

## NINI AND AMINA SIDE

NINI

And how's your summer been so far? It's a hot one.

AMINA

It's alright... boring so far, I've just been thinking.

NINI

*(Laughing)*

I think you do enough of that already. And what have you been thinking about?

AMINA

Boring stuff. Space, life, the future.

NINI

You know, you remind me of myself.

AMINA

*(Surprised)*

Really?

NINI

Mhm. When I was your age, I spent my days thinking and thinking and thinking... you know, I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life when I was sixteen, so I would sit and read about everything. I'd even read encyclopedias. Can you imagine, spending Southern summers, without air conditioning, reading all day?

AMINA

*(Smiling)*

I think I can imagine it .

NINI

I'm sure you can. You're doing the same damn things these days. Anyway. I read all the time, just to figure it out. My parents worked too hard for me to be aimless forever. Hell, I worked too hard for me to be aimless forever. I was a jack-of-all trades. I'd babysit one day, then be working at some diner the next, then stocking the shelves at the grocery store, just to make some money and get by. And you know what?

AMINA

What?

NINI

One day, I figured it out. And I realized it wasn't all that complicated after all.

AMINA

*(Fondly)*

Really? It feels pretty complicated now.

NINI

Don't get me wrong. I had your mom when I was young- I had to balance college with taking care of her, and it was hard- but it wasn't complicated. And you know- just about everything is complicated when you're sixteen. But when it comes to you, when you have an inkling of who you want to be, you realize that perhaps it wasn't so hard after all. You know, my parents, and their parents, and their parents before that, didn't have many choices at all. Doesn't it make you giddy, that you have the whole world laid out for you? All because of the legacy left to us...

AMINA

*(Contemplative)*

I think it does.

**OMAR, REESE, RORI AND AMINA SIDE**

REESE

*(To Omar. Gesturing to the food.)*

Can you put these on the house?

OMAR

Man, with how much you eat, Pops is gonna go broke.

REESE

Never been one to pass up free food.

OMAR

That's the problem, it ain't free.

*(Omar grabs a tender from the basket. He gestures for Amina to come sit down)*

Y'all, this is Amina.

REESE

Sup Amina.

RORI

Hey.

OMAR

This is Rori. Reese. They also go to Lincoln.

AMINA

Hi.

RORI

How long have y'all been friends?

OMAR

She came into the restaurant the other day.

REESE

Did her food get put on the house?

OMAR

No. She actually paid for it.

RORI

*(To Amina.)*

Ignore Reese, he's stupid. What grade are you in?

AMINA

I'm going to be a junior next year.

RORI

So is Reese.

REESE

Finally. Now they can stop calling me a baby.

RORI

Oh, don't get it twisted. As long as you refuse to go to RollerWorld, you're a baby.

## AMINA AND CECE SIDE

AMINA

*(Smiling, fondly.)*

Why do I feel like we haven't hung out in forever? What've you been up to?

CECE

I mean... not much. I'm kinda ignoring my parents right now.

AMINA

What happened?

CECE

They went on this stupid trip to the Bahamas. But they didn't tell me anything about it until like two days before their flight. And it was like very clear that they had no intention of inviting me whatsoever. And I was pissed. They had the nerve to call it a "family getaway" but how are you going to call it that if you're not inviting your child? I'm just so over them acting like I don't exist.

AMINA

I don't think it was like intentional Cece.

CECE

They're literally never home. Like never. Because they're addicted to their boring ass jobs. And like, I got so mad at my mom that I just yelled that at her and then she went on like this tirade trying to treat me like I was the worst person ever. Like, she had the nerve to be mad at *me*. She is unbelievable.

AMINA

I'm sorry, CeCe. I'm always around though, just come over if you wanna get away from it all. And you know you can always rant about it with me.

CECE

*(Smiling.)*

Thanks, Mina. One day I'm gonna show up at your house at two in the morning and you're gonna regret saying that.

*(Amina laughs.)*

## OMAR AND AMINA SIDE

AMINA

You know what, I'll bring home some brisket for my dad.

OMAR

A'ight, Ms. Vegetarian.

*(Amina laughs. Omar stops writing.)*

I feel like I know you from somewhere.

*(Omar studies Amina, trying to figure out where he knows her from.)*

Hold up . . . you go to Lincoln, right? You're in my Spanish class.

*(Short beat. Amina suddenly recognizes Omar.)*

AMINA

Oh — wait, yes. You are in that class!

OMAR

Macy, right?

AMINA

Amina.

OMAR

Damn. *(He laughs at himself.)* My fault, my fault. You're friends with that one white girl. . . what's her name?

AMINA

Cece?

OMAR

Cece. Man, she sits in front of me in math and she never shuts up. Sorry, I know that's your girl. But damn, she talks a lot.

*(Amina laughs. She knows.)*

AMINA

I — yeah, I can't even defend that.

OMAR

*(Amused.)*

Ok. Ok. How come I've never seen you around here?

AMINA

My grandma lives over here. I'm helping her out over the summer.

**SLEEPOVER SIDE:  
MADISON, ZACH, CAMERON, KENNEDY, SATURN**

MADISON

Truth or dare?

KENNEDY

Cameron doesn't want to do truth or dare.

ZACH

Have you guys ever played paranoia?

KENNEDY

N/o.

SATURN

Yeah.

MADISON

That sounds fun.

KENNEDY

Hey Mads, when's your mom bringing the pizza over?

MADISON

No idea.

CAMERON

Let's play it.

MADISON

What are the rules?

ZACH

Ok, so basically we all sit down. And the person next to you asks you a question, but like, whispers it so that no one hears it. The question should be a question about who's most likely to do something or who is the most whatever. Like, for example, "Who's most likely to drop out of college?" And then you answer with someone's name, but no one knows what the question is.

Does anyone have a coin?

*(No one has a coin.)*

We can just use someone's phone. Basically, you don't get to know the question unless you flip a coin and it lands on heads.

KENNEDY

So someone can say something about you and you'll never know what they said?

MADISON

Unless it lands on heads.

KENNEDY

Ugh, I hate that.

CAMERON

Sounds fun. I'll play.

ZACH

Okay, who else wants to play?