

# The Girl Who Sat Alone.

(Based on a true story)

By Mishel Din (Rondo Elementary)

Samantha was about to start 5th grade where she met two girls, Lillian and Jill. She knew Jill in 4th grade, where she asked her to be friends and Samantha happily agreed. Little did she know that it was going to be a bad idea. When Sam met Jill in 5th grade, she was around a new girl named Lillian. She introduced Samantha to Lillian and said they had been friends since as long as they could remember. Now all 3 were spending time together. They insisted on play dates and having each other over for birthdays and outings. They seemed inseparable. Things were about to change very fast. One day at lunch, they were all sitting together and Samantha noticed that Lillian and Jill were whispering to each other. At the end of lunch, they both came up to Samantha and told her they don't want to play with her on Tuesdays. Samantha was taken by surprise but agreed to not play with them on that day. She was really hurt but she wanted her friends to be happy. She still wondered why were they excluding her just on that one day? Next day, the girls approached Samantha again and told her the new plan, which was that they did not want to play with her anymore! Not only that, they told her she should go find some new friends. When Samantha asked why they could not play with her anymore, they said that because Lillian and Jill were already friends before, having Samantha as an additional person in their group was ruining their friendship. Samantha was hurt and sad to have been left alone. She never wanted to come in between them. Now Samantha tried to find new friends but had a very hard

Mishel Din, Age 10

time. Every day she went home, and she cried. She told her mom that she felt alone. She had no one to talk to and she roamed the play yard by her self. Her mom offered her love and suggested she go up to new friends at school and start talking to them. This seemed hard to Samantha because everyone would ask her at school why she was not playing with Lillian and Jill anymore? Samantha had no response because she herself did not know why Lillian and Jill abandoned her? Samantha took her mom's advice and involved herself in clubs during recess to be busy. She helped out at the library and sometimes in her brother's classroom. Also, she signed up for some after school activities. She focused on school work and continued to get good grades. She realized it was better to have no friends, than have mean friends. Samantha slowly got to know more girls in her grade. She made some new friends. One day, the school announced the GATE students to meet. In the meeting, the teacher asked kids what are ways to improve the school. Samantha suggested a buddy system for kids that did not have any friends to play with at lunch. The teacher loved the idea and the group came up with suggestions to create activities during lunch for kids who sat alone. Samantha led some of these activities and found out that she was not the only one who felt alone. There were many other kids that did not have friends to hang out with. However, now with the activity, they met other people who were also looking for friends. This made Samantha feel good and proud of her self. She had found a way to help others who also needed friends. This was a great learning lesson for Samantha. One that it is never okay to crush other people's feelings. Second, you are never alone in a situation, there may be others that are going through the same issues. Lastly, always help others come together and help each other.

Mishel Din, Age 10