

THOMAS

This is ridiculous. Someone steals my phone and I'm the one who gets in trouble?! Talk about "blaming the victim." Why am I even here?

(BEAT)

How did you -- Okay, look, the contents of that phone were private - as in password protected. I had no idea those pictures would... Oh crap. Did Mr. Hoffman see them?

(BEAT)

Listen, I know she's the principal's daughter, but Kelly is also my girlfriend. We love each other. I'm serious, we do. And sometimes people in love do stupid stuff... like send intimate pictures to their boyfriend. I should've deleted them. This is my fault and I'll take whatever punishment you think I deserve, but *please*, don't let Hoffman see those. Kelly shouldn't have to pay for my mistake.

JASON

Being a guy at that kind of party,  
is like being on a diet at a  
buffet. The most tempting things in  
the world, on display all night,  
and the rule is, I'm not allowed to  
touch. You know what the problem  
is? Modern society. We all got  
these animal instincts in us. It  
doesn't matter what you believe; we  
evolved with them, or god gave them  
to us, or whatever. All I know is,  
we all wouldn't be here without  
those instincts.

(BEAT)

C'mon, when a cheetah kills a baby  
gazelle, we don't say he's a  
criminal. That's just a cheetah  
being a cheetah.

(BEAT)

There was a time - maybe you have  
to go all the way back to when we  
lived in caves - but there was a  
time when being a man meant you  
could take what you want.

SYDNEY

Okay, at first I thought this was just one of your stupid jokes, but now you're taking it too far and I'd appreciate it if you'd stop.

(BEAT)

I know you hate him. Yeah, you've never said that, but it's obvious. The little comments you make. You can't stand the fact that things are so good between us right now. You're so jealous that you make up a story - a *lie* - about Brandon and some other girl? Like I'm supposed to believe...

(BEAT)

Why? Why would he cheat on me when we just celebrated our one year? Doesn't make any sense.

(LONG BEAT)

Why are you still here? You can go.

QUINN

Wow. Seriously? Okay, that's the reaction I expected from mom and dad but *you're* supposed to have my back. We're supposed to be able to tell each other this stuff. I didn't judge you that time you and Evan got drunk. How's this different?

(BEAT)

You've been watching too many movies. Just because something is illegal doesn't make it bad. Besides, everybody in this town smokes pot. It's not just losers and burnouts like you think. Half the people that were there with me are in freakin' Honors classes.

(BEAT)

Look, I didn't tell you to ask for permission. I wanted you to know that I tried it, and I like it, and I think I'm going to keep doing it.

## ANABELLE

I did it. Exactly how we practiced it. I sat them down. I was direct. I was honest. I was prepared for the conversation, the argument, the explosion. But what I wasn't prepared for... was nothing. Cold silence.

(BEAT)

She couldn't look at me. She didn't have to. And *his* face... I could literally see, in that moment, that he loved me less.

(BEAT)

This morning I was so excited - finally making this big announcement - letting the world know who I am.

(BEAT)

Not many kids know how it feels to break their parents' hearts.

Sadie and Layla are both working with charcoal sketches.

SADIE

You know you're my only family.  
(off Layla's look) I know my dad has a bunch of kids, but that's not how I define family. When you're young, everyone tells you who you're supposed to be close to; they literally tell you who to love. But then you get to be a certain age and you choose what relationships matter.

(beat)

You should be flattered. Anyways, this wedding is going to be one big gathering of all the people I can't stand.

(beat)

Your family is a breath of fresh air compared to what I have to deal with. My aunt June is more religious than the pope. She literally has a crucifix in every room, and not the normal kind, but the super gory ones where Jesus is crying and bleeding. And I'll have to see my grandma who loves to remind me that I'm gaining weight and that "No guy wants a husky girl." But honestly, I think the worst part will be all of them acting like this marriage somehow makes everything okay. Like laundry detergent - washing away the stains of the family.

(beat)

Does wishing for rain on your sister's wedding day make you a horrible person?

RILEY

We were all sitting in the audience at a performance of Peter Pan and I was the only one not clapping to save Tinkerbell. You know the part in the play where the actors just all of a sudden break the fourth wall for some awkward audience participation? I was perfectly happy to sit there - arms folded as she whimpered and her little light went out. So whatever you're looking for - whether it's empathy or compassion - you're begging at the wrong table. I learned long ago not to serve strays with puppy dog eyes.

BRIAN  
Seriously? What kind of person...?!  
I mean...seriously?!

MONICA  
I'm sorry.

BRIAN  
You should be.  
(beat)  
When we first hooked up, do you know how many people told me not to date you? Not just my boys, your friends too! Your own friends, telling me how you cheated on you ex. I would defend you - say stuff like "You guys are wrong. That's not the real Monica. She's different now..."  
(to himself)  
Fucking idiot.

After a BEAT:

MONICA  
I don't know what I'm supposed to say.

Brain pulls out his phone and starts texting.

BRIAN  
I'm actually glad this happened. Now I can go out with whoever I want. Y'know? I mean there's a bunch of girls I could be hooking up with, I had to tell them I had a girlfriend, but now...

MONICA  
Brian, I --

BRIAN  
(overlaps)  
...now I get to be free - tear it up with my boys this weekend. This is perfect timing because Ashley and her friends are having a thing on Friday. Let me text her and see what's up with that...

He's busy in his phone. She backs toward the door.

MONICA  
Okay. So...bye?

BRIAN  
Bye.