

THINK FAST

Episode 1.03

"Story Problems"

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16. At the start of a new school day, Finley slams her locker closed in the busy hallway. Raine walks up to Finley.

RAINE

Finley. I did something wild.

FINLEY

Raine, it's 7:50 AM. How have you already managed to do something wild?

RAINE

First of all, I am offended that you don't believe in my ability to pull some crazy shit this early. And second of all, I didn't do it today. I did it yesterday after school.

Raine rustles through her backpack and pulls out a bottle.

FINLEY

Raine, what the hell? That's alcohol! Where did you get that? Why would you bring it to school?!

RAINE

No more questions! Don't worry about it, Fin. I'm just stashing it today so we can enjoy it after the game this weekend. Or at least those of us without boys who adore us can enjoy it.

FINLEY

Raine, this is a bad idea.

RAINE

It's all on me. You don't even have to worry about it if you're not going to partake.

FINLEY

You know that "partake" is the only fancy word that the bad kids know, right?

RAINE

Well, lest ye thinkest me uncouth...I
also brought these.

Raine rustles through her backpack and pulls out
Tupperware.

FINLEY

You made cookies?

RAINE

Not just cookies: ricotta cookies. I
just channeled my inner nonna and
followed the family recipe. Apparently
we've always had a mixer. Mom just
never used it.

FINLEY

I don't see how ricotta cookies go
together with whatever the hell
Fireball is.

RAINE

Don't be ridiculous. The cookies are
for now!

FINLEY

It's a little early for cookies. And
that doesn't change the fact that you
somehow brought liquor to high school!

RAINE

Okay, so that is true, but think about
this: wouldn't you rather try a cookie
than lecture me? Hmm?

FINLEY

Ugh. Fair point. Gimme.

Finley takes the Tupperware from Raine. She opens it and
takes a cookie.

FINLEY

(mouth full)

Holy shit, Raine!

RAINE

That's what I thought. Bananas, right?

(beat)

There are no actual bananas in them.

FINLEY

They're so good. How did you even?

RAINE

Finley. I contain multitudes. The world has no idea what I'm capable of.

FINLEY

Okay. Sure. I'm just gonna keep...

Finley grabs another cookie out of the container.

FINLEY (CONT'D)

(mouth full)

...eating these heavenly confections. What inspired this baking revelation, anyway?

RAINE

Maybe I'm thinking of auditioning for the Great Badass Bakeoff. Ever think about that? Ooor maybe I feel like I owe you for yesterday's...y'know... test thing.

FINLEY

Ah. Yeah. Well, these certainly help. But you can't go baking me cookies every time you mess up or break the rules.

RAINE

Will you please just enable my bad behaviors by accepting my sugar-filled apology?

In the distance, the school band begins playing the school fight song. Today is Spirit Day, and tradition demands that the band marches down each hallway playing the school song on repeat.

FINLEY

I'm going to keep eating these, but I can't promise there will be no side eye.

Finley eats another cookie. The band grows louder as it approaches Finley's locker.

RAINE

Ugh, it's too early for this shit.

FINLEY

Agreed. Great time for cookies. Awful time for loud displays of school spirit.

RAINE

But Fin! It's Spirit Day! We have to have the Morning March...

FINLEY / RAINE

It's tradition!

Nell quickly approaches.

NELL

I got stuck behind the marching band when I left the bathroom. Something about parading a giant tuba through the hallways is terribly inconvenient for the rest of us.

FINLEY

Let's get out of here. Maybe we can avoid another collision with the band.

RAINE

Good call. We'll avoid a collision with the band, but you'll definitely collide with Tyler's--

FINLEY

Raine, do not finish that sentence.

RAINE

What?! You're just looking especially cute today with your mini t-shirt. I see you. Taking full advantage of ditching the school uniform for a day.

FINLEY

It's last year's spirit shirt. I think my dad shrunk it in the dryer.

NELL

My parents were not happy they had to pay thirty dollars for a t-shirt that looks just like last year's.

FINLEY

Hence why I didn't get a new one.

RAINE

I'm merely observing this perfectly constructed thirst trap you've prepared for Tyler.

