

INT. SCHOOL COMMONS - DAY

KATY sits at a table, alone, eating her lunch. AERYAL approaches and sits next her. Katy seems excited to see Aeryal at first.

AERYAL

Hi.

KATY

Hi Aeryal. My name is Katy and I...

AERYAL

I know who you are. You think I would sit here if I didn't know who you were? Plus, we have geography together.

KATY

Oh, right.

(pause)

Well, I don't know, I just figured you wanted to talk with me, so...

AERYAL

You're right, I do want to talk with you.

Aeryal sizes Katy up with her eyes. There's an awkward pause.

KATY

Okay. What do you want to talk about?

(beat)

Oh, I know! We can talk about pets ...or maybe siblings, I have both ...pets and siblings. We can talk about Mrs. Valerio, cause you know, we both have her for...

AERYAL

Stop talking. Your voice is going to make my ears explode.

Katy freezes.

AERYAL

I just need your help with something.

Katy is uncertain as she remains silent.

AERYAL

Talk, just ...not a lot.

(CONTINUED)

KATY

What do you need help with?

AERYAL

So, you're like a teacher's pet, right?

KATY

Well, I wouldn't say that. I do pretty well with my classes. I ended with a 4.5 last semester, and I am on the honors...

AERYAL

Ya, ya, ya ...can you help?

KATY

With what?

AERYAL

You're going to have to tell a little lie. Do you think you can handle that?

Katy looks down at her food, then sips her drink.

AERYAL

What I mean to say is, you better be able to handle it.

KATY

Um...

AERYAL

Oh, chill. Here's what's gonna happen.

(pause)

Just before World Geography starts, I want you to go up to Mrs. Valerio and ask to use her computer ...tell her you forgot your homework at home and need to get it off Google docs.

KATY

What? She's not going to believe me. I never forget my homework.

AERYAL

Of course you don't.

(beat)

Okay, just tell her your printer wasn't working.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

AERYAL (CONT'D)

Then go to her gradebook and change my grade to a 90%.

(beat)

Okay, that's it.

KATY

That's it?

AERYAL

For now.

KATY

I don't think I like that idea.

AERYAL

I love that idea. And if you don't help me, I'm going to make your life ...well, let's say ...difficult.

KATY

Are you threatening me? Cause I can just go to the principal and...

AERYAL

You do realize what I can do for you if you help me, right? I mean, right now, just you and me talking together has scored major popularity points for you.

Katy frowns.

AERYAL

(sternly)

Smile.

Katy complies, and Aeryal smiles with her.

AERYAL

See, now when I when I get up to go, everyone will think we're best friends.

Aeryal gets up, but before she leaves...

AERYAL

Make it 89%, It'll be more believable.

Aeryal exits. Katy remains nervously smiling.

FADE TO BLACK.