my anger and hate.

I took my bike and biked all the way back to their house. I barged into their living room and somebody was asleep on the couch. I couldn't tell who it was because of the darkness. And that was when I saw, a beautiful necklace sitting on the coffee table. At that moment I knew I had to take it. I was about to snatch it when the person woke up.
"Who are you?"
They said looking alarmed when I panicked and tasered them. After that, I ran into tears. That night when I reached into my pocket for the necklace it was gone, and I realized I didn't take it.

"Ariel, Ariel, Ariel!" Kemmy called.
"Oh sorry! I just zoned out for a second."
"Yeah, anyways just try to be nice to Ava even though she might be weird."
"Oh, ok! Let's go to our next period."

Chapter 4

“What do you think about chicken and chocolate?” Said Izzy with a happy face.

“Yeah, don’t even ask me because just the sound of that is disgusting,” I say.

“But it’s my two favorite things, chicken and chocolate!”

“Yeah, two very good things most of the time don’t go well together.”

“Whatever if y’all don’t want it more for me.” She says.

“Suit yourself! Dad, can we have some pizza instead?”

“Sure!” He says. At almost the same moment Izzy says, “never mind! Cheese pizza since you guys are forcing me.”

After dinner, I went up to my room to get some homework done when the thought of having killed Ava’s mom kicked in. I try to fall asleep but I can’t, I have to find out what happened to her mom. I go online and go on Ava’s Instagram. Scroll all the way to the bottom and find a picture of her and her mom. I’m shocked, it was the same person from that night. I fall out of my chair when Izzy barges in.

“Are you okay?” She says.

“Yeah, I’m fine,” I say as I quickly stand up and close my computer.

“What’s that on your computer?” She says.

“It’s just a picture on Instagram of that girl Ava and her mom.”

“Oh, well I just came in to say good night.” I hug her, say good night and she goes back to her room.

Chapter 5

“Hey, Ariel!” Kemmy says.

“Hi, Kemmy! Where are the rest of the crew, Ava and Lisa?”

“Oh, Ava went on a cruise and Lisa’s sick. Anyways I wanted to ask if you wanted to come to my birthday party this weekend.” She says.

“Oh, sure! I just gotta make sure I’m free to go.”

“Ok! Text me! Hurry up we’re going to be late!” We run to my least favorite class, Mr. Fig’s class.

“Kemmy and Ariel, why are you late?” He says looking mad. “Oh sorry, Ariel and I went to the bathroom.”

“Okay. Make sure you have a hall pass next time or you get lunch detention.”

“Yes sir.” We say as we go to our seats.

After the most boring class of all, we go to lunch and I sit with Kemmy. I didn’t know Kemmy was so nice. I thought she was going to be one of the spoiled brats but she’s actually super nice.

“Ariel, what do you think the theme of my birthday should be? Bonfire or neon glow in the dark?”

“I don’t know, what do you think?”

“I love bonfires because they’re just super cozy and I love the marshmallows, but if I have a neon glow-in-the-dark party there’s going to be those globes that shine lights.”

“Never mind, go with a super cool neon glow-in-the-dark party!”

“Alright glow in the dark it is. On Saturday do you want to help me decorate?”

“Sure!”

Chapter 6

Kimmy's decorations are awesome! She has a huge globe, a chocolate fountain, and a fondue fountain. I'm so excited since this is my first party since we moved here. There was Izzy's birthday party but I'm not going to count that because it was just a bunch of kids.

"Kemmy, where do you want me to put this big thing?" She got this huge chocolate fountain.

"Put it on the big food table."

"Okay."

It's the day of the party and I'm super excited. I picked out my favorite outfit, a cropped white shirt and my cute black leggings, and a Jean jacket. When I arrived there were so many people. When I see Kemmy she comes right up to me to say hi.

"Hi, Ariel! How do you like my party?"

"Wow, Kemmy, this is great."

"Thanks! I also got to show you, someone. This is Noah, my boyfriend."

"Hi, nice to meet you." He says.

"Hi, so how long have you guys been together?"

"For about 5 months." She says.

"Guys I'm starving, I'm going to go try out the chocolate fountain." "Okay! If you need me I'll be on the dance floor." "Okay."

As I grab a chocolate Noah comes up to me. "So, how long have you and Kemmy been friends?"

"For about 2 months," I say as I'm putting chocolate on my strawberries.

"Do you want to sit at the table with me?"

"Sure," I say. "Nice bracelet."