NELL

You look good, and he'll definitely think so. He stares at you a lot.

FINLEY

God, you guys are embarrassing. I swear this fit last year. The shirt shrank. I...grew.

RAINE

Uh huh. I wish I got that kind of growth spurt.

NELL

Science says you have about another year of development. There's some hope. A lot of hormonal changes.

FINLEY

(through her teeth)

Can we please stop talking about growth spurts and hormones?

RAINE

I, for one, would like to go back to the part where Tyler stares at Fin a lot. You know, since you brought up hormones.

FINLEY

Raine? Shut. Up. We're almost to his locker.

(to Tyler, at his locker)

Hey, Tyler.

17.

TYLER

Sup, Cosgrave? Happy spirit day or whatever.

FINLEY

Yeah. Big day. Inconvenient tubas and stuff.

TYLER

(laugh)

Are tubas ever convenient, though?

FINLEY

(as awkward as possible)

Right?! Like anyone was ever, "oh, this giant horn seems like it will fit comfortably around--"

MRS. MONTGOMERY

Ms. Cosgrave!

THINK FAST.

FINLEY

Wait, why is Ms. Montgomery shouting at me? Oh, no! No, no, no, no. She can't know that I cheated on the test yesterday. She was reading her book the whole time! She couldn't have seen it happening. Right? Shit! Okay. Worst case scenario: she saw you cheating. What, I get a detention? An F on the test? Not the end of the world. I'll just do a bunch of extra credit and ace all the other tests. No big deal. I can manage that. Maintain that 4.3 GPA. No, actually, it should probably be higher if I want to make sure I get into Villanova. Even higher for University of Chicago. But that should be a walk in the park now that I can think for all of eternity. Never mind that Tyler's going to see Montgomery lecture me. I can just explain to him the whole situation in study hall. "Raine was having a hard time studying, and she just needed this one favor. Besides, those tests are just regurgitations of random facts, right?" Yeah, that'll work. It'll be great. I got this.

END THINK FAST.

FINLEY

Hi, Mrs. Montgomery!

MRS. MONTGOMERY

Hello, indeed, young lady! But I'm saying "hello" to much more of you than I usually am. Why might that be?

In the hallway, students start to gather. Students start recording the commotion with their phones.

BULLY

(in the background)

Oh, shit! Gums is about to go off.

FINLEY

I'm not totally sure what you mean...
lemon ricotta cookie?

RAINE

Can you be slightly less sarcastic,
Mrs. Montgomery?

Students murmur and giggle.

MRS. MONTGOMERY

Raine, I suggest you keep your nose out
of this one unless you'd like to be
sent to the principal's office this
morning. I would absolutely love to
suggest your suspension! You're this
close. Don't tempt me!

RAINE

Just think--

MRS. MONTGOMERY

Not another word, Raine.

FINLEY

(quietly)

It's okay, Raine. I can handle this.

MRS. MONTGOMERY

I always knew this one would rub off on
you, Finley. Did you happen to notice
how much midriff you have exposed? Your
shirt is entirely inappropriate.

FINLEY

I haven't worn it in a while, and I
guess it shrunk in the laundry. I
didn't think it was that bad.

MRS. MONTGOMERY

Not that bad?! Oh, Ms. Cosgrave. I see
at least half an inch of naked skin.
How did you even slide into that
sausage casing this morning? Maybe I
should take those cookies off your
hands.

RAINE

Did you just compare her to a sausage?

THINK FAST.

FINLEY

Am I fat? No, no. Fin, don't go there. The shirt simply shrunk in the dryer. You grew normally. It's no big deal. Montgomery is just an asshole. Just let her be an asshole. Take a metaphorical deep breath.

(beat)

Sooo...who exactly is here watching me get called a sausage? Okay, that's the entire soccer team. And a crowd has gathered around them, as usual. I guess I got what was coming to me. Walking by Tyler's locker was a stupid idea. Oh, and at least five kids have their phones out and pointed at me. Are they filming this?! I guess now everyone knows I look like a sausage. Yay. I can hear the nicknames now. Sausage Girl. Kielbasa Cosgrave. Lady Vienna. Ugh.

