

KIDS ON THE PORCH

EPISODE 2: THE MYSTERY OF THE CYBER BULLY

PART ONE

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PART I. *Ext. Afternoon. YOUNG TRISH is sitting on the porch cross-legged, staring up at her grandmother, listening intently.*

TRISH'S GRANDMOTHER

(Rocking gently back and forth in her rocking chair) Your mother and father love each other very much, but there are some folks who don't understand that.

YOUNG TRISH

But why?

TRISH'S GRANDMOTHER

Oh, it goes back a long way, my dear. People've always hated what they don't understand. Throughout history, people have been punished for being different. When I was a girl, the blacks and whites were segregated.

YOUNG TRISH

What's segregated?

TRISH'S GRANDMOTHER

Separated sweetheart. In my day, your mother and father would have never been allowed to be together. They couldn't even drink out of the same water fountain.

YOUNG TRISH

I don't get it.

TRISH'S GRANDMOTHER

I'll explain more later. Right now, grandma's tired. Enough chat for today.

YOUNG TRISH

But gramaw! Are mommy and daddy gonna be okay?

TRISH'S GRANDMOTHER

Mommy and daddy are gonna be just fine sweetheart. People have changed a great deal since then. You just keep on being you.

YOUNG TRISH

But gramaw! They make fun of me at school. They call me a mutt.

TRISH'S GRANDMOTHER

Oh baby... come `ere. Listen to me. There's always gonna be people. Haters, I call `em. They wanna treat you badly because you are different. Some of them learned it from their parents. Others are scared of change. And some of them just don't know any better. Whatever the reason, it doesn't matter. We are all unique flowers in God's garden, different in ways, but all just as beautiful and precious in God's eyes.

CUT TO: TEN YEARS LATER...

TRISH and MIMI are sitting in TRISH's room on her bed.

TRISH

The dream was so vivid. It was like it was yesterday. I can still feel her warmth. I miss her.

MIMI

I can't believe that I'm about to say this, but I actually miss Michael.

TRISH

What?

MIMI

Yeah, this summer I went to his house.

CUT TO: Ext. MIMI in front of MICHAEL's door. She knocks. An African American boy about fifteen years old answers the door.

MIMI

Umm... Is Michael here?

MAC

Michael? Oh right right. He moved.

Closing the door.

MIMI

Wait!

He stops.

Why did he move?

MAC

I dunno. He didn't say. Name's Mac by the way.

CUT TO: Int. Trish's bedroom. Trish and Mimi are sitting on the bed.

TRISH

I can't believe it. Michael moved? Without telling us?

MIMI

Yeah well, he wasn't too happy with us the last time we saw him. My gratitude gifts just weren't enough for him I guess. Can't please everyone. Anyway, moving on. I spent the summer with Mac and everything was cool at first but now he's becoming just like Michael, the biggest pain in my side.

TRISH

Summer with Mac huh?

MIMI

Yeah well, it wasn't Paris but what else was I supposed to do after coming back from Disney World? We spent most of the summer taking care of his little brother Billy.

TRISH

You mean you were actually trusted to take care of a child?

MIMI

Ha ha.

TRISH

So do you think Austin knows that Michael moved?

MIMI

You just get right to the point don't you?

TRISH

Shut up.

MIMI

Go ahead and ask. You know you want to.

TRISH

How's Austin?

MIMI

His mom told me that he had this tremendous growth spurt over the summer. That's all I know.

TRISH smiles.

Oh you like 'em tall, dark, and handsome don't you?

TRISH

Cut it out.

MIMI

No you cut it out.

She pokes TRISH in the side.

DAY ONE:

Ext. Morning. The gang is seated on MIMI's porch waiting.

MIMI

Sorry guys. I told daddy we were going to need the driver
this morning. I don't know what's going on.

MAC

You stuck on stupid or what? We heard you the first hundred
times.

AUSTIN

Who are you and why have you body snatched my friend
Michael?

MAC

You mean, Mimi didn't tell you?

MIMI

He's on a need to know basis.

AUSTIN

Tell me what?

MAC

Michael moved.

AUSTIN

He what? Without telling me?

MIMI

A real friend would have said something. It's better you found out now who Michael really is.

AUSTIN

Say what you want about Michael, but he was a real friend. Whatever it is, I'm sure he had a good reason for not calling.

