

My Surprise Mermaid Family

By Ashley W.

Emily is a shy thirteen year old who loves to dance and spend time with her mom, dad and big sister. When she was ten years old her loving grandmother died, right before she died she gave Emily a beautiful heart locket without a key to open it. On Emily's thirteenth birthday, Emily's family decided to move to Orange Beach Alabama. She thought it was the best gift ever but she was nervous to live by the water because she did not know how to swim.

While getting ready to go to bed something magical happened! Emily noticed a small key that unlocked the locket her grandmother gave her. When she opened the locket, she found a picture of her grandfather and a note saying, "meet me at the ocean at midnight". She had never met her grandfather before because he left Emily's family when Emily's mom was a little girl.

Emily was scared to break the rules but she snuck out of the house before midnight. She wanted to meet who ever sent the note and ask questions about her family. When she got to the edge of the water, she saw a beautiful creature who was half man half fish. Emily asked, "Who are you"? The creature said "Hello Emily I am King Caleb of the Ocean. I am your grandfather and your grandmother was queen of the ocean." Emily was scared but wanted to know more information. She asked her grandfather why he was here now. He said, "On your thirteenth birthday you have to decide if you want to be a mermaid like the rest of your family." Emily was so confused she had never seen her mother or father swim and she was scared of the water.

He told Emily not to be afraid. He would teach her everything she needed to know and show her all of her magic skills and the ocean kingdom. Emily, said "I don't want to leave me family." He told her not to worry because her mother became a mermaid on her thirteenth birthday too. She could still live at home and go to school but at night, she could swim because real mermaids do not need to sleep.

Emily was still afraid but she trusted her grandfather and always wanted to learn how to swim in the ocean. She had always loved the ocean and dreamed of many adventures but was always scared of the water and waves. She took one step, then 2 steps, then 3 steps. Emily was not afraid any more but was now excited. Her feet and legs started to change into a beautiful tail with teal and purple scales. Her top was turning into purple shells and her hair was growing into long teal blue braids. Emily was a mermaid just like her grandfather told her she could be if she just believed and would not be afraid.

After swimming with her grandfather that night, she ran and told her mother what happened in the ocean. Her mom was so excited to share the secret and to show her all her magical powers. Now every night Emily and her family swim in the ocean. Emily has learned how to heat water and freeze water with her mind. She is excited to learn so many things and go on many new adventurers like saving the dolphins and turtles. More than anything, she loves that her family is together and helping save the ocean. She misses her grandmother but knows she would be happy her family was together again.