(beat)

I could just stay here for a while. Not like any of us are going anywhere right now. I could just...play a game. In my mind. Without moving or looking at anything else. Yep.

(beat)

I spy. I spy with my little eye...

(beat)

...Finley being a coward.

(sigh)

Fine. Let's just get this over with.

END THINK FAST.

MRS. MONTGOMERY

Finley. Principal's office. Now. They'll give you some proper attire, which means you'll probably have to shut down the harem you're running. Or at least stop being a walking advertisement for it. Tyler, Ms.

Cosgrave is no longer open for business, I'm afraid. And Raine, come speak to me in my classroom.

R A I N E

Yeah, great idea. Let's talk. Fin, Nell, I'll catch up with you later.

N E L L

Good luck. Fin, I'll go with you.

Finley and Nell start making their way toward the principal's office.

M R S . M O N T G O M E R Y

(fading away)

Show's over, kids. Get going!

N E L L

Your shirt is tight, but for the record, I don't think you look like a sausage.

F I N L E Y

Thanks, Nell.

N E L L

I'd say you're more like a snack or whatever the phrase is.

F I N L E Y

(dejected laughter)

You always know the right thing to say.

Running footsteps approach Finley and Nell from behind.

T Y L E R

(distant)

Fin! Hey, wait!

The girls stop walking as Tyler jogs to catch up to them.

F I N L E Y

Shit. I can't face him knowing he saw the whole thing.

NELL

Him and everybody else. It's going to be all over social media.

FINLEY

Can we delete the internet for the rest of the day? Or the year?

NELL

We'd probably all be a lot happier.

FINLEY

I know you're right, but I also think I'm going to die every time the wifi goes out, so I'm torn.

Tyler slows in front of the girls.

TYLER

Hey, Fin. Are you alright?

FINLEY

Oh, you know, I'm great. It's just Montgomery being Montgomery.

TYLER

You didn't deserve that. I don't know why she gets away with shit like that. It's really fucked up.

NELL

Bureaucracy of private schooling?

FINLEY

Either way, I should have known better. Sorry, I gotta go so I can get a sweater.

TYLER

Hang on, I brought this hoodie for you instead.

Tyler holds his hand out and offers his hoodie.

FINLEY

Oh. But this is your soccer hoodie.

TYLER

I figured this would be better than
some dusty XXL from the office.

FINLEY

Are you sure?

TYLER

Why wouldn't I be?

FINLEY

Uh, I don't know. Your name is on it?

TYLER

Yeah.

(beat)

Is that weird? Shit. I'm not trying to,
like, claim you or anything like that.
I just thought--

FINLEY

Tyler, I don't think that. It's fine.
Look.

Finley pulls on the hoodie.

FINLEY

(mockingly)

I feel appropriately attire-d now. No
dangerous girl skin showing.

NELL

Not even a peek of midriff.

FINLEY

Too bad about the harem.

TYLER

Which doesn't even make sense. I think
she meant a brothel.

FINLEY

And she supposedly teaches history.

NELL

Just because her name is on the desk
doesn't mean she teaches anything.

TYLER

(laughs)

Damn, Nell. I didn't know you were so funny.

NELL

I wasn't being funny.

The school bell rings.

TYLER

Oh yeah, Fin. I won't be in study hall today. Coach wants me to get some extra practice with Derek in case we go to PK's this weekend. I'll catch up with you at the pep rally?

FINLEY

But I thought education was our number one priority!

TYLER

Us soccer players are the exception, of course. C'mon, Fin!

FINLEY

Yeah, yeah. Go, Ravens.

TYLER

See you two! Enjoy that education.

FINLEY

See you later!

NELL

Bye, Tyler.

Tyler hustles off to class.

NELL (CONT'D)

You know that Samantha wears Andrew's soccer hoodie, right? And Ava wears Eric's?

FINLEY

Yeah...and...

NELL

They're all dating. You're wearing Tyler's hoodie. I think that means you and Tyler are dating.

FINLEY

He hasn't officially asked me anything. He just was trying to be nice.