MAC

Why don't we just take the bus?

MIMI

Are you serious? You really think the buses actually run by here? I don't think so.

TRISH

K. So let's walk to the bus.

MIMI

Uh, hello. I just got these new Choos. I haven't even had the chance to break them in yet.

TRISH

All the more reason to walk.

MIMI

No, you're not getting it. If I walk now, my feet are gonna be sore all day.

MAC

Change then.

MIMI

No, it took me hours to put together this outfit. If I change shoes, it'll throw off my color combination, sending

me into a fashion faux pa! Do you want me to be fined by
the fashion police?

AUSTIN

This is school. Not a fashion show Mimi.

MIMI

Everyday is a fashion show. Now don't get your undies in a
bunch. I'll call daddy and see what's going on.

BILLY

I'm hungry.

MAC

You'll eat when you get to school Billy.

BILLY

I already missed breakfast.

MAC

(Sighs) Can you stop at McDonalds or something on the way?

MIMI

Hello, daddy. Uh- he put me on hold. For you, no. But I'll
do it for my wittle Billy boy. *(She squeezes his cheeks.)*

Hi. Um, my friends and I are waiting for Daniel to take us
to school? Did you send him over? He what? You mean we have
to squeeze into the mini-cooper with step-monster and her
brats? *(Whining)* Daddy! Uh fine! *(She angrily hangs up the
phone.)* He got lost. Step-monster!

*(The door opens and Mimi's stepmother comes out, followed
by her two children.)*

HILLARY

Mimi, what did I say about calling me that? Now get in the
car.

MIMI

But Hill-

HILLARY

Get in the car! You kids need a ride?

CUT TO: All of the kids are crammed into the car. HILLARY's children are fighting, screaming, and crying the whole time.

MIMI

Trish, get your fat Kim Kardashian booty off of me! (*Forces her over into AUSTIN's lap*)

TRISH

Sorry Austin.

AUSTIN

It's okay Trish. I don't mind.

MIMI

Of course you don't.

BILLY

I'm hungry.

MAC

I'll get you something at school Billy.

BILLY

But I'm hungry now!

TRISTEN

Mom, Tanner punched me.

TANNER

I did not! Tristen hit me in the stomach and so I told him-

HILLARY

I don't want to hear it! We are almost there. For the love of- everyone please just SHUT UP!

There is a moment of silence. Then the kids all start up again.

CUT TO: *The mini-cooper arrives in front of the school. The kids quickly pile out of the car all talking over each other.*

MIMI

Oh, finally, if I had to stay in that dragon wagon for another minute.

MAC

C'mon Billy. I'll take you to get food. *(Takes BILLY and disappears around the corner.)*

AUSTIN

(To TRISH) I gotta run. I have this huge test in Algebra.

TRISH

I don't know what you're worried about Austin. You know you're gonna pass.

HILLARY

Thank you!

TRISH

(Turns back to HILLARY and shouts.) Oh, thanks Mrs. Masterson!

HILLARY

(Sighs) Children.

CUT TO:

School cafeteria. Lunchtime. Tiffany enters with a new student.

TIFFANY

As an actress, I like to observe the world around me. The cafeteria is the perfect place. See over there you have the jocks, or as I like to call them, the meatheads. And of course, no school would be complete without some airhead cheerleaders. Yep, Stephanie and her Doublemint twits. I mean twins. Better known as the Sandy Sisters. The geeks. Freaks. The Cyber Squad. They never take their gaze away from gadgets. Sometimes I think they might actually be robots. But I wouldn't dare unplug them. Oh yeah, there's the red-headed nation.

SASHA

What's the red-headed nation?

TIFFANY

It's this group of losers who decided to make their own click because they all have red hair. I know, stupid right? Oh! And see that girl over there? I think she's a witch.

TIFFANY completely skips over the Singing Sensations.

SHEY

Hey, where was our introduction?

CHARLIE

She'll remember us when we're making headlines.

TRISH enters walking with her lunch tray, MIMI alongside her; she brought her own lunch.

TIFFANY

Speaking of witch. Here comes the biggest witch of all. Mimi Masterson. Fashion diva and a real manipulative piece of work. She tainted my punch in the 7th grade so I could

get sick and she could steal the role of Juliet from me. She treats her friend Trish like her own personal Barbie doll, and the poor thing follows her around like a lost puppy.

