Opening 1 / 8

Good evening. I'm Emma, Michael's sister, and as of today, Rosa's sister too. I've been practicing that sentence in the mirror for a month. It still gives me goosebumps.

Part 2 2 / 8

The first time I met Rosa, a snowstorm closed every road in town. Michael had brought her home for a long weekend, and there we all were, stuck in my parents' living room, with nothing to do and a very old box of Scrabble.

Part 3 3 / 8

Michael takes Scrabble seriously. He has a dictionary. He has opinions about the letter Q. I braced myself for Rosa to be polite and quietly bored. Instead, on her second turn, she played a word I'd never seen, got every point out of it, and then said, 'I'm so sorry, was that rude?'

Part 4 4 / 8

My brother laughed so hard he had to leave the room. I'd never seen him lose a game and look happy about it. Rosa won by forty points. They have played every week since, and Rosa says the score is tied. Michael says it is not.

Part 5 5 / 8

Rosa, that's when I knew. You were kind and you were honest, and you did both in the same breath. In our family, that's the highest skill there is.

Part 6 6 / 8

I always wanted a sister. I got a brother who borrowed my bike and never gave it back. Now, at last, I'm getting you. I promise to be the kind of sister-in-law who calls just to talk.

Part 7 7 / 8

Michael, you did well. Our whole family can see it. Rosa, welcome. We have a seat for you at every table, and a Scrabble board in every closet.

Closing 8 / 8

Glasses up, everyone, for Rosa and Michael.