In fact, she wishes that her dad weren’t so into it. He has the earrings and tattoos like many of the other riders. It embarrasses Terry a bit, especially when he shows up to school in his leathers. She tried talking to him about it once, but he just laughed and said, “Don’t tell me that you’re ashamed of your old man.”

4. Rorie is a seventh grader. But lots of people don’t realize she’s so young because she’s such a great golfer. She’s already won the women’s championship at her golf club. Rorie loves to compete. She just wishes that she had more time to spend with her friends. But her dad is always pushing her to practice, practice, practice. He’s always wanted the best for her. In fact, he worked two jobs and took a second mortgage out on their house so they could afford the club’s $150,000 initiation fee. He said that it was a worthwhile investment, both because it would help Rorie’s golf game and because her dad says, “At clubs like ours you only meet the best kind of people. You know what I mean. It’s not for everyone.” When Rorie plays, her dad always caddies for her. He’s really a big help. She doesn’t much mind when she hears other players call her “Daddy’s little girl.”

5. Thomas is a ninth grader. His first year at the high school has been a bit rough, much more work than middle school was. As a result, his grades aren’t what they should be. Thank goodness his dad understands. In fact, his dad blames Thomas’s poor grades on the teachers. His dad barely graduated from high school because of a learning disability. He’s glad Thomas finds school easier than he ever did, but he worries that it takes up too much of his time. He always tells Thomas that there’s more to being a kid than doing well in school. Friends and activities are at least as important. If Thomas’s dad thinks he has too much work, he calls Thomas’s teachers and complains. Neither Thomas nor his dad want homework to interfere with the time they have together. They like to play catch or go to a movie on the weekends. Thomas enjoys his dad’s company so much that he even includes his dad when he does something with his friends, like going to a concert.