

NETFLIX 2020

introducing  
**MALIA BAKER**



**The Baby-Sitters Club**

**MARY ANNE SPIER**





**BIO**  
**Malia (Mah-lee-uh) Simphiwe Baker** 

Netflix recently introduced Malia Baker to the world as their casting choice to play the beloved character, Mary Anne Spier, in the streamer’s highly-anticipated remake of *The Baby-Sitters Club*.

Baker’s character is one of the founders of the club and has been best friends with their leader, Kristy, since birth. Mary Anne lost her mom to cancer when she was only 18 months and is being raised by her caring, but sometimes over-protective Dad.

The big reveal of the five young actors selected to play the iconic baby-sitters doubled as an introduction to a new talent. Baker had only begun acting classes one year prior to winning her series regular role through Netflix’s North American-wide search. Only one year in the business and yet she’d already performed in several theatrical productions and appeared in the TV series *A Million Little Things* and *The Flash*, as well as Hallmark’s TV movie, *Hope at Christmas*.

This extraordinary young African-Canadian girl loves all art including acting, dance, music, and literature. She is an “equalitarian” who follows the accomplishments of the likes of OWLAG (Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls), the Canadian UN’s Youth Action on the SDGs, and more.

Baker is also an avid reader and writer and would like the opportunity to use her “arts and her smarts” so that she is able to be a role model for younger bi-racial youth and girls in general.

-  [maliabakermbsb](https://www.instagram.com/maliabakermbsb)
-  [@maliabakermbsb](https://twitter.com/maliabakermbsb)
-  [maliabakermbsb](https://www.facebook.com/maliabakermbsb)

**TALKING POINTS**

- Born in Botswana, Malia’s middle name, Simphiwe, is a Xhosa name meaning “We have been gifted.”
- Malia is an equalitarian who is “motivated to create change on the topics of injustice, in particular, due to discrimination (whether on race, sexual orientation, religion, etc).”
- Malia had only entered the acting profession one short year before she won the role as Mary Anne in *The Baby-Sitters Club*.
- She is very well-read – Suspense Fiction and Social Justice Fiction are her preferred genres and “The Hate You Give” is her favourite novel – and is currently working on her first book.
- Malia loves all forms of music from the Beatles of the past to today’s Nigerian pop and everything in-between. She is a dancer, contemporary being her favourite; she enjoys painting with acrylics, and even the art of baking in order to slay her crazy sweet-tooth.

**CHARACTER DESCRIPTION**

**MARY ANNE SPIER (Secretary of BSC):** Mary Anne has been Kristy’s best friend since birth. She lost her mom to cancer when she was only 18 months and is being raised by her caring, but sometimes over-protective Dad. She is a dreamer with a benevolent warm and accepting nature.

Media Contact materials can be downloaded from [www.ascendprgroup.com/press](https://www.ascendprgroup.com/press)

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# MALIA'S PHOTOGRAPHS