NELL

True, but you're wearing his hoodie which, for whatever reason, is high school speak for "we're together."

FINLEY

I guess we'll find out for sure at the Whip on Saturday.

MUSICAL TRANSITION

18. Outside on the soccer field.

DEREK

Think fast!

A soccer ball smashes the back of the net.

TYLER

Aw, c'mon, Derek!

DEREK (CONT'D)

No excuses, Tyler! If I don't look down at the ball before I kick, you have to be ready for a fake out. I'm sacrificing power on my approach so I can make a clever shot.

TYLER

I know. I won't let it happen again.

DEREK

Don't let me get in your head. Focus.

TYLER

I got it.

Derek kicks the ball with force. Not a fake out this time. Tyler blocks the ball, and it flies away from the goal.

DEREK

Nice one! Always be ready for a change up.

Derek kicks again. Tyler blocks it.

DEREK (CONT'D)

That's it. Ready for another?

TYLER

Always.

DEREK

That's what I like to hear!

Another shot, and Tyler blocks it again.

DEREK

Damn, Tyler. I know I haven't lost my edge, guess you're just that good. Next time, I'll bring even more heat for you. Let's call it here for today.

TYLER

Awesome. I gotta shower soon, anyway. I'd prefer to not smell like BO at the pep rally.

DEREK

Yeah, I get it. You don't want to chase the cheerleaders away.

TYLER

(laughs)

I'm not really worried about the cheerleaders, Derek.

DEREK

You're not? Take one look at them and tell me you aren't into them. You do realize that cheerleader outfits make them objectively hot, right? Like, a five in a cheerleader skirt is objectively an eight.

TYLER

I guess.

DEREK

You're one of the best players on the team. That comes with some perks. You can have any girl you want.

TYLER

I don't like any of the cheerleaders, though.

DEREK

What are you using your GOAT status for, then?

TYLER

Scholarships?

DEREK

Oh god, Tyler. How have I failed you so badly?!

(beat)

Wait, you're not like...one of those.

TYLER

What?

DEREK

You know.

TYLER

I like girls, if that's what you're getting at. You really shouldn't say "one of those."

DEREK

Okay, Mr. Identity Politics. That's not even what I meant. You know I'm woke.

TYLER

Nobody says that unironically anymore.

DEREK

Ugh. Fine. Forget it. No more helpful life advice from Derek.

(beat)

Do I sound like an old man if I talk about teenagers already knowing everything?

TYLER

You're not old. And I like your advice. Mostly. There is this one girl I like.

DEREK

Who? Emily? I don't blame you, man. Dump. Truck.

TYLER

No, not Emily. Her name's Finley. We have study hall together this year, so I've really gotten to know her.

DEREK

Are you talking about Finley Cosgrave?

TYLER

Yeah, do you know her?

DEREK

I know of her; I've never actually met her. Hasn't she been watching practices lately?

TYLER

I'm not sure. I think I saw her in the stands once or twice.

DEREK

Tyler, you don't have to act cool around me. You're fully aware that your girl is watching you play. Even if it is just at practice.

TYLER

(sheepish, stuttering)

Well, maybe. I'm not keeping--

DEREK

(laughs)

I caught you in the act! You're secret's safe with me, dude. Don't worry; I remember what it was like to be the high school hot shot. Girls were always hitting me up. Never had to look too far for a hookup. When you got it, you got it, you know?

TYLER

I'm just interested in Finley at this point. I gave her my hoodie today.

DEREK

Now that is a veteran play, my friend. Girls go crazy for that shit. I lost a lot of hoodies, but it was worth the reward, if you know what I mean.

TYLER

Uhh, I think we may have different goals, or we're playing different games, even. I just want to get to know her better.

DEREK

Oh, I think you'll get to know her very well. Have you asked her out yet?

TYLER

Hoping to take her to the Whip after we win on Saturday.

DEREK

And then what?

TYLER

We'll go on a second date, assuming that goes well. Should I take her out to dinner?

DEREK

Tyler, if you dominate that game, she's not going to want to wait for a second date. You can take her home with you immediately. No dinner required. You have condoms right? Trust me, you don't want to risk getting her pregnant. I can get you condoms if you need them.

