

## **“Twin of the Party”**

**by Jennasis W.**

In all my 15 years, I've learned an important lesson in life, and can sum it up in two words-- not fair. Here's an example; it's *not fair* that we had to move all the way from New York City to a little rinky dink town called McClellanville. Oh, and here's another one, it's *not fair* my identical twin is named Katherine (like the queen), and I get an ugly name like Alex.

I mean, how are you supposed to name one girl after a queen (who can also have a nickname; Katy) and then name the other Alex? *Not fair, not fair, not fair!* You might think I sound a little bitter, but walk a mile in my shoes and see how bitter you just might get.

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“Get out of my room, you little squirt!” Katy said as she applied her blush on her cheeks, looking at her vanity mirror.

“Ok, first of all, this is our room. We share now, remember? Secondly, we are the same size, so if I'm a little squirt, so are you!” I fired back, feeling a little proud I defended myself.

“Whatever, quit being so smart with me all the time,” Katy carelessly said while she puckered up for some lip gloss. My heart sank a little. I looked all around so I didn't have to answer back. She was right, I was too smart for my own good. Everywhere we went it was always the same; ‘There's Katy, she has lots of friends. Oh, and then there's her sister who won some school contest last year’. When I found the courage to look back up, I really wished I hadn't. Standing there is Katy, dressed in a blue sundress with dancing flowers all over it, covered by a black cardigan and some black flats. Plus, the small amount of makeup she put on made her stunningly gorgeous, and she had put her hair in curlers the night before. Then, (as I looked into the full length mirror on our bedroom door) there's me, skinny jeans, my favorite white tee ( I love pi math club) and my black converse. Just plain brown straight hair, and big black nerd glasses to finish off my geeky look. *Just another day as Alex Leann Smith*, I thought as I sighed, grabbed my backpack, and headed off to school.

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“So,” my mom says, swallowing her last bite of lasagna, “How was school today, Katy, Alex?” Mom always wanted to know everything about our lives. Katy squealed, but I just made circles in my leftover lasagna. My day had been exactly like I had planned it would go. I answered a question in all my classes, then got embarrassed as people nicknamed me ‘class pet’. Everything just went downhill after that. I sat at a table in lunch where everybody was studying for their classes, then when I thought nothing else could possibly go wrong, a stupid boy tripped me on the bus ride home.

Katy started right in. “Mom, you wouldn't believe it!! I had a fantabulous day! I made a bunch of new friends in all my classes! I sat with some of them at lunch! Then a boy let me sit with him on the bus, and he invited me to this big party he's having on Friday!!! Yay,

I'm so excited you moved us here, mommy!" Katy, once again, squealed, kissed mom, and ran off to our room.

Mom just chuckled, "Well, I'm glad someones happy!" Then she looked at me. "How was your day sweetie?"

I got up from the dining room table and started clearing it. "Oh, good, I like all my classes, and I sat by some new friends at lunch," I said, hoping that would get her off my case. I didn't like answering questions like these.

Mom just stood up, wrapped me in a big bear hug, and swayed me gently. "I'm glad you had a good day," she then kissed my forehead, and headed to her room. I was now the only one in the kitchen, and I started scrubbing the plates really hard, even when they were squeaky clean. *When do I get to have fun? How come I don't have any friends?* I thought furiously. Then I got an idea. It was crazy, but I would finally be the one in this house who had all the friends.

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*This is ridiculous! What am I doing?!? Maybe I should go back- No! This is my time to shine!* It was like a war was going on inside my head. Reluctantly, I went back over the plan, and what parts I had finished. Mom on a full night shift at her new work (that part was a lucky hope), check. Me dressed exactly like my sister, check. Lastly, Katy, um, locked in a closet, check.

Before I almost talked myself into backing out, I was there, at the party. Things happened fast. I was taking selfies every five seconds with everyone I passed, trying to Katy-smile my best. Everybody was waving me over, getting me to try all the games. It was awesome! Then, a guy walked over, and I almost lost my smile. It was the guy who had tripped me! He was definitely walking toward me! "Hey, Katherine!" He yelled over the loud music. I smiled, and he continued to talk. "I had fun on the bus yesterday!" This is the guy Katy was talking about! I shook my head, and he kept on talking, but I didn't listen to one bit.

"Hey, um, can you excuse me a minute? I left something at home! I'll be right back!" He looked confused, but nodded, and I ran home as fast as Katy's shoes would allow me to go.

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I now was at home, for good. I let Katy out of the closet about an hour ago. She was pretty mad, but she hurried and went to catch up at the party. I know what I did was pretty crazy, but it was worth it. I learned a better life lesson that day. To be yourself, and not to let a popularity contest change that. So, I may not have a lot of friends like Katy, but I still have a good life, and I kinda like being a 'geek'!

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