"Thanks, I got it from my grandma, it's actual diamonds, I never take it off." I miss my grandma, she died eight years ago and I can just remember all the great times I had with her, how she made the best cookies, how whenever I was trying to ride my bike and fell she would always comfort me when I fell. Come to think of it, my mom was a lot like her too. My mom was the one to help me get through the tough time when grandma died, she acted like she was alright but I know that deep inside she was crying with me too.

"Hey, guys."

"Hey Kemmy, I think I'll head out. It's getting really late and I'm really tired. Bye!" "Bye!"

Chapter 7

When I got home for some reason I couldn't stop thinking about my mom and my grandma, and how Izzy barely knew them. She knew my mom but she barely knew my grandma.
When I woke up Izzy asked if I could do her makeup because she was going to her friend's birthday party and she said that she has to look amazing.
"Fine, but I won't do a lot of makeup because you know dad doesn't like it when you wear too much makeup."
"Ok!" She said, I do her makeup the best I can and by the end, she looks so pretty I almost start crying because my little sister is growing up.
"How does it look?" "You look awesome."
"Thanks!" "Ariel, can you come down here for a second?" My dad yells from downstairs.
"Coming!" "Can you drive Izzy to her friend's birthday party? I can't drive her, I have to go fix up somebody's pool today."
"Sure. Do I also have to pick her up?" "Yes." "Okay, what time?" "Three o'clock." "Okay, it's fine by me."
After I drop off Izzy I go back home and start to study.

As I'm studying I get a phone call from Izzy's friend's mom.
"Hello?"
"Hi, Ariel! So I'm calling you to say that Izzy has just had a very bad allergic reaction."
"Really? Is she ok?"
"Um, we just called an ambulance because she passed out."
"I'm on my way." "Okay." Ten minutes later I get to Izzy's friend's house.
"Where's Izzy?"
"She's right here, the ambulance just arrived."
"Hello, is this Izzy, the girl who had the allergic reaction?"
"Yes, it is."
"Hi, I'm Izzy's sister. I am responsible for her until our dad gets here."Our dad is at work but I can call him and see if he can come."
"Okay, call your father and see. All I am going to do is give her this shot which is going to make her allergic reaction get better. What is she allergic to?" "Peanut butter." "Okay did she have any peanut butter today?" He asks as he gives her the shot. "Izzy! Are you feeling okay?" "Yeah way better." "Did you have any peanut butter while you were here? You know you're not supposed to have any." "Yeah,

I did. But it was because when Mrs. Shanel gave us peanut butter and jelly sandwiches the girl asked if I was going to eat them and I said yes because I didn't want to say I was allergic to peanut butter so I ate them."

"Izzy! Why would you risk your life just so some girl won't make fun of you for being allergic to something?! When we get home I'm telling dad."

"No, Ariel! Please? You know how he gets about my allergy."

"Fine I won't tell him but we're going home now, you're not staying at this party after what you did."

"Fine, whatever."

"Thank you for having us, Mrs. Shanel!"

"Thank you for coming!"

When we get home I decide to give Izzy a few more speeches.

"Izzy, I cannot believe what you did today! And just because you were ashamed of your allergies! Why are you ashamed of your allergies they're just something that happens to your body and it's okay, a lot of people have allergies and nobody makes fun of them!"

"You sound like dad."

"I'm trying my best here, give me some credit."

"Fine, whatever. Can we just watch a movie?"

"Sure."

After the movie, I and Izzy fall asleep, and dad gets home.

"Shhh, Izzy's still asleep."

"Sorry! How was the party?" "Very unexpected."

"What do you mean?"

"Izzy had an allergic reaction and we had to call an ambulance."

"What? How did that happen." After I told him the whole story he said,

"I can't believe Izzy! I have taught her so many times but I don't understand!"

"It's okay dad, she learned her lesson." "I just can't take care of you both as your mom did. Sorry, I forgot." My dad and I don't really like to talk about mom we just feel the sadness all over again and he knows how sad I get when we talk about her. "It's okay I know it's hard for you without mom too."

"Yeah, when Izzy wakes up we're going to have a talk."

"Just don't tell her I was the one who told you about it."

"Okay, I won't."

Chapter 8

When I get back to school I find that Ava is back from her cruise.

"Omg! Hi Ariel!"

"Hi, Ava! How was the cruise?"

"It was so much fun! My dad took his girlfriend and she is super nice!"

"That's great!"