TYLER

You think that's what she wants? I don't even know if that's what I want. And anyway, I can't take her to my house. My parents will be home.

DEREK

Ah, right. I forget how young you are, dude.

TYLER

Don't you still live with your mom?

DEREK

Whatever. You'd better shower before the pep rally. Wouldn't want Finley to smell you from the stands.

MUSICAL TRANSITION

19. In the gym, the marching band plays the Derby High fight song. Students chat and laugh loudly as they find seats in the bleachers with their friends. Cheerleaders wave pompoms and whoop through their choreographed cheers.

RAINE

(distant)

Fin, Nell! Over here!

FINLEY

Oh, there's Raine! And she's with Olivia.

NELL

She seemed nice on the bus the other day. I approve.

Finley and Nell meet Olivia and Raine in the bleachers.
They pass crowds of students on the way.

OLIVIA

Hi, Finley. Hi, Nell.

FINLEY

Hey, Olivia. What's up?

OLIVIA

Nothing. Raine said I could sit here.

RAINE

Of course you can.

BULLY

(to the side)

Guys, check it out. It's Cosgrave.

(beat, to Finley)

Hey, Finley, can I have some eggs with
that sausage? Hope Gums hasn't shut you
down for business just yet.

RAINE

Did you...did you just ask someone to
give you the sausage?

BULLY

Shut up, Raine. I just meant that her
shirt was so tight that she looks like
a sausage.

RAINE

Ohhh, so even girls in tight clothes
make you think of sausage. We're
learning a lot about you right now.

BULLY

Fuck off.

RAINE

Now we're getting to the really
original insults.

BULLY

At least I'm not too fat for my shirt.

RAINE

Oh, that's--

THINK FAST.

FINLEY

Annd I think Raine is going to punch him.

(beat)

Narrowed eyes. Fist clenched. But no, her leg is drawing back. Nope. I was wrong. She's going to kick him. Raine might not be on the soccer team anymore, but she could still kick him right off the stands. And while I might enjoy seeing him break his leg right about now...

(sigh)

He could get seriously hurt. And then Raine would be in trouble for more than mouthing off at Montgomery. Annd it would all be my fault because she's always defending me. Because apparently, I can't stand up for myself. Yeah, that's not embarrassing at all.

(beat)

Okay, so stop this very well-deserved assault and then get rid of this creep in a way that doesn't get us arrested.

END THINK FAST.

RAINE

--it, you motherf--

FINLEY

Raine, be nice to him. Remember what Mr. Anderson said.

RAINE

Huh?

BULLY

What are you talking about?

FINLEY

I'm sorry. I wasn't supposed to mention it in front of you. Forget I said anything.

BULLY

What? What can't you mention?

FINLEY

Shhh. It's about your...you know, the "problem" you have. The teachers all know, of course, and they told some of us. But don't worry. We won't talk about it.

BULLY

What problem?

RAINE

I'm sorry. You're right, Finley. Look, I didn't mean to upset you, okay? Just, uh, just relax. We don't want that thing to happen.

BULLY

Thing? What thing? I don't have a problem!

FINLEY

Of course you don't. You absolutely don't have anything wrong with you. We definitely don't know about it.

BULLY

What the fuck?

(to the side)

What is she talking about? Do any of you know what she's talking about?

RAINE

Damn, Finley. You really weren't supposed to say anything in front of him. He isn't supposed to know that we know.

BULLY

Seriously! Guys! What's my problem?!

Everyone nearby gets quiet.

RAINE
Ummm...you're a giant asshole?

Nearby kids laugh.

BULLY
(holding back tears)
I hate you!

Bully hurries away.

NELL
That was mean but probably the
appropriate amount of force.

RAINE
Daaamn, Fin! Dude was starting to cry!

FINLEY
You jumped right in. Couldn't have done
it with you.

RAINE
Just following your lead.

OLIVIA
I don't get it. What's his problem?

RAINE
Uh, he's a dickhead?

FINLEY
Well, yeah. But I just made up the
rest.

OLIVIA
Oh. Ohhh. That was really clever!

