Do The Write Thing
Scene One
Madelyn’s House

Evelyn: Wake up! It’s time for school!
(Madelyn rolls over)

Madelyn: It’s too early! I don’t want to get up!

Sam: Be quiet, you’re always complaining about something!

Evelyn: Girls, stop fighting and get down here and eat your breakfast. You don’t want to be late on your first day at your new school, do you?
(Madelyn gets dressed and slowly walks down the stairs where everyone else is eating)

Sam: It’s so nice you can join us Miss Happy pants!
(Madelyn gives a sarcastic wide eyed smirk)

Evelyn: Sam will you drive your sister to school today? I have to go to work right after breakfast.

Sam: Do I have to?

Evelyn: Yes you do!

Madelyn: I would prefer to walk.

Sam: No one is stopping you.

Evelyn: I am! Sam you will drive your sister to school and that will be the end of this conversation!

Sam & Madelyn: But mom............

Evelyn: No buts!!
Scene Two
In Front of the School

Sam: There you go twerp. Try not to do anything that would make people think you’re a weirdo! (Madelyn gets out of the car while Sam speeds away)

Madelyn’s Thoughts: Well I can’t tell if my sister was being nice to me or reading my mind because that is exactly what I am thinking! I’m the new girl from the country side of West Virginia and I just moved to a big city. Plus I’m very clumsy so there is a huge chance I will fall, trip, walk into a pole, you name it and it will happen! And there is no way I will find myself in one of these dumb cliques that are never going to accept me! Great!

Ashley: Hey aren’t you the new girl Madelyn Strike from West Virginia?

Madelyn: Um... yeah

Ashley: Well. I know its going to be hard to find your way around so maybe I could help you?

Madelyn: Yes, that would great! Thank you, but. um what is your name?

Ashley: Oh yeah, my name is Ashley O’Malley, I’m on the student council here at South High.

Madelyn: Oh wow, that’s awesome! (They start walking to class together)

Ashley: So what’s your first class? (Madelyn takes out her class schedule)
Madelyn: English with Mrs. Fetcher

Ashley: Great, me too!

**Scene Three**

*In Class*

Mrs. Fetcher: Okay class, we have a new student joining us today. Her name is Madelyn Strike. Would you like to come to the front of the class and tell the class a little about yourself Miss Strike?

Madelyn’s Thoughts: *Oh great, just what I didn’t want to happen. I should have seen it coming though, they do this in every school!*

Madelyn: Um.... Hi everybody. My name is Madelyn Strike and I’m fifteen. I just moved here a couple days ago from West Virginia. Um.... yeah *clears her throat* that’s me I guess!

Mrs. Fetcher: Well, its nice to meet you Madelyn. You can take a seat in the back of the class now. *(Madelyn walks back to her seat, but is stopped on her way back)*

Kyle: Hey, I’m Kyle Black. Ah, there is an empty seat next to me if you want to sit here?

Madelyn Thoughts: *Well I could get used to this school, everyone seems so nice.* *(After Class)*

Kyle: Hey Madelyn, after school a couple of my friends and I are going to a place downtown, do you want to come?
Madelyn: Um, sure, why not? I don’t have any other plans.

Scene Four
Later that Night Downtown

Evelyn: So where is this place you’re going with these kids?

Madelyn: Actually, I’m not really sure. They told me to meet them at the corner of Bacon Street.

Evelyn: Oh okay, who are these girls you are going to meet?

Madelyn: Um, a boy asked me to go. His name is Kyle Black.

Evelyn: Oh really, Well, I want to tell you something in that case.

Madelyn: Mom, nothing is going to happen!

Evelyn: Well, maybe that’s what you have in mind, but I’m sure they don’t. These are kids from the city. They have seen a lot more than you Madelyn. Things they probably shouldn’t have. They know a lot more then you do!

Madelyn: Mom, please calm down.
(Madelyn gets out of her mother’s car as it comes to a slow stop at the corner of the street)

Evelyn: Be careful Madelyn, make good choices!
(Evelyn drives away and Madelyn approaches the group of teenage boys and girls)
Madelyn: Hey Kyle!

Kyle: Hey Maddy.

Madelyn’s Thoughts: Maddy, hmmm that’s something new.

Kyle: Umm, these are my friends - Jake, Shea, Melissa and Sarah. Guys this is Maddy.

Friends Together: Hey Maddy.

Kyle: Want a beer?

Madelyn’s Thoughts: Oh no. This cannot be happening. I knew it was to good to be true, but I can’t say no because they will think I am a total loser! It’s not like I’m going to have so many that I could get drunk. Wait, no what am I talking about? I know better than that, but they will think I’m a total goody goody.

Madelyn: Ummm, sure.

Kyle: Jake, can you hand her one?

Jake: Here you go Maddy.

Madelyn: Thanks.

