



Our Little Quarrel

By 5th Grader Ingrid Kary

© 2019 Ingrid Kary and Philadelphia Young Playwrights. For educational use only. Not for sale, production, or performance. If you are interested in producing this play at your school or institution, please contact Info@PhillyYoungPlaywrights.Org to seek permission from the playwright.

CHARACTERS

Natalie: A bully. Short with long hair. Is popular and rude to anyone in a “lower ranking” aka less popularity as she. Best friends with Saide. Wears athleisure Age: 12

Mia: A new girl who was first nice and then was rude to Natalie. Steals friend from Natalie. Wears hand-me-down clothes and shoes. No real best friends (at the start)
Age: 11

Sadie: Popular girl. Tall with blue hair. Natalie’s best friend. Wears punk clothes. Has a raspy voice. Best friends with Natalie Age: 12

Mr. Lo: Teacher at Pinewood Middle School. Strict but kind. Doesn’t like hearing chit-chat.

Class: Class with Natalie and Mia. Always chants and in unison (like robots). The whole class wears grey clothes, with an exception of Natalie, Sadie, and Mia.

Mom: Natalie’s mom. Wears mom clothes.

ACT 1, SCENE 1

(SETTING: Pinewood Middle School. Kids are chit-chatting happily. The teacher walks in and attempts to calm the students.)

MR. LO

Hello, students! Sit down. To your seats.

(talking continues and teacher raises voice to a yell)

HEY!

(Room goes silent; Teacher mutters under breath)

I'm getting too old for this.

(Regular voice)

Hello, children. Today is a special day. A girl named Mia has moved into Pinewood District and has been brought into our class. I expect that you will be on your best behavior when Mia is in the room. Do you understand?

CLASS

(chant; In unison)

Yes, Mr. Lo.

MR. LO

(pokes his head into the hallway)

Come on in, sweetie!

(A girl [Mia] with raggedy hand-me-down clothes walks into the room. A few kids laugh at her appearance.)

MIA

(Says confidently)

Hello.

CLASS

(chant; In unison)

Hello, Mia.

MR. LO

Hello, Mia. Welcome to Pinewood Middle School. Your seat is next to Sebastian and Natalie.

(Mia skips over to her seat)

MIA

(whispers to Natalie)

I like your hair.

NATALIE

(Rolls eyes and says bitterly)

Ugggghh. Of course you do. Look at yours! When was the last time you brushed that? Caveman ages?

MIA

(sarcastic)

Well, that was nice of you to say.

(silence)

NATALIE

Why aren't you doing your work? You haven't even done a single problem yet.

MIA

I'm *trying* to figure it out.

NATALIE

Are you kidding? This stuff is so easy. It's either I'm smart
(points to herself)

or your dumb.

(points to Mia)

It must be both!

(laughs and flicks hair)

MIA

Why are you so mean? I've only known you for two minutes, yet I see what kind of person you are.

NATALIE
I'm not mean.

(Flicks hair)

IIII I'm perfect. Maybe *you're* just jealous! I mean, who isn't?

MIA
(raises voice)

I would never be jealous of someone as mean as you!

NATALIE
(squints)
You know what? Usually I'm really nice. But maybe it's your *appearance* that throws me off.

MIA
(angry)
I know I don't look like you expect me to. I know I'm not the smartest in the world. But I do know one thing. Just because I'm less fortunate than you doesn't mean that you have the right to be meaner to me. I'm just another human, fortunate or not! I'm done talking.
(turns back to Natalie)

NATALIE
(sarcastically)
Wow, what a speech!

MR. LO
Quiet down and do your work, girls.

MIA
(turns around and whispers)
You wanna play that game? The game of insults and bullying? Well, two can play that game. It's on!

ACT 1, SCENE 2

(SETTING: It's the next day at school. Between scene 1 and scene 2, Mia has made friends with Natalie's friends. Mia says bye to these friends and walks towards Natalie, who is at her locker.)

MIA

(bitterly sweet voice)

Hi, Natalie! I've come to tell you that you're friends are *very keen of me* and you're going to have a hard time putting in a bad word about me. Just a heads up. Bye!