NELL
Yes. Finley often thinks of just the
right thing to say.

FINLEY
Uhhh, sometimes I'm just a quick
thinker, I guess.

RAINE

A fast thinker, some might say.

FINLEY

Maybe it was too mean. But it feels pretty damn good after being lectured in front of the whole school this morning.

OLIVIA

I'm so sorry, Finley. I saw the TikToks. Montgomery is the worst. I'm dreading having to take her class.

FINLEY

I wish she'd just retire.

RAINE

There's always heart disease.

FINLEY

Jesus, Raine. I'm not sure I wish death on her.

RAINE

(in a fancy accent)

There's a notable psychological difference between you and me, my dear.

(back to normal)

Side effect of no parental supervision and too much television.

FINLEY

Stop. You know that's not what I meant.

NELL

Olivia, are you ready for your first Derby High pep rally?

OLIVIA

Can one ever truly be ready for such a momentous event?

RAINE

The cheerleaders' questionably promiscuous dance is my favorite part. So perfectly hypocritical. Legs and midriff for days, and Montgomery just cheers along with them. Seriously, look at her. Who's the one with the harem now?

FINLEY

Classic Montgomery. Why don't they get called sausages?

NELL

Technically, she didn't call you a sausage, either. She just referred to your shirt as a sausage casing.

RAINE

Olivia, meet Nell. She's very literal.

NELL

I just understand the time and place for figurative expressions. And Olivia has already met me.

OLIVIA

(laugh)

You are so funny, Nell.

NELL

I wasn't being funny.

FINLEY

She gets that a lot.

RAINE

(best David Attenborough)

Ahem. Following the mating dance of the cheerleader, Mrs. Montgomery will retire to the teachers' lounge and become severely inebriated using the flask she not-so-secretly keeps in her purse. Coach Vale shall deliver a rousing speech and play the soccer highlight reel from the past 10,000 games.

FINLEY

We've all seen it, and we know exactly what's going to happen.

NELL

It's dreadful.

RAINE

All this for a soccer game.

OLIVIA

Can't say that I'm surprised. They make the girls team go to every boys home game.

RAINE

We didn't have to do that when I was on the team. Let me guess: the boys don't have to come to yours?

OLIVIA

I think Derek suggested it recently. He says it helps us learn. I don't mind going. Gives me a chance to hang with new friends.

RAINE

Derek loves making new friends.

FINLEY

Speaking of new friends, would you want to come to the game with us on Saturday?

OLIVIA

Heck yes! I'd love that.

Feedback from a microphone. Students reflexively quiet down.

COACH

Alright, Ravens! Let's officially kick off this pep rally! Should we bring our boys out?

Students cheer.

COACH (CONT'D)

Here they are! Your varsity soccer
champs!

The team runs into the gym. Students cheer.

RAINE

And so it begins.

MUSICAL TRANSITION showing the passage of time through the
same scene.

COACH

We hope to see you all at the game on
Saturday. Go Ravens!

Students cheer and then start to leave the stands and
auditorium.

RAINE

Thank god.

NELL

I know why it seems to go on forever,
but that doesn't help when you're in
the middle of it.

OLIVIA

At least it's over. Let's get out of
here.

FINLEY

Hang on. I want to say hi to Tyler.

RAINE

Ugh. But he's still down with the team.
Do we have to?

FINLEY

You don't have to.

NELL

Come on, Raine. We are supporting Fin.

They head down the stands.

FINLEY

Heeey, Tyler.

TYLER

Hey, Fin. Hey, ladies.

DEREK

Hey, phenom. Oh, and there she is. The one I can't get Tyler to quit blabbing about.

TYLER

(whisper)

Dude! Shut up!

DEREK

Nice to meet you, Finley Cosgrave.

FINLEY

Uh, hi.

DEREK

I know the phenom here. And I know Raine--

RAINE

Yep.

DEREK

But I don't know you. Who are you?

RAINE

She's not interested in playing soccer.

NELL

I am also called Nell.

DEREK

Oh, don't worry about Raine. She's still upset over that game a couple years ago.

RAINE

Pretty sure I have a right to be upset.