(She takes a sip and her mom shows up)

Evelyn: MADELYN ROSE STRIKE! GET IN THIS CAR NOW!!
(They all run except Maddy, she gets in her mother’s car).

Madelyn: Mom, it’s not what it looks like!

Evelyn: Save it, I don’t want to hear it!

Madelyn: But Mom
Evelyn: I said I don’t want to hear it Madelyn!

Madelyn’s Thoughts: *I can’t believe this! I should have never done that! What was I thinking? Oh ya, I was thinking those kids wouldn’t like me because I was chicken, a goody goody. Well with the amount of trouble I’m about to get into, I wish I had been a goody goody. Why did I even bother to do that? How stupid could I be?

Scene Five
Punishment & Relief

Evelyn: Just go up to your room before I blow. I need to think of a punishment for you! (Madelyn runs upstairs and slams her bedroom door shut. Right after, her sister knocks).

Sam: Can I come in?

Madelyn: No, go away!

Sam: Too bad, I’m coming in, this is my room too!

Madelyn: Sam, get out!

Sam: I’m not here to make fun of you or fight, I am here to talk to you as a human being and my little sister.

Madelyn: What do you want?

Sam: Would you just listen to me for ten minutes?

Madelyn: Fine.

Sam: Listen, I know its hard moving to a new place.
How do you think I felt, I’m seventeen! Before we moved, I was the class president, the captain of the cheerleading team and I may have been prom queen, but guess what? We moved! I’m fine now, I’ve made friends, but you, you are just too shy. You can’t let people make you feel like you have to do dumb things just to fit in with them! That’s not who you are and that isn’t the way you should ever be. Everyone makes stupid mistakes, this one though, was a big mistake!!! I know you’re having trouble adjusting here, but you can’t let that affect the person you are. You need to know that you have to be who you want to be, not who someone thinks you should be.

Madelyn: I know, I honestly didn’t know they would be drinking tonight. It’s not like I was planning on getting drunk or anything like that. It’s just that I didn’t want to be the new weird girl who does everything her parent tell her to do!

Sam: Well, take it from me. You don’t want to be one of those girls who goes out partying every weekend and thinks its cool. I too thought I had to “fit in”, but then I realized I looked like a total mess and people would talk about me constantly and not in a good way! I’ve seen it first hand. Those girls are nothing but trouble.

Madelyn: Sam, I’m not that pretty, I’m just average. I’m not that smart, I’m just average. I’m not that creative, in fact, I’m just boring! And……..

Sam: Stop!! You are beautiful, not pretty. You are brilliant, not smart and you are unique, not creative! Stop beating yourself up! It’s not going to help anything, except feeling bad for yourself!
Madelyn: No, I don’t, I feel the opposite. I know what I did was wrong, its just hard trying to make new friends. I just don’t know what to do when I go into school tomorrow. What do I say to them?

Sam: You don’t have to say anything. They are lucky they got to spend those few minutes with you tonight! They don’t deserve to be friends with someone as great as you!

Madelyn: But they were the only kids I talked to since I got here?

Sam: No, that’s not true. I seen you talking to a blonde, tall blonde girl this morning right before I drove away.

Madelyn: Oh ya, that’s right, I was talking to Ashley.

Sam: She seemed nice enough from what I saw?

Madelyn: Yah, she was.

Sam: Just stick with her, she could be your future best friend and you’ll never know until you try.

(Evelyn knocks on the door)

Evelyn: Can I come in?

Madelyn & Sam: Yes.

Evelyn: I heard some of that talk. It was nice to hear you girls talking to each other in a nice tone instead of fighting!

Madelyn: Yah, it was nice. She’s not so bad after all!

Sam: You either sis!
(The girls smile at each other)

Evelyn: Well I hate to end this, but I have to talk to Madelyn so can you give us a minute Sam?

Sam: Yes.
(Sam leaves the room)

Evelyn: Madelyn, you know what you did tonight was very wrong, right?

Madelyn: Yes, I know, but mom I just wanted to fit in. I wanted them to accept me. I don’t want to be the new weird girl from West Virginia.

Evelyn: I understand Madelyn, but if they do not accept you for who you are, than they are not the people you should be around. They are not your real friends!

Madelyn: I know mom, I shouldn’t have drank beer just to fit in.
(Madelyn signs)

Evelyn: While I am going to have to punish you. You are grounded for two weeks and not allowed to use your telephone, IPod or laptop.

Scene Six
Next Morning at School

Sam: See you later Madelyn!

Madelyn: Yah, I guess so.

Madelyn’s Thoughts: So here we go again. The thought of being the new girl. It would be nice to have just one friend!
(Ashley approaches Madelyn)

Ashley: Hi Madelyn!

Madelyn’s Thoughts: Why do I keep forgetting about this girl? She’s nice and she’s talking to me! She could be my friend!

