

KIDS ON THE PORCH

EPISODE 2: THE MYSTERY OF THE CYBER BULLY

PART TWO

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PART II.

DAY THREE: *Int. School hallway. AUSTIN appears and pulls MIMI out of the mayhem into a janitor's closet. He pulls a chain and a dimly lit bulb comes on.*

AUSTIN

You okay?

MIMI

I've been better.

AUSTIN

Tiffany told me about the Facebook thing. I know you didn't write those things. Rolan is the jerk that hit me in the face. I'm through with letting him hurt me and my friends.
I'm in. Today after school. I'm in.

AUSTIN exits the janitor's closet and runs down the hall to class. MIMI comes out. The hall has cleared, except for MAC. He approaches.

MAC

I just came from defending Trish against Rolan and his punk racist friends, because you posted that she's half black half white all over the internet. Only you didn't put it so nicely. Now, you're in the janitor's closet with Austin?
You really have sunk to a new low.

MIMI

Mac, you don't-

MAC

You make me sick. I don't wanna see your face anymore.

MIMI

Mac, please listen to me-

MAC

I don't wanna listen to anything you have to say anymore.
As far as I'm concerned, we're through.

MIMI slips down against a locker crying. Her phone buzzes. Another Twitter message. "I told you I wanted to make you suffer. Have I succeeded?"

CUT TO: Interior. AV Room. TIFFANY, AUSTIN, and MIMI are gathered.

TIFFANY

Okay, in order to bring Rolan down, we have to bring down his accomplice first. I've compiled a list of everyone on the Cyber Squad. All we have to do is infiltrate the squad and weed out the rat.

AUSTIN

And how do you propose that we do that?

TIFFANY

As an actress and investigative reporter, I am a master of disguise. Look in the bag.

AUSTIN

A Droid, the new iPhone. Sweet. And a pair of binoculars?

MIMI

I don't get it. There's only two phones here.

TIFFANY

That's right. Do you think I'm gonna risk my, I mean our investigation by having you come into close proximity with the perpetrator? They'll know something's up. No no. Too risky. You'll take these, this scarf, and these sunglasses, and you'll watch from afar.

MIMI

Oh, and me dressing up like Thelma and Louise is not gonna
be too obvious!

AUSTIN

Calm down. It's for the best.

MIMI

I know. It just really bites.

TIFFANY

You ready to do this?

CUT TO: *Ext. Front of School. Three heads, poke out from
behind the shrubs, stacking like a totem pole. TIFFANY.
AUSTIN. Then MIMI, in her Thelma and Louise disguise.*

TIFFANY

Okay, Austin. Follow my lead. Mimi, stay far, but keep a
close eye.

*The cyber squad passes. TIFFANY runs to join them. I-phone
in hand. AUSTIN follows shortly after with the Droid. The
entire cyber squad is engaged in their own electric
devices.*

TIFFANY

Hey Maria, would you like to follow me on Twitter? You can
get updates on my latest shows.

MARIA

*(She doesn't remove her gaze from her blackberry. She
laughs mockingly.)* Eh heh. Twitter is for socialites. Do I
look social to you?

TIFFANY

Guess not. *(To herself)* That leaves Maria out.

AUSTIN

(To ERIC) I'm so glad I upgraded to the new Droid. It gives me much better access to Facebook.

ERIC

Facebook? I use Myspace.

AUSTIN

Okay... (To himself) Didn't realize social networks were so temperamental.

TIFFANY

What about you Lizzie? Are you a Facebook girl?

LIZZIE gives her a dirty look.

What I just wanted to add you as a friend.

LIZZIE

Tiffany, What do you want?

The cyber squad stops and removes their gaze from their devices onto TIFFANY and AUSTIN.

You're obviously up to something. Since when do you and your friend here hang out with the Cyber Squad?

TIFFANY

Since we got these new devices?

LIZZIE

You know, for an actress, you're a terrible liar.

TIFFANY

Fine. You are all suspects in a crime.

ERIC

The only crime here is your terrible acting.

TIFFANY

(Gasps) How dare you! I resent that remark.

AUSTIN

Everyone just chillax.

BOBBY

Chillax?

AUSTIN

Okay look. She's telling the truth. Someone is cyber-stalking Mimi and we're trying to get to the bottom of it. Now, you can either work with us or work against us.

ERIC

Or what nerd?

AUSTIN

Who you calling nerd you cyber reject?

They start to argue over each other.

LIZZIE

Boys! Boys! Zip it. *(To TIFFANY)* What makes you think that we wanna help Mimi Masterson?

TIFFANY

Cause I have keys to the AV room, and can get you unlimited access.

LIZZIE

Big deal. We have computers at home. You're gonna have to throw in more than that to sweeten the deal.

TIFFANY

K. What if I throw in these hall passes? Pre-signed by the principal.

(The cyber squad looks at each other in agreement)

LIZZIE

Done. How can we help you?