(skips away)

NATALIE

(mutters to herself)

Oh, that little devil, that evil monster! What did she say to them?

(walks over to her friends and says cheerfully)

Hey, guys!

SADIE

(giggles)

Hi, Natalie. We heard what you said about Mia...

NATALIE

(rolls eyes and puts hands behind back)

I didn't say anything about her! She said something about me!

SADIE

(sing-songy voice)

That's not what I heard!

(regular voice)

Mia said that you said that her hair was ugly and that she was dumb. And no offense, but I can never trust you. You do have that reputation to lie....

NATALIE

(fake sweet voice)

Why would I *ever* lie to you? You're my BFF. Besides, you can never trust the new kid. Could be liars. Or cheats. Or downright fakes. Why would you ever trust her?

SADIE

(sassy and angry)

Because *you're* acting suspicious. And really, I would rather hang out with her than with

YOU!

(walks away)

NATALIE

(*angry*)
Oh no, no NO!!

ACT 1, SCENE 3

(SETTING: Classroom. Students are sitting at their seats, talking. The teacher is not present.)

NATALIE
(walks in)
Mia, you little beast! You are such a snitch!

MIA
(*sarcastic*)
I'm sorry; You were bullying me.

(*Regular voice; Angry*)

And only because of my appearance, too!

NATALIE
(*bratty*)
You've *never* been to the dress shop? You've *never* begged your mom to buy you an outfit?

MIA
(*looks away*)
We don't have enough money to spend it on things that I don't really need. I would rather get a nice education and a meal at the end of the day than have nice clothes.

NATALIE
(*crosses arms*)
Still doesn't give you a reason to tell my friends what I said about you.

MIA
(*confidently*)
I was always told to speak to someone else when something happened. I just happened to pick your friends. Unlike *some people* I know, they showed empathy and were sorry for me.

NATALIE
(*mockingly and sarcastically*)

Oh, 'cause you're Little Miss Perfect and you follow all the rules and you never get in trouble and you always do what's right. C'mon, live a little! You only live once.

MIA

Oh? Is being rude quote on quote

(makes quotations with hands)

'living a litte'? Because I don't think so.

NATALIE

(angry)

Well either way, you tore me and my BFF apart! *That* is what I call rude.

MIA

(stumbles with words)

Umm... well.... I....

NATALIE

(talks fast)

You know what, I can't even. Don't even talk to me. I'm going to walk away. Ugh. La la la! I can't hear you!

(walks away)

MIA

(to herself)

Now I'm not sure if I'm doing what's right... You know what? I've got to apologize!

ACT 1, SCENE 4

(*SETTING: Natalie's room. She is on her bed, writing in her diary*)

NATALIE

(*talking to herself and her diary; talks slowly.*)

Dear diary, today was awful.... I lost.. My BFF. And it was all because... of Mia! She.. snitched on meee, and now Sadie likes her... better than me! Sadie... doesn't even trust... trust me anymore! I loathe.. Mia!

(doorbell rings)

MOM

(calls for Natalie)

Honey? There's a girl outside. It's not Sadie or any of your friends. She says she just moved from Cedarwood Township. You better come down and see.

NATALIE
Coming, mom!

(whispers)

It can't be Mia.. No, she doesn't even know where I live!

(opens door)

Mia?!? What... how.. Uh...

(voice trails off)

MIA
(shyly and softly)
Hi. Can I come in? I have something to say.

NATALIE
How do you know where I live???

MIA
Umm... not important. I came to apologize. Can I come in?

NATALIE
Uh sure?
(Mia walks in)

MIA
I'm really sorry about what I said to your friends today. I shouldn't have told them about our little quarrel.

NATALIE
(Angry)
It's not that easy, Mia. You hurt me. You didn't punch me or kick me or physically hurt me, but you hurt me. And I lost something. So I can't just forgive you.

MIA
(cheerfully)

I can apologize! I will do anything. I'll tell them how you feel. Everything will be right in the world!

(someone knocks on the door)

NATALIE

(sighs sadly and lowers voice)

Go on. Apologize. But even when you do, I still wouldn't be friends with you. I wouldn't want to be friends with someone like you. Please leave.