Madelyn: Hey Ashley!

Ashley: I’m running for class president again and was wondering if you would help me with posters and flyers and some other stuff? It would be a way to meet my friends too?

Madelyn’s Thoughts: Wow, it should be fun, can’t believe she’s asking me! I could meet some possible new friends too!

Madelyn: Of course, that sounds fun! (Kyle and friends walk by laughing)

Kyle: Ha, ha! Hey did you get yelled at by your mommy last night? You looked a little dizzy after you took that one sip of beer last night!

Madelyn: Actually, yes I did get in trouble, but not because I was drinking, but because I was with you idiotic losers!

Kyle: Well at least I didn’t strike out when I was born!

Madelyn: What? That didn’t even make sense??

Kyle: You know, three strikes you’re out! You were the last born out of three kids, no wonder why you’re not making any friends. You should stick to being a bench warmer!

Madelyn: Oh, how original!
Ashley: Kyle, stop being such a jerk! Come on Maddy, lets get out of here.
        (Girls walk away together)

Ashley: Maddy, what happened last night?

Madelyn: If I tell you, please don’t tell anybody?

Ashley: I would never.

Madelyn: Okay, so Kyle asked me to go out last night and I said yes, by when I got there everyone was drinking. Then they asked me if I wanted one and I said yes because I didn’t want them to think I was a dorky goody goody. So I took a sip of beer and right when I did, my mom drove up and saw me!! She yelled my name and I had to get into her car and go right home.

Ashley: That’s why he’s starting with you? That’s why he’s being such a bully? What did he do when your mom pulled up?

Madelyn: He ran.

Ashley: What a jerk!

Madelyn: Tell me about it!

        Scene Seven
        In Class

Josh: Hey Madelyn, I heard what happened. What a jerk! I have no clue how Kyle Black has a girlfriend.
Ashley: I don’t either. He’s so rotten.

Madelyn: I didn’t even know he had one. Wow, that’s shocking.

Josh: Well, anyway, my name is Josh Burton.

Madelyn: It’s nice to meet you Josh.

Josh: Yah, if you ever need to talk, want to hang out, have any questions about school, I’m here.

Madelyn: (laughs) Thanks!

Ashley: See not all the guys at this school are total jerks.

Madelyn’s Thoughts: Yah, I guess not, but really who am I kidding? I’m about to burst. I just don’t want to be here. I want to be in my room, alone, crying and screaming. Just get me out of here.

Scene Eight
Madelyn’s house

Evelyn: How was school?

Madelyn: Fine.

Sam: Good.
(The girls go up to their room)

Sam: How was school really?
(Madelyn starts crying)

Madelyn: Horrible! He made fun of me in front of everybody.
Sam:  Don’t let him do this to you. You are better than this. You are better then him!

Madelyn:  I don’t know what I’m going to do though! He’s not going to stop. He’s not giving up.  
(Something hit’s the window and Sam looks out)

Sam:  It’s him. He’s egging our house and throwing toilet paper.

Madelyn:  Why? I didn’t even do anything to him!

Sam:  Call mom!

Madelyn:  Mom!

Evelyn:  What, what’s wrong?

Sam:  It’s that kid from the other night that got Madelyn in trouble!

Evelyn:  What is he doing!

Madelyn:  He is vandalizing our house!

Sam:  He is spay painting my car! Call the cops!

Evelyn:  Oh my gosh! What is wrong with this child?  
(Evelyn calls the police)

Madelyn:  Why is he doing this?
This play is fiction. Though, it does show my thought on youth violence. My thoughts are that some kids these days feel the need to fit in with everybody else. To do so, they’ll do anything to get themselves in the cool clique. In this case, the girl “Madelyn” abused alcohol. She thought that if she drank she would be cool, but because she did this, she got in trouble with her mother and she was harassed by the boy who pressured her into doing it. She put herself in a very stressful situation just so she could fit in.

Violence has affected the town I grew up in. My town has a bad reputation for troubled kids, alcohol & drugs, but that doesn’t mean I have to be part of that reputation. Some people get violent when they abuse alcohol. Some people abuse drugs too and that can be worse. Drugs and alcohol can make you do bad things you wouldn’t normally do. You can cause harm to others and to yourself.

Another thing that causes youth violence is bullying. The boy “Kyle” in this story may have been bullied in the past, therefore, he felt the need to bully someone else. Kyle could have been a victim to peer pressure just like Madelyn. He may have felt that if didn’t peer pressure Madelyn, he may not have been cool or accepted by his friends.

To stop this violence, I can stay positive. I will stand tall and be my own person. I will tell myself again & again I’m unique. I’m me and there isn’t anybody else I would rather be. I don’t need to do anything for people to like me because if they don’t like me for who I am, then they shouldn’t control me and make me be someone I am not!