CUT TO: *Secret meeting in the AV Room.*

LIZZIE

This chip is the ultimate surveillance tool. It will allow us to track Rolan, wherever he is, via satellite.

MIMI

Are you sure this is gonna work?

TIFFANY

No, but it's all we got. Without the accomplice, we have nothing. It's obvious to me that whoever the accomplice is, he's keeping a close eye.

AUSTIN

(Sudden realization) Or eyes! Rolan is the accomplice!

TIFFANY & MIMI

What?

AUSTIN

Think about it. Rolan is not the mastermind. He's just a puppet. Whoever came up with this whole scheme is genius.

TIFFANY

Whatever, it doesn't matter who's turning the wheels. Rolan will lead us to him regardless.

AUSTIN

The only question is, who's gonna plant the chip?

TIFFANY

I'll do it.

MIMI

How do we know the mastermind isn't listening right now?

BOBBY

Because we've secured the perimeter.

AUSTIN

And just how do you plan to plant the chip?

TIFFANY

Don't worry. I got something up my sleeve. *(She smiles.)*

CUT TO: DAY FOUR. *Int. School hallway. ROLAN passes. TIFFANY spots him.*

TIFFANY

Rolan! Hey Rolan.

ROLAN stops in his tracks and turns around.

TIFFANY

(Using this conversation as a decoy) You know, I've been meaning to talk to you. I know you think I'm this goody goody drama girl princess, but I do like to egg houses occasionally and that whole bad boy thing you got goin' on. I kinda like it. *(SASHA sneaks up from behind and slowly unzips his backpack, slips in the chip, and quietly creeps away.)* Would you be down to hang out sometime? Go see a movie or something?

ROLAN

In your dreams cracker.

He walks away.

TIFFANY

You know, I used to think he was racist, but now I just think he hates everybody.

SASHA returns to her side as TIFFANY pulls out a walkie-talkie.

TIFFANY

Papa bear, this is momma bear and baby bear. Do you copy?

BOBBY'S VOICE

Copy.

TIFFANY

The eagle has landed. I repeat. The eagle has landed. Over and out.

BOBBY'S VOICE

Papa bear to the troops. Deploy immediately. I repeat. Deploy immediately. Over and out.

CUT TO: Ext. School courtyard. ROLAN is leaving campus. DOUG emerges from the bushes and follows close behind.

DOUG

Copy. Over and out.

CUT TO: Int. Audiovisual room. Headquarters to AUSTIN, MIMI, and the remainder of the cyber squad

TIFFANY'S VOICE

Mama Bear to Cyber Chic. Activate satellite surveillance. I repeat. Activate satellite surveillance. Over and out.

LIZZIE

Copy. Over and out. That's it. Now we just sit back, guide the troops, in case they lose visual on Rolan, and wait for him to lead us to the prize.

Clips of AUSTIN, MIMI, TIFFANY, SASHA, and DOUG in the AV room. The troops finally come in over the walkie.

DOUG

I've followed him all over town. He hasn't met up with anybody, and now I've followed him home. So unless the accomplice is his mother, I think this is a dead lead.

TIFFANY

What! I thought for sure he would lead us there. I mean you said yourself that the majority of the messages were during school. I don't get it!

MIMI

I haven't got a message all day. *(Realization)* Because I've been in here. Whoever the stalker is, must be someone I see on a daily basis.

CUT TO: *Int. Empty school cafeteria. AUSTIN, MIMI, SASHA, TIFFANY, and the cyber squad are gathered in front of RACHEL.*

RACHEL

So you heard that I'm a witch and now you want me to solve your case with my all-powerful crystal ball! *(Laughs.)*

MIMI

You're my last hope.

RACHEL

Never thought I'd see the day when Mimi Masterson would come begging me for help.

MIMI

Yeah well, don't gloat in it too long.

Tiffany slaps her arm.

RACHEL

Alright. I'm not a witch, and I'm not psychic. But! I can read tarot cards. Not a challenging feat. I just follow the book. The thing that people misunderstand about tarot cards is that they are not actually tools to predict the future. They are tools to access what you already know deep down inside. They are a mirror of your most subconscious thoughts. YOU pick the cards because you are drawn to them subconsciously. Some people think they are a bunch of hocus pocus, but to each his own. And it may not help, but if these cards just happen to tug at a thought in your brain that helps you to solve the case, then I have done my job.

MIMI

Anything is worth a shot at this point.

RACHEL

Now split the deck. Pick seven cards. Any seven. And lay them in this pattern one at a time. *(Pointing to the book)* This is the pattern of the Celtic cross. Okay... it appears that you are in no real danger. The person who is threatening you is very angry. Jealous. Also very close to you.

MIMI looks at TIFFANY.

TIFFANY

Don't look at me. I've been helping you this whole time.

RACHEL

No no. I mean close to your heart.

MIMI gasps. It has suddenly become so clear.

TIFFANY

What? What is it?