

Questions for a sibling

The shared childhood only the two of you remember.

You need this paper, a phone that records, and an unhurried hour. Three or four questions are plenty for one sitting — follow the light in their eyes, not this list.

Before you sit down

- ☐ Asked permission a few days ahead, so they can warm to it.
- ☐ Charged the phone and tested the voice recorder once.
- ☐ Turned off the television; silenced my own phone.

The questions

1. What's the story about us that our family always tells wrong?

2. What was our house actually like on a school morning?

3. What did we fight about most — and who usually won?

4. What's something you covered for me that our parents never found out?

5. When did you first see me as a person, not just a sibling?

6. What game did we invent that nobody else ever understood?

7. Which family holiday do you remember completely differently than I do?

8. What did you envy about me? What do you think I envied about you?

9. What do you hope our kids' generation knows about the house we grew up in?

Afterward

- ☐ Moved the recording off the phone the same day (computer, family folder, or private archive).
- ☐ Named the file with person, date, and subject.
- ☐ Told them what it meant to me.