Hi, my name is Kaya and I am 11 years old. I was born in Michigan and moved to Las Vegas when I was 5.  When my grandma came to visit and was giving me a bath she noticed that I had a curved back. She told me parents and we went to see a Dr. Camp, the only pediatric orthopedic surgeon in Nevada. When the doctor said I had Juvenile Scoliosis with a 24-degree curve, I was confused because I was only 5 years old.  I started off with a Boston day brace and it was hard to get used to. The heat in Nevada didn't help. I finally got used to wearing the brace but my back started getting worse and they had to give me a night brace also.  I had to buy special shirts to go under my brace due to skin rashes I was getting.

Once I got used to both it was a piece of cake. No one could tell the brace was under my clothes because I had to buy a size bigger in shirts.  We moved to New Mexico and it was a hard couple months after getting a new night brace to get used to all over again. My curve progressed to 56 degree so I had to have surgery.

I have an advanced case but I never let that stop me. I like to dance, play soccer, hang out with friends, shop, play with my little sister, football, and modeling. My favorite colors are pink, purple, blue, red, green, and violet. I have a dog named Emily, who I love to pieces!  I love camping and family vacations each year.  My favorite food is sushi. I want to encourage other girls with scoliosis and let them know they're not alone or different.  It will also help me while helping others!!! That's My Story!