

My Name

I need to be needed

EXPERIENCE

Unwanted Child, Surrey Memorial Hospital — *Third Daughter*

SEPT.4, 2005 - PRESENT

The rocking chair squeaked, cutting through the tension full room. Some shook their heavy heads, the rest patted their backs. A thin, tired woman lay on the reclined hospital bed, her eyes hollow, following the tears of her husband out of the room. Her smile hidden as her third daughter was placed on her chest and stared at in pity.

- Developing the understanding that I was not meant to be me.
- Continuously demonstrate self-awareness by modeling pushover behavior and always striving for praise.

Outcasted Child, Cherry Hill Elementary — *Brown Girl*

SEPT. 2010 - FEB. 2011

I swung back and forth absentmindedly, my eyes following the group of girls in a circle, smiling and laughing amongst themselves. I swung alone, wondering if I should try again. I leapt off the swing, yet my legs wouldn't move forward. I pictured their disgusted faces and mocking words, chasing me out of the group with tears rushing down my face, and salty tears slipping past my lips.

I turned around and walked back towards the lonely swing.

- Demonstrated exceptional understanding of my lower position.
- Handled racist remarks daily while successfully erasing my identity

Gifted Child, Senator Reid Elementary — *Attention Seeker*

MAR.2012 - JUN. 2018

The bright red happy face mirrored my own, my eyes scanning the test front and back in pride and then back at the small chocolate. I walked to the front of the class, chest out and back straight, as I accepted my student of the week award for the third time. My friends clapped and raised their thumbs. I grinned at them with loose teeth before averting my attention to the market of prizes laid out in front of me. Yet my mind wandered towards home...I wonder if mom will be happy?

- Effectively tied all self-worth to academic standing.
- Detached myself from friends to customize instructional approaches to meet unrealistic expectations set in place by myself.

EDUCATION

The 'my last name' Family, A Street — *Bachelors in Suppressing Emotions*

SEPT. 2005 - PRESENT

The walls of the bathroom were painted a dusty white, and the tiles a solid black. I felt as though the ground would transform into a black hole and allow me to vanish inside it. I reached out my hand but my fingers jammed against the cold tile. Quiet cries left my stomach, quietly begging for someone to notice me. To knock on the door and let their voice reach me.

- Developed and implemented destructive coping skills
- Achieved difficulty expressing and understanding crucial emotions

The Bajwa Family, A Street — *Masters in Mature Child and Early Manipulation*

SEPT. 2005 - PRESENT

Legs together, my back as straight as scoliosis allowed it to be, a well-mannered smile and lips shut. Never needlessly speak, it's immature. Don't engage in ridiculous games, it's immature. Don't cause trouble, it's deemed insufferable. I looked out the window at my younger cousin performing stunts on a bicycle that was much too big for her. She was adventurous, brave and immature. No one wants an immature child. I turned away and sipped my tea.

- Suppressed desires to act my age and contributed to my own downfall
- Reduced stress by 90% for adults in my presence

PROJECTS

Identifying Sources of Happiness and Growth— *my name*

My reflection stared back at me, somehow I looked worse on camera. I double checked my microphone was off, afraid she could hear my thumping heart. Her icon popped up in the right hand corner, before her smile was on display.

“Hi *my name*! How's your day been?”

My eyes pricked, yet my smile betrayed the tears. Finally, someone I could talk to.

- Learning to be content with being incomplete.

AWARDS

Academic Excellence BurnOut Prestige (2022)

- For displaying extreme amounts of burn out and disappointment beyond expectations.

Loner And Alone (2005 - 2022)

- Awarded for constant lack of effort in maintaining friendships, difficulty in expression of any sort and horrible familial relations at the root.

Trying, Runner Up (2005 - 2022)

- Prestigious award runner up for 16 years consecutively, awarded for always trying but not winning.

LANGUAGES

Broken whispers of Punjabi leave my lips. I could hear my grandmother's frown deepen. My heart clenched, hands sweat, and my words stammered. I put my hand out and feigned a smile,

“How are you doing?”

- Emerging in Punjabi, Extending in English. Mediocre elsewhere.