Date: October 1, 2011 Time: After dinner 6:40 PM Place: Starbucks at Zona Rosa in KC, MO

Interviewee’s Full Name: Melissa Ann (Knipe) Schnedler

*Compliment* Amusing, funny interview For an article About a memory, being a wife

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| Question | Quotes | Notes |
| 1. (YN)  Did you have any siblings growing up? | Yes, my sister, Erica was four years older than me. She’s married and I now have a brother in law and three nieces. | Looking out the window  Sweeping hair out of her face |
| 2. (YN)  Did you have a happy childhood? | For the most part. I didn’t really get along with my parents, but what kid or teenager really does? | Shrugs  Answers slowly |
| 3. (Wh-)  What does your husband describe you? As uptight or a free thinker? | Well, I wouldn’t put it that way! Maybe just that I’m more ‘organized’ than most people. | Laughing |
| 4. (Wh-)  What is the hardest part of being an adult? | It’s hard balancing a job, husband, child, house, friends, and all the life stuff that comes along. But I would rather be an adult than a kid, again. You don’t get as much respect. | Nodding  Thoughtful  Looking me in the eye |
| 5. (Wh-)  Where you and your sister close growing up? How about now? | Not really, she was always playing tricks on me. We’re practically best friends now because we both have daughters so we have a lot in common. | Twirling a piece of hair between her fingers |
| 6. (OE)  Did your husband have any embarrassing childhood memories? | Tons, but I don’t really know any. | Resting her head on her hand  Leaning forward |
| 7. (OE)  Did you have an embarrassing childhood memories?  Did you ever forgive your sister for this? | I was about six at the time so…she would have been ten. We were at the end of the driveway playing and my sister pointed out this big stick. I don’t remember how it got there, but there it was! My sister told me to play a game and see how long I could keep my foot on the stick. And that’s when Erica finally told me that it wasn’t a stick—it was a snake! She left me there for a long time. I’m still scared of snakes. It’s been so long I doubt either of us really care anymore. | Scrunching her brow thinking about the math  Laughing |

Sinister Snakes

by Leah Panther

“Well, I wouldn’t put it that way!” Melissa Schnedler laughed, “Maybe just that I’m more ‘organized’ than most people.” I kept bugging her, “No, your husband tells me you’re just plain uptight!” Laughter was a constant during my October 1st interview of mother, wife, and best friend Melissa Schnedler. Around dinner time over a cup of steaming hot tea at the Starbucks overlooking Zona Rosa, we talked about work, married life, and a haunting childhood memory for an amusing article.

“I was only six at the time which makes my sister about,” Melissa’s brow scrunched up as she did the mental math, “[Erica] would have been ten.” Melissa went on to describe how after a day of playing outside with her older sister, they came across a large stick lying on the driveway. “I don’t remember how it got there, but there it was!” she explains. Taking a sip from her cup, Melissa remembers her sister convincing her to put her foot on the stick. “And that’s when Erica finally told me that it wasn’t a stick—it was a giant snake!”

Throwing our heads back, laughing, Melissa explains the terrified ten minutes she spent, too scared to move her foot and too scared of the snake to yell for help. “Did you ever forgive your sister for this?” I asked. After a long pause Melissa admits that she hasn’t, but, “…it’s been so long I doubt either of us really care anymore.”

**Note: You do NOT need to highlight your article—this is used as an example of how the highlighted parts can form a strong article!**