"Omg! I almost forgot! I bought this sups cute necklace for you!"

"Wow, you're so sweet!"

"Omg, thanks!"

"Hey Ava, so I wanted to ask you something and if you don't want to answer it fine but, what happened to your mom?"

"Oh."

"If you don't want to answer it's fine but I was just wondering."

"No, it's okay. So my mom has heart problems and one night there was a break in our house and she wasn't feeling so well so she slept on the couch and the person tasered her. And because of the heart problems, she couldn't make it." Right then and there she starts crying and I am not the person who knows what to do when somebody else starts crying.

"Hey, it's okay. I'm sorry for making you cry." I say as I pull her in for a hug.

"It's okay you didn't know."

"My mom also died."

"What happened to her?" "She died of cancer."

"Wow, I'm sorry Ariel."

"It's okay, you know she's in a better place now."

"Yeah, thanks for everything."

"You're welcome." As I go to class all I can think about is her mom and how it could've been me who killed her.

When I get home the first thing I think to do is text Kemmy to come over. I tell her everything that happened.

"Wow that's crazy. So you think you killed her mom?"

"Yeah, I understand if you don't want to be friends with me anymore because of what I did."

"No it's okay, we're friends and Ava isn't my best best friend like you are, and plus like I can't believe her parents did that to your dad."

"I know, right?" "So are you going to do anything about that?"

“No, I'm just going to keep quiet and never, ever going to let even one thing slip out and have Ava find out what happened.”

Chapter 9

After Kemmy leaves we have dinner.

“Ooohhh, dads famous spaghetti dinner, yummy.”

“I know! I love dads spaghetti. It’s so yummy.”

“Time to eat!” “Yay.” Izzy squeals.

“Hey, Ariel?”

“Yeah, dad?”

“So I was cleaning out the attic today and I found your old diary.”

“Really? Can I see it?”

“Yeah, here.” I've had this diary since third grade. I write in it every thought I had, every silly one, a very sad one.”

“I loved this diary. How did it end up in the attic?”

“I don’t know. Probably got lost in the moving.”

“Yeah probably. I’m full, I’m going to my room.”

“Okay.” As I opened the diary a ton of dust went up on my face, and I started reading it. Today I was very mad at Lucy, instead of going on the swings with me she went on the swings with Maria. Lucy was one of my very best friends in third through sixth grade until she moved to New York. I remember the day she told me I was so sad and we both started crying. Today daddy gave me ice cream for dessert. It was my favorite flavor, chocolate. I read all the pages until the very last one. Today my dad is deciding on if we should move or not. I’m not going to move out of this house. I have to do something… I remember how I felt when I wrote that page. I was sad and mad, and I had to do something, I regret it every day. After that page, there was a blank one. I decided to start writing, I wrote everything and anything that was on my mind at that moment. I should’ve never gone to that house to steal. It was the worst decision of my life. I was the person who makes Ava sad every day. I closed my book before I burst into tears.

Chapter 10

The next day I see that Ava is back. “Hey Ariel!” She says as she runs to me and gives me a hug.
“Hey Ava.”
“What’s wrong?”
“Nothing, how was your cruise?”
“It was great.”
“Nice.”
“Ariel, I can tell something is wrong, if you don’t want to tell me that’s fine but-“
“I can’t Ava!” I say sobbing. “I just can’t! Everybody will hate me for this, and we might not even be friends after this!”
“Why? I wouldn’t do that. You’re my friend and I would never do that.” Right as I start to talk I see Kemmy coming.
“Hey… Ariel? What’s wrong? Hey Ava what’s going on?”
“She’s just crying because I asked her what happened and why she’s so sad.”
“Oh, uh, Ariel I think I have something for you in my locker, Ava I think you should probably check in before you’re marked absent.”
“Oh, but-“
“Me and Ariel are going to my locker, bye!”
“Uh, ok?” Kemmy takes me to the bathroom to ask me what’s wrong.
“Ariel, is this about what happened to Ava’s mom?”
“Kemmy, I don’t know what to do, I killed her mom!” Before I can even finish my sentence Ava walks in.
“Ariel what happened?”
“Ava, I told you I was going to ask her what happened.”
“Kemmy, I wasn’t talking to you. Ariel?”
“Ava, can’t you just leave her alone, I can take care of this.” Before I could even say anything they started fighting.
“Kemmy, stop!” Before I could even say anything I went in between them before Kemmy could punch Ava, and when I did. All I could see was black.

The end.