

### **Katrina Roberts Monologue Script**

I'm Katrina, Mia's mom. Mia's dad Mike, Mia, and I live in a little apartment downtown. I'm 23, Mike's 24 and our daughter Mia is 4. Mike and I haven't gotten married yet. . . maybe someday. I'm so glad we get along well. I have a few friends whose partners aren't nice to them, but Mike and I, we really support one another and we think Mia is the best. Mike works very hard. He often works late and tries to pick up as much overtime as he can, so we can make ends meet. I'm on my feet all day in the coffee shop making fancy coffees. Sometimes, if I make the wrong thing, I get to drink it myself. I can't figure out why people pay so much for a cup of coffee. They taste very good for free, but not for what they charge. They don't pay me much at that coffee shop, but everyone is nice. Neither of us gets health insurance at our job; instead we get it from the government. Mike and I are lucky; we don't get sick very often. When Mia gets sick I can take her to the clinic.

The one health problem I do have is my teeth. They have always been a problem. Even when I was little my mom says I had terrible teeth. I think Mia got my bad teeth. I hope her big teeth are better; maybe she'll get big teeth like Mike's. It's so expensive having bad teeth. I can't believe that the government doesn't provide any assistance for my tooth care.

I never finished high school because my family needed money and felt that it was more important for the younger boys to get an education. I wasn't very good at school anyway and I wanted to help, so I was okay with the decision. I'm so lucky I have the job at the coffee shop because it's hard to find work when you haven't finished high school. Mike has been encouraging me to go back to school, but I just don't know. Most of the time, I like our little life. It's just a bit stressful when someone gets sick or we need to buy something out of the ordinary. We pretty much live paycheck to paycheck. I might have to think about getting an education so I can get a better job now that Mia is almost in school. I don't want the kids to make fun of her clothes and they probably will because most of her clothes are hand-me-downs or we buy them at the local thrift store.

We are lucky to have my mom and dad close by now so they can watch Mia when Mike and I are at work. My schedule at the coffee shop is always changing and it costs a fortune to get a babysitter for those crazy hours. My parents aren't in the best of health. Dad suffers from arthritis so it's difficult for him to get around and Mom has high blood pressure. However, they care for Mia like she is their own daughter. I don't feel sad when I leave Mia with them and Mia, and Mia loves going to their place. They give her lots of candy. My mom thinks she's too skinny and that the candy will fatten her up. She is skinny, but I'm not sure this is the best way to fatten her up.

Mia is a very good kid, but she is too quiet. I think this is because people can see her teeth when she talks and smiles. They are a bit brown, but I think she looks cute. She doesn't have many friends because she's with my mom and dad a lot, so I worry about this a bit. I'm glad that she will be starting kindergarten next year. My parents will miss her, but it will be so good for her to spend more time with children her own age.

We're at the clinic now for her shots for school. They won't let her in the school without them.