



M.W. Story 2

April 5, 2017

Renee Hinkle



I am the proud mama of two really great kids. I left my job as a television reporter at the end of 2013 so I could stay at home with Ellie and Harley full time. It was the best decision I ever made.

Mini-Me Mirror

Although staying at home was the best decision for my family and me, it certainly wasn't the easiest! Ellie is my mini-me in so many ways. Unfortunately, as I struggled through the transition after leaving work, she and I had to get used to each other's personalities and big emotions. It turns out, she was a yeller, too. Some days, we would be exhausted from hollering at each other and stomping about (incredibly childish on my part, I know). Then, one day, instead of raising my voice, I lowered it. I knelt on one knee and opened my arms to her, even though every part of my mind and body thought, "No! I should be disciplining her!" And, at that moment, it was like a light clicked on. She softened and immediately returned to being my loving, sweet girl. To this day, it is still my biggest "Aha! moment". I realized that she was my mirror. If I yelled, she yelled. If I was patient and understanding, so was she. Do we still have an occasional blow up? Oh yeah. But, instead of wasting huge parts of our day arguing, we deal with our disagreement and move on.