

# Baby Sister

Story By: Andrew Frinkle



Mark frowned. His sister was getting a lot of presents for her first birthday. She had cake. She had lots of attention, too. Grandma and Grandpa were here for the party. His Aunt and Uncle were here. Even some of his cousins and some family friends were here. They were all gathered around the baby taking pictures.

What about him? He used his fork to play with his piece of birthday cake. He finished his cake and sat there. No one was looking at him. No one cared what he was doing. Fine! He thought. If no one cares, then I can do what I want. He got up and poked a balloon with his fork. POP!

“Mark, stop that.” Mother said quickly.

POP! He did it again.

“MARK!” Mother shouted.

Grandpa looked at him. A look crossed his face, and Grandpa came over to take him by the shoulder and lead him to the kitchen. “Sit down.” He ordered, pointing to a chair beside the kitchen table.

Mark sat down and crossed his arms. He expected to get yelled at. Instead, Grandpa sat down next to him.

“It’s a big responsibility having a baby sister.” Grandpa said.

“Not really. She cries, goes to the bathroom, and plays.”

Grandpa smiled. “That’s not what I mean. I mean it’s hard to share with your little sister when you used to be the only one anyone ever cared about, right?”

Mark looked at him. Grandpa knew exactly what he was thinking! “I don’t see why she’s so special. What about me? Why doesn’t anyone watch me anymore?”

“You had your time, Mark. There was no one to share with. You were lucky. Your sister has to share your parents with you, so you have to share your parents with her. You’re also older, so you’ll have to be a big boy and help your parents out.”

“I didn’t ask for a sister.” Mark complained.

“No, but you have one. I know you’ll be helpful. I know you can share, and if you can share, I promise I’ll come by and take you fishing or do something just for you.” Grandpa smiled.

“Really?”

“Sure. Just because you have a sister doesn’t mean you’re not special anymore. We can have some fun together, but right now we need to have fun *with* your sister. Deal?”

“Deal.” They shook hands to make the deal official. Then they went back to the party, and there were no more balloons getting popped. Mark actually had some fun, too.

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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is the party for?
  - A. Mark's sister's birthday
  - B. Mark's birthday
  - C. Christmas
  - D. Easter
  
2. Why is Mark upset?
  - A. He hates cake.
  - B. He has to stand in the corner.
  - C. He doesn't like his sister getting all the attention.
  - D. He is sick.
  
3. What does Mark do when he gets ignored?
  - A. He screams and cries.
  - B. He goes to sleep.
  - C. He pretends to be happy.
  - D. He pops balloons.
  
4. Who goes to talk to Mark when he misbehaves?
  - A. Aunt
  - B. Dad
  - C. Uncle
  - D. Grandpa
  
5. How does Grandpa make Mark feel at the end of the story?
  - A. Angry because he's in trouble
  - B. Sad because he's not special anymore
  - C. Happy that they can spend time together
  - D. None of the above

## **Baby Sister – Answer Key**

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