MIMI and TRISH approach.

MIMI

Tiffany. Hi. Still harping on the 7th grade I see. Do me a favor. If you're gonna spread filth about me. At least make it true. New girl, if I were you, I'd stay away from her. She's kinda deranged. Ta ta.

MIMI and TRISH walk past. TIFFANY looks furious.

SASHA

So...where do you sit?

TIFFANY

Oh, the drama club.

SASHA looks at her in disbelief as the Drama Club engages in all kinds of weird and humiliating behavior.

Trust me. They're dope. Oh shoot! I just realized. I have a deadline for the school newspaper. I gotta go. But have fun. I'll see ya later.

TIFFANY rushes off leaving SASHA standing alone with her tray. MIMI spots her and motions for her to come over. SASHA reluctantly approaches.

MIMI

Don't be scared. I'm not gonna bite. Sit down. Eat with us.

SASHA

Okay.

MIMI

Look, I don't want to have any beef with you. You can be friends with Tiffany if you want, but don't let that stand in the way of our friendship. I'm Mimi and this is my friend Trish.

TRISH

Best friend.

MIMI

You're pretty. I don't usually hang out with pretty girls. Too much competition.

TRISH takes offense and storms off with her lunch tray.

MIMI

What was that about? Anywayz, as I was saying.

CUT TO: Interior. MAC's house. MAC storms in angrily and charges down the hall to his room.

MAC'S MOM

Hey hey hey! What's going on? Why are you home so late?

MAC

Detention.

MAC'S MOM

Detention. Why?

MAC

I took Bozo here off campus to get breakfast.

MAC'S MOM

Hey. Don't pick on him. It's not his fault. Why didn't you feed him before you left?

MAC

There wasn't time.

MAC'S MOM

Then why didn't you take him to the cafeteria?

MAC

Because they stopped serving breakfast.

MAC'S MOM

Well, if you would've caught the bus here instead of going to your little girlfriend Mimi's house.

MAC

She's not my girlfriend! And he's not my responsibility!
He's yours!

BILLY, upset, gets up and runs to his room crying. He slams the door. MAC chases after him.

Billy wait! Billy!

He jiggles the doorknob. It's locked.

MAC'S MOM

You see what you did? Now you upset your brother. You think it's easy for me to go through this? You think I wake up every morning and think, "I wanna work all day to support two kids by myself! I wanna spend all my time waiting tables at a greasy diner while nasty old men try to grope at me. I wanna mop up puke off the floor at 2 am because some college kids decide to come in after a night of drinking. Then I come home, and my children are asleep and I don't even get a chance to hear their voices.

MAC

Mom.

MAC'S MOM

Just go. Go hang out with your friends. You're a kid. Enjoy yourself.

MAC

But mom.

MAC'S MOM

I'll be fine. Just go.

MAC

But what about Bill-

MAC'S MOM

I'll hire a babysitter. Just go.

MAC stands there dumbfounded.

GO!

MAC leaves slamming the door shut behind him.

CUT TO: *Interior. MIMI's house. MIMI enters.*

MIMI

I'm home.

MIMI's father is sitting on the couch with his feet up on the ottoman, engrossed in his newspaper. TRISTEN and TANNER are in the background roughhousing and making a ruckus. HILLARY is running around, giving the maid orders, and looking as though she is about to rip her hair out.

MIMI

I said I'm home!

DADDY

(Without moving his gaze from his paper) Hi honey.

HILLARY

Lupe, please, I've told you time and time again. Do not feed them chocolate. They become little devils.

LUPE

I no feed them chocolate.

HILLARY

Then who-

MIMI giggles.

You little brat. You are in so much trouble young lady!

MIMI

Oh please. What are you gonna do? Ground me? Ha.

She smugly walks off to her room.

CUT TO: *Int. TRISH's room. AUSTIN and TRISH are playing video games.*

AUSTIN

Go go go go go go... Ha! I beat you again!

TRISH

One more round. Just one more!

AUSTIN

I can't. I gotta go. Curfew.

TRISH

Aww...man! Well thanks for coming over. You always know how to cheer me up.

AUSTIN

Yeah well, that's what buds are for right.

TRISH

(Disappointed) Yeah...

