



Olivia's Story (Part 2): Meeting Him for the First Time



The Dangers of Social Media - Grooming & Sexual Exploitation, based on a true story.

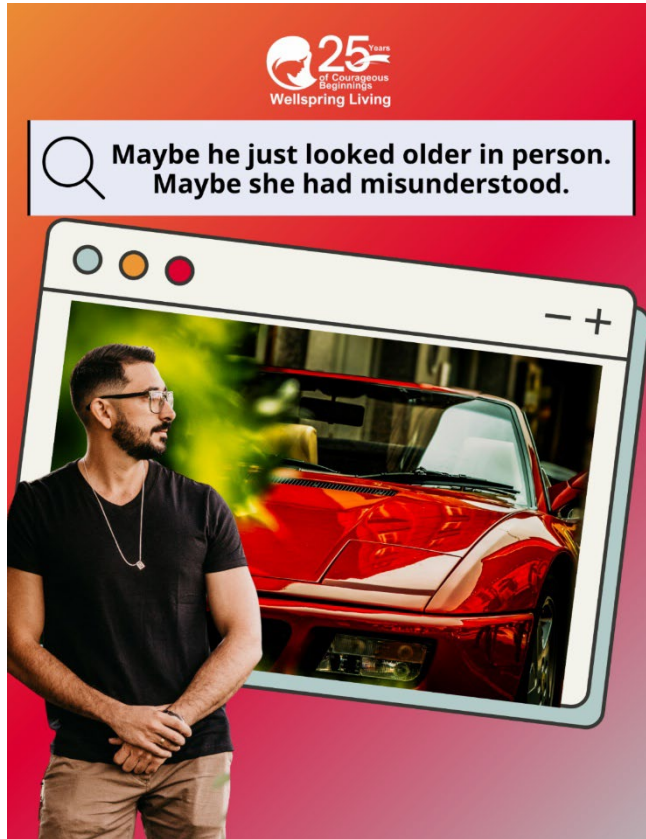
**Olivia's story reflects the true experiences of countless participants on their journey of healing at Wellspring Living.*

Thursday evening was the night Olivia was supposed to meet Jamal. Long after the house had gone quiet and everyone was asleep, **she eased open her bedroom window and slipped into the night.** The air was cool and heavy with shadows, and every unfamiliar sound made her heart jump. Still, she told herself it would be worth it. Jamal was waiting.

The convenience store down the street glowed like a small island of light in the darkness. Olivia hugged her arms around herself as she scanned the parking lot.

Jamal had said he would be in a red sports car. The only red sports car she saw was idling near the edge of the lot, but the driver looked much older than she expected. Surely that couldn't be him.

She waited. Minutes passed. The parking lot grew quieter.



Just as she was about to give up and head home, the red sports car rolled slowly toward her. A man stepped out—at least in his twenties. He smiled easily and said, “Olivia? It’s me. Jamal.”

Confusion flickered across her face. Jamal had told her he was her age. This man was not. But he said her name so confidently, and his voice was warm, reassuring. **Maybe he just looked older in person.** Maybe she had misunderstood.

They talked beside the car for a while. Jamal *complimented* her. He told her she was *beautiful, mature* for her age, *different* from other girls. **His attention felt intoxicating.** When he

suggested they grab something to eat, she hesitated. **A small voice inside her whispered that she should go home.** But she pushed the feeling aside. It was only dinner. She’d be back before anyone even noticed she was gone.

Riding in the sleek red sports car made her feel important—grown-up. The town lights faded behind them as they drove. The restaurant was farther away than she expected, but Jamal laughed it off, saying it was his favorite place.

Over burgers, fries, and a Coke, he was charming and attentive. He asked questions about her life. **He made her feel seen.**

After dinner, Jamal suggested a drive through the countryside. “Just for a little while,” he said. “I don’t want the night to end.” She didn’t want it to end either.

The road stretched on longer than she realized. Streetlights disappeared. Houses became sparse.

Olivia glanced at the clock on the dashboard and felt a ripple of unease. They were far from her grandmother’s home now. “I think we should head back,” she said quietly.

“Relax,” Jamal replied smoothly. “I just want to spend more time with you.”

Her eyelids began to feel heavy. Her thoughts grew fuzzy. She tried to focus on the passing road signs, but the letters blurred together. **A strange drowsiness settled over her, deeper than simple tiredness.** She struggled to keep her eyes open.

The last thing she remembered was the hum of the engine and Jamal’s voice telling her everything was fine.

When Olivia woke up, the air felt different. The room was unfamiliar. Beige walls. Heavy curtains. A locked door.

She wasn’t at home.

She wasn’t even in her town.

She was in a hotel room somewhere in Georgia.

**Olivia’s story represents the true experiences of countless participants who are on their journey to healing at Wellspring Living.*



FOR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS

Tips on Reconnecting with Teenagers

1 Get Curious

Ask open questions instead of reacting with anger to their behavior

2 Address the Root Cause

Excessive screen use often hides emotional pain; explore your child's feelings.

3 Model Healthy Behavior

Show your child how you manage stress and feelings in healthy ways, i.e., prayer, exercise, journaling, deep breathing, and other empowering self-care strategies

4 Create Connection Rituals

Spend quality, device-free time together, like family dinners or game nights.

5 Understand Family Patterns

Reflect on how your family handles emotions and coping strategies without blaming anyone.

6 Seek Support Together

Improve family dynamics as a team and consider getting outside help if needed.