

Natalie Haun

When you're a kid, you have a sense of how the world works. You're taught to be respectful, how to share, and to be kind. You don't really know the in's and out's of life just yet. You're not expected to be as mature and well-mannered as a young adult. And you're definitely not expected to be an adult in an eight year old's body.

From a young age I've always felt a little different than everyone else. Not necessarily out of place or anything of the sort, I just felt different. I remember when I was younger, my mom would always tell me I was so smart for my age, and I loved hearing that, it just made me feel good about myself. When my parents got divorced I was sort of ushered into growing up faster than everyone else. It's not that I didn't get a childhood, it's just that mine was different than most other kids'.

The older I got the more I realized that yes, maturing before most people can be a good thing, but the way that it happened for me was, in a way, sort of traumatic.

Because of this, for as long as I can remember, I've



always been a good problem solver, but also an over thinker. I'm not really sure how those two things correlate, but they get in the way of each other often.

I don't mind being the way that I am, because I think it really does help me in the long run. Although, I do wish that the way i matured had happened because of a different event. I've learned a lot since the divorce and it's made me grow as a person, and gain a new mindset that everything happens for a reason, even if sometimes I wish it hadn't.

