

One. Many people have this feeling of one. One feeling separated amongst many others and yet sadness stands out above all. Only one can feel alone. Alone is a strong word that contains many meanings. That not every human being can know. As defined in the dictionary alone means; affected with, characterized by, or causing a depressing feeling of being alone. Something I've never felt before. A feeling that when the world is coming to its ending days will no one feel again. Being alone ties well into my story. As the title suggests, I've never been alone. I've never seen the face of loneliness. I've never seen the shame of this feeling. In my mind I can't help to think that all things I've endured never can compare to this one feeling.

This past summer I turned 20. Something I'd noticed not too long ago, was loneliness. While looking back upon my life I began to wonder. I'd had never been alone. For the past 19 years of my life I've always had someone there. I've always been looked after and cared for. If the choice were mine to become a lonely soul in search of nothing more than a friend, I would never choose it. Even at this point in my life I wouldn't want to choose it. Even when the darkest days of depression were lingering over my past I think only one thing. What would have I done to myself if I were alone? There were many moments in my past that I would've enjoyed being alone, but others it was all most impossible.

My first 18 years were spent with my twin sister, and to those of you who are twins know exactly what I'm talking about. We were with each other 24/7. Never left each other's side. It was always instinct to stick by my sister. We always made sure though when the other was coming back. When one twin would leave the other would feel sad. That's how I felt. My best friend would leave, although I always knew when she was coming back. Now things are different. Both in college. Both have boyfriends. Both have separate lives.

Differences are being peeled away and shown. Lives are changing. The twins from Edgemont, South Dakota grew up.

We've been together since we lay in the incubators. That first ride home together in the station wagon--mid 86. When we took our first steps. When our dad left. Times when mom had no one else. When each of us started talking. I believe that this strong bond is what made both of us the way we are today. It's a stronger connection than most people think. My twin will always be my best friend. She has always been. Since we've shared the same room and bathroom. We usually had our separate best friends, but we usually never played with anyone else. There was no one else. I didn't need anyone else.

To be continued.....