

# Melanie's Story

"Mel? Mely! Melanie!" Dr. Marlin/ Dad yelled. "Ugh what!" I said in a tired voice. "It's the big day! We're moving to Australia!" Dad said with excitement. To be honest I was not excited I mean I'm moving from Florida to Australia! I lost my friends, my school, my dance team, and my house! The only reason we need to move to Australia is because my Dad could find a better job there and my mom died two years ago and Dad promised her we would follow her footsteps as if she were still here. "Come on it's going to be so much fun!" Dad said loudly.

## **Sydney, Australia**

Dr. Marlin took a deep breath in and out "Ahh the fresh Australian air! Don't you love it Mely?" "Dad we've been over this my name is Melanie not Mely! Ewww! What is that?" I said. "Ooo Mely take a picture it's a turtle!" Dad said with excitement. My Dad is crazy about two things animals and the ocean mainly because he's a marine biologist and also just because.

## **Port Macquarie, Australia**

"Okay ready now open you're eyes!" Dad said eagerly. "A boat?" I said with so much confusion because why would we live in a boat? "I know isn't it great?" Dad said happily. "Now you can go on all the marine missions!" Dad said. "But what about school? Or dance?" I said quizzically. "Well I looked and there weren't very many good schools or dance teams you're level, so I thought you could be homeschooled and become a marine biologist just like me and mom!" Dad said. "Dad as much as I love you and mom I love dance not fish!" I had to get that straight with him. "Well you're right I will not stop you from following your dreams!" Dad said. "BEEP BEEP!" "Alarms, some creature must have been found! Dad said.

## **Middle of the Pacific Ocean**

Okay so we're out in the middle of nowhere in the ocean and some of my Dad's crew members are in my house/boat trying to find the "creature". "Dr. Marlin, we think we found something!" A crew member said. "WOW! Dad why are you running?" I asked. "They think they found something!" Dad said with excitement. "Come see!" Dad said. "Dr. Marlin we need to go underwater to see most of the creature." David (one of the crew members said). "Okay transform to submarine mode!" Dad yelled. And before I knew it the boat shook and started moving and wiggling and it turned from a boat to a submarine! "WOW!" I said. Then I heard "WOW!" and clapping, so I went to the sight room and saw a huge orca whale! "EWWW!" I said with a disgusted face. But this orca looked miserable like it was hurt real bad! So I went to my dad immediately! "Dad this orca looks hurt!" "No, No it's fine." He said. "No dad your not listening to me it's really hurt!" I said with a firm voice. Then my dad turned to me and yelled, "Melanie Marlin the orca whale is not hurt you aren't any expert so leave me alone and go to your room!" Okay so I got in huge trouble but I know that orca was in huge pain so I had to do something.

It's 11:00pm and everyone is sleeping so I grabbed my swimming gear and first-aid and left the room quietly trying not to wake anyone up. But as I was jumping in the water I realized, "OMG what am I doing, I'm about to swim next to a killer whale!" But then it came up to me, and was gentle with me that was the best thing in the world. I didn't know exactly what I was doing but something was leading me! I found a fishing pole on his tail but too small to see stuck to the orca! So I quickly took it out and checked for infection and the orca was healed! I could tell he wanted to go home to his own family so I let him go out of a cage he was trapped in. "Bye!" I said happily. Because I was happy I could heal him and let him go to his own family.

"Good morning Mely! By the way sorry about yesterday I got a little overwhelmed!" Dad said. "It's okay Dad I still love you." I said. "Dr. Marlin! Dr. Marlin! The orca is gone!" David said. "Oh no!" Dad said sadly. "Dad let it be, maybe it wanted to go home to his own family just like we were together as a family." I said. "You know what Melanie that's so true." Dad agreed. "I'm glad you agree. Come on let's go find another fascinating creature!" I said. "Really? I thought you hated this stuff!" Dad said with confusion. "No, actually meeting that orca whale made me realize that life begins at the end of your comfort zone!" I explained. "And maybe being a dancer isn't my dream after all, neither a marine biologist, I want to help animals Dad! You may not know why, but after I met that orca whale I found my dream!" I said happily. "I think that's a great dream Mely!" Dad said. "Thanks dad and I know it is too." I agreed.

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So here I am telling my story to everyone on how I became a marine vet! Honestly I still don't really know how I saved that orca's life but I'm glad I did because I wouldn't be where I am today!