AUSTIN

Well, bye.

They hug awkwardly.

AUSTIN

See you in the morning.

CUT TO: *Ext. MAC's house. A hand knocks on the door. The door opens revealing MAC's mother. A police officer is standing at the door with MAC by his side.*

POLICE OFFICER

Is this your son?

CUT TO: *Interior. TRISH's room. Her cell phone rings.*

SPLITSCREEN OF TRISH AND MIMI ON THE PHONE:

MIMI

Hey loser, what you up to?

TRISH

Austin just left. We were playing video games.

MIMI

Ewwwww...did you kiss him yet?

TRISH

Shut up! Stop ragging on me all the time.

MIMI

(Singing) Trish and Austin sittin' in a tree K-I-S-S-I-N-G!
First comes love. Then comes marriage. Then comes Austin
with the-

Click.

CUT TO: *Interior. MIMI's room. She falls back on her bed laughing hysterically.*

CUT TO: *Interior. MAC's living room.*

POLICE OFFICER

I found him sealing a drug deal at the liquor store on the corner. Now, you know this is a serious offense, and normally under these circumstances I would take him into custody. However, I was a kid once too. I will confiscate these drugs, but I'm giving you a second chance young man.

MAC'S MOM

What were you thinking?

MAC

Mom, I-

MAC'S MOM

Go to your room!

MAC

But-

MAC'S MOM

I said go to your room!

MAC sulks away.

MAC'S MOM

I'm sorry officer. He's having a tough time right now. Ever since his dad left. He really is a good kid. Here lately he- I'll talk to him officer.

POLICE OFFICER

Please, call me Robert.

MAC'S MOM

Katherine.

POLICE OFFICER

Katherine, I know what you're going through. My wife died about a year ago. Cancer. Here's my card. If you need anything. Anything at all. Someone to talk to? Give me a call.

MAC'S MOM

Thank you, officer.

ROBERT

Good night.

MAC'S MOM

Night.

KATHERINE closes the door and smirks half-heartedly.

DAY TWO:

Ext. MAC's house. Morning before school. MAC and MIMI are bickering back and forth as usual, while Trish sits quietly, and Austin studies.

MAC

Why we gotta wait at your house again? We waited here yesterday. Thanks to you I still have stomach cramps.

MIMI

Oh shut up. I promised you guys a ride in the limo, and this time I won't let you down. I'll make sure of it.

MAC

Really Mimi, it's no big deal.

MIMI

Trust me. It's a big deal. Arriving to school in style gains major popularity points.

MAC

Another day. No dollar.

MIMI

Maybe not for you.

CUT TO: High school hallway bustling with students. Lockers opening and slamming shut. Classroom doors opening and closing. MIMI is standing with her locker open. Her phone vibrates. She picks it up and reads her latest tweet.

MIMI

"I'm following you." Duh, You and half of Hollywood.

Another message comes through.

"No, I'm really following you."

MIMI looks around. Then shuts her locker. TIFFANY is standing there. This startles MIMI.

Tiff, you scared me. Whaddya want?

TIFFANY

I just came by to tell you about the new production. We're gonna be doing the high school rendition of "Wicked." I'm hoping to play Glenda. Should I sign you up to audition for Elfaba?

MIMI

Ha ha. Very funny. Now cut it out. You know I don't act anymore. I'm a designer. I plan on going to FIDM as soon as I leave this dump. And why are you sending me these weird tweets? Don't you have anything better to do?

TIFFANY

I don't have Twitter.

MIMI

Yeah, nice try. Go bother someone else.

TIFFANY

You know you really should audition for Elfaba. It wouldn't require much acting. You're already a wicked witch!

(Tiffany storms off.)

MIMI

Drama freak! *(She glances around again.)*

CUT TO: *Flashback to AVG episode.*

LILLY

I'll be back. When you least expect it.

MIMI

Lilly?

CUT TO: *Interior. Cafeteria. TRISH and MIMI are standing in the lunch line. MIMI has her own lunch from home.*

TRISH

So you think it was her?

MIMI

Her what?

TRISH

That's sending you the weird tweets. You said that she popped up out of nowhere after you got them right? And now she's trashing you to the new girl?

TRISH accidentally bumps into someone.

MEAN KID

Hey! Watch it half-breed!

