

Alterhumanity in the Family

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Content Warnings:

- Abuse.
 - Alterhumisia/anti-alterhuman discussion.
 - Queerphobia.
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Our youngest sister has started saying that she's a therian online. She showed us this by commenting that we're in the same Roblox group (an alterhuman one) after she asked to see what groups we were in and it's also written in her bio. We've since talked a little bit about her theriotype.

Now... This is cool and all, we've always wanted someone to relate to in the family. Regardless of if she sticks with the identity or not, it's nice and the things she's said make it seem like she sees her identity as past life based so it seems about as serious as we were when we were that young. It's good for her that she would have someone to relate to growing up as well if she needs it, we weren't fortunate enough to have that.

This brings some extra complications though.

Our family has proven to be anti-alterhuman. At one point, one of our other siblings who is a bit older than the therian one was mocking furies in the living room with everyone around. The father asked what a furry is, and she explained that it is "people who want to be animals" to which we tried to interject and talk about how it's an art and community/fandom thing and not about literally being an animal, but we were ignored. She cut us off and then started talking about her "friend" who "thinks she's a therian" which means "thinks she's part animal", to which our conservative christian father said to "declaim her" and "if she thinks she's an animal, treat her like one and put her in the shelter". I don't even know how they got to those insults immediately, I guess they're the common ones for a reason? But from that, we decided that we wouldn't talk about being a furry let alone being alterhuman around them ever because the fight would be more hassle than anything good that could possibly come of it--they already ignored us once about it, they're likely to brush us off again.

So, yeah. It's an issue. We know what this house is like, and we know the parents have already mocked her for things that as far as they know is just playing pretend. Hell, it could be only playing pretend and nothing more and we'd still see this as an issue.

We're open about alterhumanity elsewhere IRL, just not in our own home due to the cons outweighing the pros, but now we have someone to defend. It's a case of regardless of whether she's playing pretend or not, right now, she is using the label and doesn't deserve to be mocked for it--serious identity or not. So we're at the point where we're mentally preparing ourselves to actually speak up whenever is necessary. We want to support her as best we can with anything at all, really, but this situation in particular hits close to home for us and we don't want her to feel as lonely as we did.

I know she's young and even if the parents end up listening to us, they'll dismiss her based on how young she is. They do it with LGBT+ identities, this will be no better. But we knew when we were that young, and regardless of if she "grows out of it" or not, she deserves respect. We're going to try our best to get it for her, as scary as it is.