

# The Good News Daily

Local News

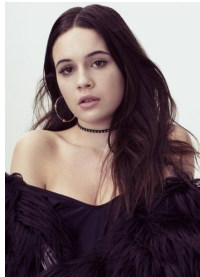
## Three siblings' search for identity

“The heartwarming true story of when three biological siblings from different lives and backgrounds come together to find out what happened to their biological mother and end up learning the true value of family”

-By Miles Shenk

Three biological siblings by the names of Joaquin, Maya, and Grace grew up in separate homes, not knowing each other and not knowing their mother. After Grace gave up her own baby for adoption, she became desperate to find her biological mother. In her quest, she meets her two siblings: Joaquin and Maya. Grace and Maya were each adopted at birth, while Joaquin was put through the foster system.

### Grace



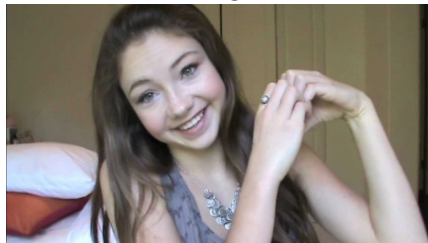
Grace was a normal teenager. She lived with her adoptive parents, who loved her. Unfortunately, she got pregnant at 16 and everything changed. She gave birth to a baby girl named Peach and had to give her baby up for adoption, just like her mother had done with her. She's left with a painful, hollow spot in her body and psyche. Giving her daughter up for adoption kindled a zeal in her to find her biological mother. In her quest to find her biological mother, she finds her 2 siblings Joaquín and Maya.

## Joaquin



Joaquin was the oldest of his siblings. His father was deported when he was young. His mother could not take care of him. Joaquin was put into the foster system for seventeen years. He was bounced around from house to house. He had trouble being adopted until Mark and Linda took him in. Joaquin was a troubled soul. He did not believe that he deserved to be loved. He was afraid of disappointing people. He pushed people away by acting out. When Grace contacted him to go on a trip to search for their biological mother, he gladly ran away with her.

## Maya



Maya was adopted by her parents, who went on to have their own biological daughter. Maya also felt like she did not fit in. Her sister Lauren, who was 13 months younger than Maya, had red hair like both her parents. Maya felt like she was the odd man out with black hair. She didn't feel like she belonged. Maya protected herself with sarcasm. And when her adopted mother's alcohol addiction breaks her family apart, Maya can't help but wonder where she fits in. She jumps on the opportunity to go with Joaquin and Grace to find their biological mother.



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## **The Journey**

The three siblings embark on a journey to find their biological mother. Through research and a bit of luck, they meet their Aunt Jessica, their mother's Sister. They discover tragically that their mother was named Melissa. The siblings discovered many details about their mother and their biological fathers.

Joaquin found out that he was named after his father, who truly cared for him and his mother. Sadly, he was deported.

Grace's father worked at a restaurant where Melissa was a server. He only stayed around because her parents paid for their rent and utilities while she was pregnant. When Grace was born he left.

When Melissa became pregnant with Maya her family disowned her. She became homeless. She delivered Maya she had to give her kids up. Joaquin was put through the foster system for many years whilst Grace and Maya were adopted immediately at young ages.

In addition to the information she provided, Aunt Jessica, directed Joaquin to a bank vault that his mother left him. In the vault, he found photos of him and his mother playing. He was also found containing his mother, biological father, and himself. It assured him that he was loved and that he deserved to be loved. Maya and Grace also felt loved. This quest to find their biological

mother answered many questions that they had and it also brought the three siblings some closure about their past. Best of all it brought the 3 siblings together.



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## **Reflections**

The journey embarked on by Grace, Maya, and Joaquin brought three sibling strangers together. It also answered past unresolved pains and hurts. This journey was the catalyst that enabled all three siblings to come to terms with their issues of insecurity, lack of belonging and outright rebellion. This journey also brought the three siblings closer to their respective families. It will be a long road ahead for Grace, Maya, and Joaquin, but with support from each other and their respective families, they will make it.



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