



HC: 9781645952077 • e-book: 9781645952091

## *The Second Favorite Daughters Club 1: Sister Sabotage*

by Colleen Oakes

“[An] involving narrative.”

—*Booklist*

### ABOUT THE BOOK

**For fans of *Sisters* and Netflix’s *The Baby-sitter’s Club*, a contemporary series for the siblings who always come in last.**

Santana Barnes is tired of playing second fiddle to her ballet protégé, honor student older sister, Victoria. Casey Hammond is sick of her cute-as-a-button, adventurous little sister, Sage, who steals all of their dad’s attention. So they decide to do something about it. They create the Second Favorite Daughters Club. The members? Just the two of them. The mission? To become their parents’ favorite children by undermining their love-hoarding siblings. But is it possible to cheat your way to becoming your parents’ favorite? And is being in the spotlight really what they want after all?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- The novel features two main characters, Santana Barnes and Casey Hammond, and is told in alternating chapters. How is this an effective way of revealing the conflict within the two girls? Santana has a difficult time making friends. How do she and Casey meet? Describe their friendship.
- Santana Barnes is the youngest child in her family. In what ways is she different from her older sister, Victoria? Why does she resent Victoria? Discuss how Victoria’s talents and accomplishments go to her head. What is Santana’s idea of an ideal sister? Explain what Santana means when she says she feels like a leftover.
- Contrast Casey Hammond and her younger sister, Sage. Explain why Casey feels outside the circle of Dad and Sage. Cite specific scenes that expose her feelings. Discuss what her dad means by “You do you” (p. 19).
- What gives Santana and Casey the idea to form the Second Favorite Daughters Club? Explain what Santana means when she says to Casey, “I have a mortal enemy, you have an annoying sprite” (p. 80). Discuss the plans they make to take down the “mortal enemy” and the “annoying sprite.”

- Casey attends a tie-dye class with her dad. How does she feel close to him at this moment? What makes her second-guess her plans to get back at Sage? Explain why she decides to go through with the plan. Why does Casey feel guilty after killing her dad's plants? How does she enjoy her dad's rant toward Sage? Discuss Casey's attempt to right the wrong she has caused.
- Discuss the meaning of sarcasm. Santana says, "You're not saving the world from a nuclear bomb, Victoria. You're late to ballet" (p. 110). How is this an example of sarcasm? Identify other examples of sarcasm in the book.
- Santana has a crush on Cai. Why is she surprised to learn that Cai is lonely? Explain why Santana tells Cai about the Second Favorite Daughters Club. Discuss Casey's reaction when she learns that Santana has revealed their secret. What happens among their classmates when they learn about the club?
- Define sabotage. How is Santana eager to sabotage her sister? Describe Santana's "Victoria Destruction Plan." She accomplishes the first part of her plan. What is the three-stage Nutcracker plan? Explain why Casey tries to stop Santana from following through on the plan. Why is it too late?
- Discuss Victoria's thoughts when she realizes that Santana has run away to New York. Describe Victoria's frantic mood when she goes to Casey's house in search of Santana. How does Casey help Victoria understand Santana's feelings?
- Describe their reunion. Discuss the conversation between Santana and Victoria.

## ABOUT THE CREATOR



**Colleen Oakes** is the bestselling author of books for both teens and adults, including the acclaimed *Queen of Hearts* series, *The Black Coats*, *Wendy Darling*, and the upcoming *Eleven Houses*. Her work has been featured in *HuffPost*, *Entertainment Weekly*, the *Denver Post*, and more. *The Second Favorite Daughters Club* is her first middle grade novel. Colleen recently moved to Connecticut with her husband and son and is eager to explore New England. She is currently at work on her memoir and an adult thriller. You can visit her webpage at [ColleenOakes.org](http://ColleenOakes.org) or visit her on Instagram at [@ColleenOakes](https://www.instagram.com/ColleenOakes).

Guide created by Pat Scales, retired school librarian and independent consultant, Greenville, South Carolina.