

Seperated at Birth

Today adoption is a very common resource for many parents who can't have children of their own. Adoption helps take children who were given up by parents who couldn't provide what the children really needed. These parents who adopt these children raise them and love them as their own. These children are the amazing opportunity to be in a home that can provide for them in a way ~~their birth parents~~ never could have. These children are able to be raised by people who are emotionally and financially stable. People all around you may be adopted. But you may not ~~know, because~~ these children are not guests they are treated just as you are in your house. One of these adopted children was my cousin Adriana. Adriana has a miraculous story that has been covered by People, Times, and the Daily News. Adrianna also appeared on Oprah.

Adrianna's story begins 29 years ago in Mexico. Adriana and her twin sister Tamara were born and put up for adoption by their mother. My Aunt Diane and my Uncle Peter went to Mexico intending to adopt both children. But as the girl's mother was signing the adoption papers she changed her mind and took Tamara with her. Devastated at the loss of the child they desperately searched for the mother and child. Eventually they found that Tamara had been adopted by another family, but they had no idea who or where the family was. Fearful that Adrianna would resent them, they decided they would wait until Adrianna was older so that she would understand that there was nothing they could have done to adopt her twin.

As Adrianna grew she desperately wanted a sibling. All throughout the girls lives they were mistaken for being at places that they never had been, and had been approached by people calling them their twins name. Later in life Adrianna and Tamara head off to college. Tamara attended Hofstra University. Adriannas ex-boyfriend, Tyler, attended Hofstra as well. One day Tyler passed Tamara in the halls and approached her asking her how she has been and other questions. Obviously confused, she told him he must be thinking of someone else. After talking he realized it was obviously another person. He told her about Adrianna and she agreed for them to meet. The girls began texting and talking online and found out they were both adopted from Mexico, shared the same birthday, and when they exchanged pictures the resemblance was scary. Adrianna explained it as "seeing yourself from how others really see you." The girls lived their entire lives less than 40 miles away from each other their whole lives. Tamara was raised in a Jewish family and Adrianna was raised Catholic. Both girls lost their adopted fathers to cancer at a young age. The similarities between the girl's lives were so ironic and uncanny it was hard to believe. After completing a DNA test it was proven that they were identical twins and had been separated at birth. Similar to the movie twitches.

Today their story has been told on Oprah, in People magazine, in New York Times, and so many other magazines and news stations nationwide. Today the girls are doing extremely well. In 2012 Adrianna married Steven Wolf with her sister Tamara (her maid of honor) and her family at her side. Also earlier this year we welcomed a beautiful baby boy, her son Christian into the world. Also earlier this year Tamara got engaged and plans to also have her sister at their side.

My cousin's story is a story about how adoption is a wonderful thing. Adrianna is no less of family than any of my other relatives, with whom I share blood with. This shows that it doesn't matter where or whom you come from, all that matters is who you love and who loves you. This is what I believe family to be about... unconditional LOVE.