



SKYLA CLARK

My name is Skyla Clark. I'm a girl, not a boy. Born in October, my zodiac sign is a Scorpio, and my personality is mostly about it because I'm proud. My favorite sport out of school is basketball. I like it because it's my chance to go outside with my friends. I'm the oldest of my sisters, which I got four of them. I stay with my Momma while my Dad lives in South Carolina with my aunties, cousins, and more.

MY NEW NEIGHBORHOOD

When I first moved to Frasier Homes, I thought it would be calm and safe, nice and peaceful, with nothing of note happening. People walking or driving where they need to go, minding their own business, and having a good life while they can.

I was wrong.

It's not calm or safe. There are shootings for some reason or other, whether drugs or gambling or something that happened they don't like. They, gangs of grown men, be outside, day or night. Reckless and dangerous, some of them live here in Frasier Homes, but not all of them. They be shooting almost always at night, most of the time.

One day when my friends were outside playing, they saw a shooting right there in the parking lot. At the sight and sound of gunfire, they all paused and simply watched. I thought they were going to run, but they just stood there and stared like statues, not knowing what to do. They didn't move any of their body parts besides blinking their eyes.

All of the parents came out and yelled for the kids to go home before they get killed or hurt. That's when they all ran home and did not come back outside for little while.

My sister saw the whole thing because she was in my window, people-watching, as always. She saw a group of men arguing near a car and then shouting, and then men scattering, running away. A man got shot in the knee or ankle.

She called my name in a high pitch, "OMG!, I can't believe it!" Yet she didn't move from the window, momentarily wanting to see more.

I yelled, "Get out of the window! Now!"

After the shooting, the police arrived and investigated what occurred. But they only found the bullets.