MIA

(sad and forlorn)

Okay. Sorry. I'll get out now. I'm sorry and I will get your best friend back. And then you can hate me. Deal?

NATALIE.

(quiet voice; Slightly guilty)

Deal.

MEANWHILE...

(SETTING: The street by Natalie's house. She is walking home from someplace)

SADIE

Ugh. That's Natalie's house.

(listens closely)

Wait. Is she talking to *Mia*? Why is Mia there?

(eavesdrops on the conversation)

NATALIE

It's not that easy, Mia. You hurt me. You didn't punch me or kick me, or physically hurt me, but you hurt me. And I lost something. So I can't just forgive you.

SADIE

(to herself)

....what?

MIA

I can apologize! I will do anything. I'll tell them how you feel. Everything will be right in the world!

SADIE

I don't know what's going on here, but I'm going to find out.
(knocks on the door. Silence, then Mia opens the door)

MIA and NATALIE
Sadie?!?

SADIE
I heard you guys talking and I want you to confess.

NATALIE
I can expl-

MIA
(jumps in)
It's my fault, Sadie. I wanted to get revenge on Natalie after what she said about me so I went and snitched on her. I knew it wasn't the right thing to do, but I was too angry to think straight. I came to apologize to Natalie. She won't let me, and that's okay. All she wants is to be friends with you again.

SADIE
(looks at Mia; then Natalie)
Is this true?
(Natalie nods; Sadie sighs)
Actually, I'm sorry. I didn't mean what I said. You are trustworthy and you are my best friend. No offense, Mia, but I would rather hang out with Natalie.

MIA
(sadly and turns head)
None taken.

NATALIE
Soo, are we friends again??

SADIE
(nods)
Yeah. I think so.

ACT 1, SCENE 5

(SETTING: School. Children are talking. Teacher is not present.)

NATALIE
(walks in)
Hi, Mia.

MIA
(low voice)
Hi.

NATALIE
I like your hair.

MIA
No, you don't. You're just mocking me.

NATALIE
No, really. It's pretty.

MIA
(grumbles)
You didn't think so a couple of days ago.

NATALIE
I was stupid.

MIA
How much have you changed?

NATALIE
A lot, believe me.

MIA
I thought you hated me.

NATALIE
I did... until I thought about it.
(silent)

MIA
Go on, don't stop.

NATALIE

You made everything up with me and my friends, so why be mad?

MIA
(sighs thoughtfully)
I dunno.

NATALIE
I'm sorry for what I said. Your hair is pretty, and you're not stupid. I was just cross.

MIA
No, I understand if you want to hate me. I did something wrong.

NATALIE
That's not a good reason. We all make mistakes. I can't hate you because you're human.

MIA
(humorously; Forgiving)
You really *did* change, didn't you, Natalie?

NATALIE
Wanna be friends?

MIA
Yeah. I do.
(hugs Natalie)

MR. LO
(walks in)

Hello, students.

(kids stop talking.)

I decided to switch some seats around. Would Mia switch with Hannah?

MIA
(pleads)

Please, Mr. Lo. I like this seat. My best friend is right next to me.

(Natalie grins)

MR. LO
(smiles)
Just as long as you don't talk.

ACT 1, SCENE 6

(SETTING: 5 years later. Sadie, Natalie, and Mia are all great friends. 11th grade)

NATALIE
Hey, Mia!

MIA
What's up?

SADIE
Hey, guys! I was just thinking about when Mia first moved here.

NATALIE
Oh yeah! We were enemies.

MIA
And now we're best friends!

NATALIE
Hey, how *did* you find my house?

MIA
(in a low voice)
I may or may not of followed you home..

NATALIE
(shocked)
OMG! Mia!

MIA
(grins)
I had to apologize! How else was I supposed to find out where you live?

NATALIE
(Frowns)

You could've just looked up my last name in the school directory.

SADIE

Guys. It's done. It's over. Let's all just be friends, okay?

NATALIE

With a stalker?

SADIE

C'mon guys, don't fight...

MIA

(angry)

Oh, so I'm a stalker now!

NATALIE

So much for best friends!

(Natalie walks one way while Mia goes the other)

SADIE

Guys?

END OF PLAY