

**By Mackenzie Parsons**  
(Based on a true story)  
The author lives in Utah, USA.

*"It is fun to have a friend who will play with you. . . .  
But to have a friend, you must be a friend, too"*  
(Children's Songbook, 262).

**M**ackenzie felt miserable. Her best friend, Bekah, had moved all the way to Texas with her family. Mackenzie tried to have fun without Bekah, but it just wasn't the same. Playing by herself just wasn't fun. Mackenzie missed having someone to giggle with and play superheroes and princesses together. She missed Bekah.

Without Bekah, Mackenzie had no one to show her drawings to or sit with in Primary. She liked the other kids



THE

# PHONE CALL

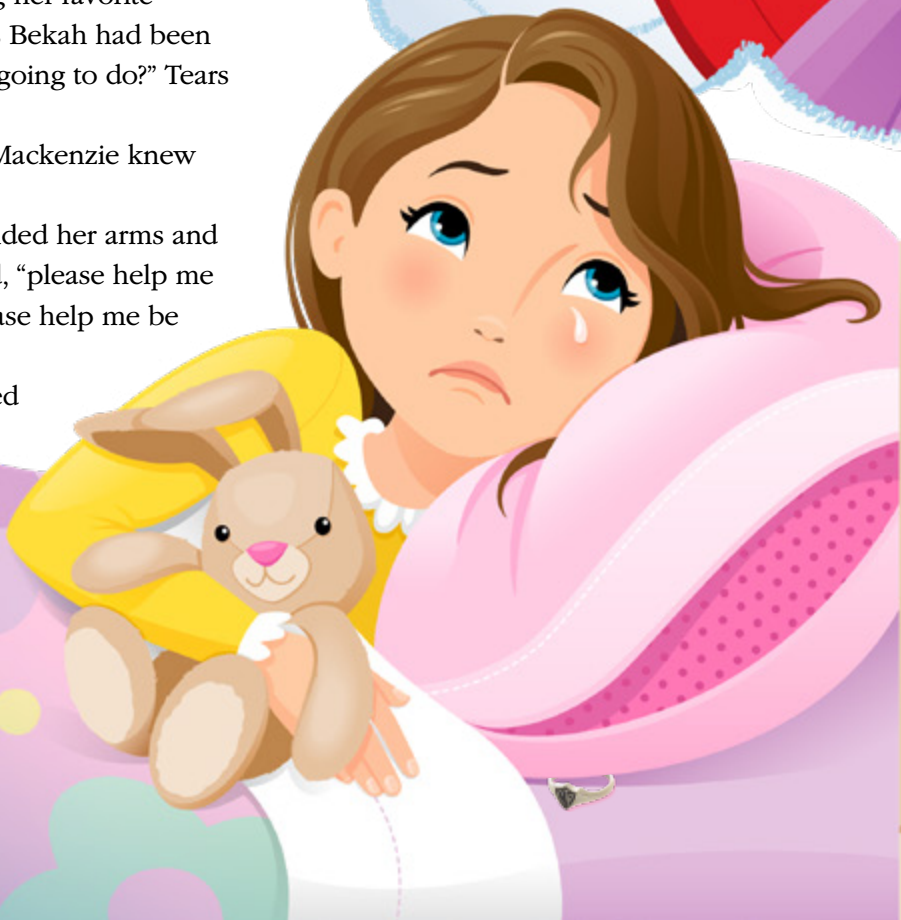
in her class, but none of them were her best friend.

One night Mackenzie lay in her bed, hugging her favorite stuffed animal, Bunny. She counted all the days Bekah had been gone. "I'm lonely," she told Bunny. "What am I going to do?" Tears filled her eyes.

Bunny didn't have any answers for her. But Mackenzie knew someone who did.

She knelt down beside her bed. Then she folded her arms and bowed her head. "Heavenly Father," she prayed, "please help me find a new best friend so I won't be lonely. Please help me be brave enough to talk to people."

A few weeks later, Mackenzie's parents invited someone over for dinner.





His name was Brother Bryce. He was new in the ward. During dinner, Brother Bryce turned to Mackenzie and said, “My family is still in Colorado while I look for a house here, but I have a daughter about your age. Would you like to talk to her on the phone?”

Mackenzie’s heart started pounding. *What am I going to say? What if she thinks I’m boring?* Then Mackenzie remembered her prayer. *Heavenly Father can help me be brave.*

“Sure,” Mackenzie said in a small voice.

Brother Bryce pulled out his phone and called his family. Then he handed the phone to Mackenzie. She bit her lip nervously.

“You can sit on the couch while you talk,” Dad suggested with a smile.

Mackenzie nodded and headed to the living room. She sat on the couch and hugged a pillow tightly. She took a deep breath and raised the phone to her ear.

“Hello?” Mackenzie asked.

A quiet voice answered, “Hi.”

Mackenzie took another deep breath. “My name’s Mackenzie. What’s yours?”

“Hannah,” the girl said after a short pause. “Do you like books?”

Mackenzie smiled. “I love books. Do you like superheroes?”

“Superheroes are my favorite!” Hannah’s voice sounded excited. “What about princesses?”

“Definitely!” Mackenzie said with a grin.

Before they knew it, Mackenzie and Hannah were talking about all kinds of things. They could have talked forever, but Brother Bryce had to leave. And his phone battery was about to die!

“I can’t wait for you to get here!” Mackenzie said.

“Me too!” Hannah said. “You’re really cool!”

That night, Mackenzie knelt beside her bed with a huge smile. “Thank you, Heavenly Father,” she prayed, “for helping me find a brand-new friend.” ●



Mackenzie and Hannah have been best friends for 15 years. They grew up and went to college together. They’re still best friends today!