MIMI

Go back to your racist friends you jerk! You mean Sasha.

TRISH

What?

MIMI

The new girl. Her name is Sasha.

TRISH

Whatever.

MIMI

Where is Sasha? Having lunch with that twit Tiffany no doubt.

TRISH

Maybe they're in on it together. Maybe Tiffany and Sasha are off somewhere tweeting you right now.

MIMI

(laughing) Give me a break. Anywayz, I wouldn't put it past her. She still blames me for taking the role of Juliet in the 7th grade.

TRISH

I'm lost. Who are we talking about now?

MIMI

Tiffany. Keep up. Geez! But no, not really. She's not that clever. Besides, she spends more time with Shakespeare than modern technology.

TRISH

Where's Austin?

CUT TO: *Austin getting slammed into a locker.*

CUT TO:

TIFFANY

Is that all you think about?

TRISH

No, it's just, I bet he could figure out a way to trace it back to who sent it.

CUT TO: *ROLAN, the school bully, holding Austin by the arm with one hand, and pressing Austin's face into a locker with the other.*

AUSTIN

I swear Rolan. I don't have any money. My mom packed me a lunch today.

ROLAN

Give it to me.

CUT TO: *Cafeteria.*

TRISH

He's really good with computers.

MIMI

Well why don't you marry him already Trish?

CUT TO:

ROLAN

You have that homework assignment?

AUSTIN

Right here. It's in my bag. *(He pulls it out and hands it over.)*

CUT TO:

TRISH

Why do you always hassle me about that? You know there's nothing going on between us.

CUT TO:

ROLAN

(Swipes it away.) Alright kid, you're off the hook. Same place tomorrow. And you better bring money next time. What is this? *(He pulls a sandwich out of the lunch sack.)* Is this for a dwarf or something? *(He turns his nose up at it and tosses the sandwich on the floor and takes off down the hall.)*

AUSTIN picks up the sandwich and tosses it in the trash.

CUT TO:

MIMI

Okay fine. I won't say anything else. It's just that-
She spots AUSTIN approaching and stops herself.

TRISH

What? Just spit it out. But then I don't wanna hear another-

AUSTIN plops down next to TRISH.

Word... What happened to you?

AUSTIN

I fell. (*TRISH is staring at him.*) It's so stupid. I was on my way to Bio and I was running late and I took a spill.

TRISH

Uh huh... That's really weir-

AUSTIN

I said it's nothing! (*The bell rings.*) I'll see ya later.

TRISH and MIMI start scooping up their books.

TRISH

I saw him after bio. He did not have that bruise.

MIMI

You know his schedule too? (*TRISH looks at MIMI disapprovingly.*) I rest my case.

CUT TO: *Int. MIMI's house. MIMI enters. All of the lights are off. MIMI flips a switch.*

MIMI

Hello? Daddy! Stepmonster! Children of the corn! Huh, wonder where they went.

CUT TO: MIMI entering her bedroom. Flips the switch. Her window is slightly ajar allowing a light breeze to toss her curtains slightly to and fro. MIMI goes to shut the window. She hears a rustling in the bushes. She stares at them for a moment. Nothing. She shuts the window. An instant message pops up on her computer. Bloop. MIMI reads it.

Smiley77: You're alone.

(*MIMI types*) Who are you and what do you want from me?

Bloop.

I want to see you suffer.

(MIMI types) Why?

Smiley77: Don't play victim Mimi. You're much too good at being the villain.

(MIMI types) My daddy is a lawyer. If you don't be careful, you'll find yourself in the slammer.

Smiley77: No you be careful. I wouldn't step outside if I were you.

(Startled. MIMI looks out her window. Nothing. She picks up her cell. Dials daddy. Voicemail. Frantically dials stepmonster. Voicemail. She is freaking out. Searching through her contacts she comes across AUSTIN's name.)

CUT TO: *Int. TRISH's bedroom. TRISH is staring at her cell phone. AUSTIN's phone number is on the screen.*

CUT TO: *AUSTIN's bedroom. The phone rings. He picks it up*

AUSTIN

Hello.

MIMI

I need your help.

CUT TO: *Int. MIMI's bedroom. MIMI and AUSTIN are sitting on the bed.*

AUSTIN

I dunno Mimi. I mean, sometimes cyber stalking is virtually untraceable.

