## **Averi's New School**

I stood inside the hallway at school, clutching my jacket nervously. My stomach was tied in knots. I wiped my sweaty palms onto my jeans. I took a deep breath and opened the classroom door. I timidly stepped inside. A sea of unfamiliar faces stared back at me. I just knew that no one was going to like me.

"Class, please welcome Averi James. Averi's family just moved to town. I hope you will all make her feel at home," said Miss Evans. I looked at Miss Evans. The teacher had such a kind face. It did not calm my nerves, though.

"Averi, please take a seat here, next to Ashley. I am sure that Ashley will be happy to show you around today," Miss Evans said as she returned to the front of the class.

I looked at Ashley. She was the prettiest girl I had ever seen. Ashley had jet black hair, dark brown eyes, and was wearing a fancy dress. Ashley turned to look at me and gave me a sunny smile.

An hour later, the bell rang for recess. Ashley grabbed my hand as we headed towards the door. "Let's go," said Ashley excitedly. We ran to the playground. "It must be hard being the new kid in school," said Ashley. "I've lived here my whole life. I can't imagine how scared you must have been this morning."

"Yeah, it was pretty scary walking into the classroom. I thought I might faint," I giggled.

"Hey, maybe you can come to my house after school tomorrow," said Ashley. "Ask your mom tonight!"

"That sounds great," I said happily.

We stayed close by each other the rest of the day. We sat next to each other at lunch. Ashley traded her peanut butter and jelly sandwich for my ham sandwich. We shared the chocolate chip cookies that Ashley's mom had sent. Later that afternoon, we got to be partners for a class writing project. When the bell rang at the end of the day, Ashley grabbed my hand. We walked outside to look for my mom. I saw Mom standing by the car and we ran over to her.