

# The Cells Family

It all started one day in Ribosome Cell's science class. Her teacher was explaining the parts of a cell and how they all work together to create life. He then said, "I would like you all to find an analogy for the cell. Something that is like a cell, like a city." Ribosome knew immediately that her family would be the perfect example of a cell. After all, they were all named after the parts of a cell.

Her older brother, Endoplasmic Reticulum (everyone calls him ER for short), picked her up after school. They stopped at her younger brother's school to pick him up. His name was Mitochondria. They all went home.

"Hey kids, how was school? Did you learn about equations again? You know that they are just filling your head with nonsense." Their mother, Cell Membrane, greeted them from the kitchen as their family dog, Lysosome, jumped on them, obviously trying to greet them as well.

"Only cells for me mom.", Ribosome called back to her mother.

"I learned about the war!" Mitochondria said. Their mother gasped and ran to her son.

"You kids shouldn't be learning about that! You are so young!"

"I'm actually 9 now mommy." Mitochondria said matter of factly.

“Well tell your teacher that I don’t want you learning about those things until you are 11.” She replied, angry spurred in her voice and she waltzed back to the kitchen. The smell of fresh cookies engulfed the house as she pulled them out of the oven. “I have to do a dollop of work, so you kids just munch on these cookies. I will be down in a couple of hours so just come get me if you need anything.” On that note, she skipped upstairs into her office.

“Yummy!” Mitochondria squealed as he got out a plate and layered it with cookies. He went upstairs to go have a nap and enjoy his cookies.

Ribosome was up in her room, reading her favorite book to her dolls. A loud bang erupted from downstairs, Ribosome nearly fell off her bed.

“I’m home!” Ribosome’s father yelled from downstairs. She could he his big feet, pounding into the kitchen to have a snack of the few leftover cookies. Mitochondria flew down the stairs and launched himself into his father’s arms. Ribosome crawled out of bed and went downstairs.

*RUFF RUFF!* Lysosome barked at Ribosome as she came down the stairs, telling her that her father was here. “I have fantastic news!” ER came upstairs and we heard our mother’s chair scratch on the floor as she excused herself from her little bit of work left and came to join us. “We are going on a road trip! We will be traveling to, drumroll...” he thumped his fingers on the counter, “Iowa! We are going for a family reunion! How cool is that?” His face lit up and looked around at us.

“Nucleus that’s great!” Our mother chimed from the foot of the stairs.

“Yeah Dad, that’s awesome!” Mitochondria said, looking up at him like a mountain. “I’m so excited! We are gonna eat at McDonalds and sleep at hotels, and stop at gas stations for snacks, and see a ton of people!” We all had a laugh and then split off to go pack.

Ribosome was the most tidy person in all of the family. She pulled out her huge suitcase and backpack. She stuffed her backpack with her books, favorite dolls, her iPad, headphones, charger, a small bag of doll’s clothing, and a couple snacks. She packed her suitcase with clothes, the rest of the dolls, and whatever else she expected to need. Lysosome came in and flopped down on her bed. Ribosome reached over and scratched her stomach for her.

They all piled into their huge family car, ER was driving, Nucleus was in the passenger seat, with a map guiding ER to their destination. Cell Membrane was in the middle row with Mitochondria, making sure he stayed calm but still happy and excited for the journey ahead. Finally, Ribosome sat in the back row with Lysosome. Coolers and suitcases piled up behind the seats. That was it, the Cells, in a car going to who knows where.

The trip there was a couple days, they stayed in hotels and either went out for meals or got room service. It would have been a dreary trip if Mitochondria hadn’t been there to make them excited and energized. After a long wait, they arrived at the house. The reunion was already in full boom. Their relatives flooded out onto the front and back lawns.

“Hey guys! Welcome! You can park your car over there,” The unknown relative pointed over to a huge lot, packed already to the brim with cars. “Food is inside, Lilah here will show you to your rooms and also there are yard games and burgers and all that in the back!” They must have been easily excitable because they flew off to go help the other cars coming in after us.

“Well, let's go park and then we can get settled. We might have to share some rooms.” Nucleus managed to say. They drove off to the lot, stunned.

Lilah was still waiting in the same place she had been before, waiting for them. She glanced over and saw them approaching with their suitcases and almost empty coolers. She went into the gigantic house and came out with a large cart. She grabbed their luggage from them and piled it up on the cart. She said nothing, but signaled them to follow her. Lysosome was running around, greeting all his new friends.

They followed the small girl, who was pushing their things, into a large elevator. She pushed a button that said 45. 45 LEVELS! There was probably even more than that! Ribosome held Lysosome's collar tightly, she wasn't too fond of elevators. They shot up into the air, zooming up to the 45th floor. Lilah gently handed Cell Membrane a key card. She walked out of the elevator, pushing the cart in front of her. She pushed it carefully into the biggest room to their right and left. All the rooms had their names plastered on the wall, beside the doors. Nucleus and ER started unloading the luggage and Ribosome took her suitcase, looking around the huge rectangle of an entryway for the room with her name on it.

After a little bit of help, they all found their rooms and dropped off their stuff. There were doggy toys and dog beds in every room, Lysosome would get to choose which room she got.

“Well, lets go explore!” Mitochondria said eagerly.

“I want to go get some food first.” Ribosome stated. So they all went to go explore, Nucleus and Ribosome went to go eat, Cell Membrane and Mitochondria went to go explore the main building and backyard, and ER went back into his room to chill.

Ribosome piled her plate with chips and dips, veggies and ranch, chocolates, cakes, and anything else that she saw that she thought, *I want you in my stomach.* To her right was a young boy. She knew him, Vacuole. He towered his plate with at least five of everything on the tables. Once he made his rounds he ran to the nearest bathroom and set up fort.

It was a lovely stay but eventually they had to go, driving home in their huge family car.

# **The End.**