MIMI

There must be some way to figure out who's doing this.

AUSTIN

Well, it's most likely to be someone you know. A previous friendship that went sour. A relationship that ended badly. Ring any bells?

MIMI

(Thinking about LILLY and TIFFANY) No, not really.

AUSTIN

Well the other possibility is that it is a complete stranger.

MIMI

But why me?

AUSTIN

There's no telling. Maybe they saw a picture of you or chatted with you online. You've allowed this person to follow you on Twitter. Have you checked out their profile?

CUT TO: *AUSTIN and MIMI at the computer.*

AUSTIN

Okay, just like any other crime, the criminal sometimes leaves a trail of evidence. Problem is, with cyber crime, it can be extremely difficult to pinpoint the perpetrator. We can only hope that your stalker is an amateur.

MIMI

And if they're not?

AUSTIN

Then you may be stalked for a while. The problem is, cyber stalking is still a relatively new concept. It's only started to get recognition within the last 10 years. The big metropolitan areas like LA and NY have special units for this type of thing, if they don't laugh you off the phone first.

MIMI

I don't get it. If they don't take these cases seriously
then what's the point of having a special unit?

AUSTIN

Point is they have bigger fish to fry. Small fries like you
and me don't get heard until-

MIMI

It's too late?

They look at each other.

CUT TO: TRISH calling MIMI on her cell phone.

*CUT TO: MIMI's cell phone vibrating on her bed. Neither she
nor AUSTIN hears it.*

MIMI

I'm scared Austin.

AUSTIN

It's gonna be fine. It's probably just some jerk playing a
practical joke.

MIMI

Like the jerk who hit you in the face?

AUSTIN turns away.

It's okay. You can tell me.

AUSTIN

I don't wanna talk about it. I can handle it.

MIMI

You don't have to handle it alone.

AUSTIN is silent.

MIMI

C'mon. At least let me show you how to cover it.

She grabs concealer from her purse, but fails to see her phone which displays a missed call on the screen. AUSTIN is sitting by the window. MIMI sits in front of him.

Okay, hold still.

She starts applying the make-up.

A little dab of this. Make sure to blend it in, and your good to go.

AUSTIN

Thanks Mimi.

MIMI

No. Thank you.

She kisses AUSTIN on the cheek.

CUT TO: TRISH, standing outside on MIMI's lawn shocked and saddened by what she has just seen through MIMI's open window.

CUT TO: Interior. MAC's house.

MAC

(approaches his mother, who is watching TV) Mom. (She looks at him.) I'm sorry. I was just trying to find a way to make some money.

KATHERINE

That is not the way we make money in this family. You know better than that.

MAC

I know.

KATHERINE

I worry about you sometimes. Look, I know you're just a kid and you didn't choose to have adult responsibilities. I want you to enjoy your childhood. I'm gonna hire a babysitter to take care of your brother on the weekends so you can go have fun.

MAC

I have a better idea. How 'bout I get a real part time job? One that's legal. You work mornings. I work evenings. I just hate to see you so tired all the time. I wanna help. But I still want those weekends off.

KATHERINE

Deal. *(They hug and she tousles his hair.)* But if it gets in the way of your school work, we'll have to figure out a new plan. I love you baby.

She kisses him on the forehead. BILLY appears.

BILLY

Mom. I can't sleep.

MAC

Aww... C'mere.

Family hug.

CUT TO:

DAY THREE

CUT TO: *Ext. TRISH's house. MIMI and MAC approach.*

TRISH

(To MIMI) What do you want?

MIMI

What's with the attitude?

TRISH

Always too selfish to look past the point of your own
existence.

MAC

Whoa! Is there gonna be a cat fight?

MIMI & TRISH

Shut up!

MAC

I'm gonna stay out of this one.

MIMI

What's your problem? Are you still sore about the whole
Austin thing?

MAC

Austin thing?

TRISH

I don't care about Austin. He's a nobody.

MAC

Ooooh! That's cold. I would expect that from Mimi, but not
from you.

TRISH

(To MAC) Excuse me, you don't know me. You're just a carbon
copy of Michael. A replacement friend.

MIMI

Trish! Why would you say that? And why would you say that
about Austin? Yesterday you couldn't wait for him to put a
ring on your finger and now you're putting him down? He's
going through enough as it is.

