

After I explained everything to him, he sat there with an expression of awe and amazement written on his face. Wow, so wait... Heather actually talked to you? He asks. I think so. I mean it sure felt like her. I say. Wow. I thought we took over when we were there. I thought that too but what just happened says differently. I say and lay back. Man, you get to have all the fun. He says and we both laugh. Well, when i can work the magic- WAIT! I say and sit straight up. Does the magic work for you? I ask him. Umm, maybe? I dont know. he says and looks around. What's up? I ask him as he looks nervous. nothing, just my dad is home. He isnt bad right now but you never know. He says and tried to smile. I felt so bad for him. Ok... well, Tuesday is the next session and I would like to test our theory then. I tell him. Great! So, hows everything going? He asks. That conversation lasted for an hour. It was a amazing conversation though. I wasn't nervous or had any butterflies at all. It was nice to just... talk. I had to go to watch the Titans game. Bye Doofus. I say. Bye Supergirl. He says and I hang up. I sit there for a hot minute just digesting the conversation. I sighed in content and walked in the living room with a smile. We watched the Titans play the Jets. We should've been crushing them but you know how the titans are. Ugh. We ended up losing to them but it was close. My dad was super mad by the end. The refs were horrible. But it didnt matter. We lost. But thta couldnt spoil my good mood. I went to bed happy. I totally forgot to do some more testing that night and just went to bed. I actually slept really well. but you know how Mondays are. I trudged through my classes, but something was different. We had a new girl, Emma, who joined our grade. I had only seen glimpses of her. She had blonde hair and seemed very quiet. I realized we had a few classes together. I was troubled to see no one said hello or welcomed her. After third class I made up my mind to talk to her. After English, I walked to her locker when she was grabbing books. Hey! Your Emma right? Im Riley, welcome to West High! I tell her and stick out my hand. She looked at me. Hi-hi! I am Emma. Thanks! She says quietly but friendly and shakes my hand. I heard the lunch bell ring. Want to go get lunch? I ask her since the lunch bell just rang. Umm... sure. She says and I lead her to the bustling lunch room. I showed her where everything was. She listened with intent and seemed to warm up by the time we got through the line. Nice one Riley. I think. We walked into the room itself. She looked around nervously. Come on, lets go sit in that corner. I tell her and point.

She seems uncomfortable as we cross the lunchroom and feel the stares of many. I try not to appear fazed by it to reassure Emma. When we finally sat down she relaxed. So, where are you from? I ask her. Minnesota. She says. That's so cool! Does it snow a lot? I ask her. She nods and gives a small smile. A ton. One time we had to tunnel our way through it to get to our neighbor's house. She explains. Wow. It never snows here but I've heard its really pretty. I say. It is. She says and gets a far off look. She looked homesick. Do you miss Minnesota? I ask and immediately regret asking. She looks down. Yeah, but we had no choice when Dad got the job here. But it'll be fine. She says. Im sorry. I say. Its ok. So, is there anything I should know about this place? I ask her. Not really. Stay away from Ms. Poppy. She does not live up to her name. And Mr. Jones runs a tight ship so dont expect him to be lenient. I tell her. Ok, anything else? She asks. I look around. See that table 4 down from us and to the left? The girl with the strawberry blonde hair? The one thats laughing? That's Mary Jane. Stay far away from her. She's quite the menace. I tell her. Got it. She says. Other than that, your gonna be just fine. I tell her. Cool. I say. We lapse into silence. So, where do you live now? I ask. Um, it off Fredrick's Pike and its a big red brick condo building on the left. I-I don't remember sorry. She says. Its ok! Is it The Sitco? I ask. I think so. She says thinking. Then we're neighbors! I live across the street. She says. Really? That's cool! She says. Yeah, I'll have to have you over! I tell her. Yeah, that'd be fun! She says. We talk the rest of the time. She loved horses and riding them and she had two older brothers. Even though we only had a few similarities we hit it off and became fast friends. I asked if she wanted to bike home and it turned out thats how she got there. She said she didnt know how to get back and was relying on her phone. I told her I could show her. She was grateful for it. She was fun to be around. The bell rang and the next class I didnt have with her. But it didnt matter. I had made a new friend, which I hadn't had in forever, and I ha da feeling it was the start of a beautiful friendship. A tiny voice in my head approved. She is indeed nice, your world is very weird and foreign. Heather's voice says. HEATHER?! I stop.