TRISH

And you would know wouldn't you?

MIMI

What are you talking about?

MAC

Yeah, what are you talking about?

TRISH

Why are you defending him all of a sudden?

MIMI

He's our friend and he's going through a tough time.

TRISH

But it was okay yesterday?

MIMI

Why are you acting so weird?

TRISH

Don't act like you don't know.

MIMI contemplates.

So that's it? You have nothing to say to me?

MIMI

It's like I said Trish. I don't know what you're talking about.

TRISH

Then I'm outta here.

TRISH grabs her backpack and takes off walking.

MAC

Did I miss something?

MIMI is silent.

What's going on with Austin?

CUT TO: *TRISH walking around campus. She is spotted. Immediately, kids start badgering her.*

MEAN KID #2

Look there's Oreos! *(Singing)* Oh oh ohhh oh-oreo!

TRISH ignores him and keeps walking.

MEAN KID #3

Hey Trish.

TRISH

Hey.

MEAN KID #3

(Handing her a flier.)

Don't forget about parents day. Mutt.

TRISH

What?

MEAN KID #3

You heard me.

ROLAN comes up from behind Trish.

ROLAN

What's wrong nappy hair? No way to defend yourself without
your little girlfriend around?

TRISH

You don't know what you're talking about.

ROLAN

Oh I don't? Then why don't you tell me? Is she a dirty
half-breed like you?

*ROLAN grabs her face. TRISH tries to make a run for it, but
she is surrounded.*

MAC

Hey! Leave her alone.

ROLAN

Or what?

MAC

Or you deal with me.

They get up in each other's face.

TEACHER

Hey! You two. Break it off before I haul you into
detention.

MEAN KID

Hey smiley! C'mon.

ROLAN

*(ROLAN glances in his direction, then turns back to MAC.
Whispers) We're not through yet.*

*They face off and go there separate ways. MAC notices a
smiley face tattoo on ROLAN's forearm.*

TEACHER

I'm watching you Mac.

The teacher walks away.

MAC

You okay?

TRISH

Yeah. Just a little shaken up that's all.

MAC

What was that whole thing about this morning?

CUT TO: Int. School hallway. MIMI shuts her locker door. TIFFANY is standing there. It startles MIMI.

MIMI

Would you stop doing that? You scared me half to death.
What do you want from me?

TIFFANY

We need to talk.

CUT TO: TIFFANY sneaking MIMI into the audio-visual room and closing the door.

I think I know who's stalking you.

MIMI

What? How do you know about that?

TIFFANY

Well, you know how I do the morning news right? Well I was doing research for a piece on Facebook when I just happened to stumble across your profile. That's where it gets weird.

I noticed that your status update was a little off.

MIMI

What do you mean off?

TIFFANY

Off-color. It said, "My best friend Trish is a dirty mutt."

MIMI

What? I didn't write that. That's why she's so angry with me.

TIFFANY

There's more. Your status update triggered a whole slew of comments; including a link to a discussion thread, where someone "claiming" to be you has posted several ethnic slurs, even going as far as to call out specific individuals.

MIMI

That still doesn't tell me who it is.

TIFFANY

The thread was posted under the screen name Smiley77. Think about it. Who's the one person in this school who never smiles, yet has a tattoo of a smiley face on his left forearm?

MIMI

(Under her breath) Rolan Ramirez.

TIFFANY

Bingo.

MIMI

I don't get it. Why are you sharing this information with me?

TIFFANY

You may be a witch sometimes Mimi, but you're no racist.
And it'll make for one hell of a story.

MIMI

So what do we do?

TIFFANY

There's no way that Rolan could have done this alone. He has an accomplice. Think about it. He's not smart enough to hack into your facebook account. He had to have infiltrated the cyber squad. We have to get to them somehow. Meet me here after school. I have a plan. Til then, be careful. There's not too many people who like you right now.

MIMI

(Laughs it off) Yeah, okay.

MIMI steps back into the hall. She is spotted.

STUDENT

There she is!

Everyone in the hall has turned against her. They throw paper at her, call out insults, bump her as they pass. MIMI passes by her locker. It has been vandalized. The word "RACIST" is spray painted in big red letters.

MIMI

Oh no.

TO BE CONTINUED...