DEREK

Hey, you do you. But I'm pretty sure the team would welcome you back if you ever wanted another shot.

RAINE

I'm good.

DEREK

Raine was quite the up and comer. Not unlike you, phenom.

OLIVIA

Why did you quit?

RAINE

I grew up.

FINLEY

(breaking the tension)

Anyway...great pep rally.

TYLER

Wow. That is so nice of you to bullshit me like that.

FINLEY

(laughs)

Okay. Yeah. It sucked.

TYLER

It sucked so much.

DEREK

Yeah, yeah. Enough flirting, Tyler. We better get to the locker room. Don't want to be late for Coach's famous post-pep rally speech.

TYLER

Good call. See you later, Fin.

FINLEY

Bye, Tyler. Have a good speech!

Tyler and Derek walk away.

NELL

Have a good speech?

FINLEY

Why do you let me say words?

OLIVIA

(laughs)

I don't think he minded.

FINLEY

Ugh. I've exceeded my cringe limit for the day. Let's hit our lockers, hit the bathroom, and then get out of here.

RAINE

You go on. My loveliness has been ordered to grace the detention room for sassing Montgomery this morning.

NELL

She gave you detention?

FINLEY

Shit. I'm sorry, Raine.

RAINE

Eh. Totally worth it. Though if I knew I'd get detention anyway, I'd have said a lot more.

FINLEY

But it's kind of my fault.

RAINE

Don't sweat it, Fin. I'm all good. See you freaky ladies tomorrow.

MUSICAL TRANSITION

20. Finley, Nell, and Olivia are in the parking lot walking to Nell's car.

NELL

Would you like a ride, Olivia? My car is right up here.

OLIVIA

Oh, yeah! Thank you!

FINLEY

Some people think the best part of being a junior is going to prom. But it's clearly the student parking pass.

OLIVIA

I ride the bus every day, so I won't argue with that.

NELL

The buses are filthy.

Revvng car engine in the distance.

FINLEY

And Nell keeps her car spotless. She could open a detailing business.

NELL

Which I will not be doing.

OLIVIA

I would accept minimal cleanliness over the yellow-orange deathtrap.

Squealing of tires as a car takes a corner in the distance at high speed. It draws progressively closer.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Oh. Looks like the soccer players are leaving.

NELL

Must have been a short speech by the coach.

FINLEY

Did Tyler come out yet?

OLIVIA

No. I see Kaden and Jeremy. And Tom. Oh, and there's Coach. No Tyler, though.

FINLEY

Oh. Okay.

OLIVIA

Hey, Coach!

COACH

Olivia. You have a nice evening.

Tires squeal as the car turns a corner nearby. It careens toward them.

NELL

They are going way too fast.

OLIVIA

Oh my--

THINK FAST.

FINLEY

Holy shit! That car must be doing sixty. In a school parking lot! Is that...Mrs. Montgomery? What is she thinking?!

(beat)

Oh, no. She's aimed this way. And the coach is right in the middle of the lane. He's still waving at Olivia. Not even looking at the car. Shit.

(beat)

She wouldn't keep going. I mean, she wouldn't...run him over. Would she? Well, she's driving like a maniac, so...maybe she would?

(beat)

She looks totally out of it. Maybe Raine was right, and she did get hammered during the pep rally. I always thought the name Mont-rum-ery was just a mean joke. Not so much anymore.

(beat, MORE)

FINLEY (CONT'D)

She just turned the corner, so she lost some speed. If I unfreeze and run straight for him, I might get there before her car does...orrr I might get splattered across the parking lot along with him.

(beat)

If a crazy teacher is traveling sixty miles per hour in one direction, and a brave but probably stupid student sprints twelve miles per hour in the opposite direction, at what point will vehicular homicide occur?

(beat)

I've always hated the story problems.

(beat)

Okay, Finley. You have a superpower. That makes you a superhero. You got this.

(beat)

Don't die.

END THINK FAST.

OLIVIA

--god.

Finley sprints at Coach.

FINLEY

Look out, Coach!

Finley tackles him as the car speeds just past them.

COACH

Oh my god!

The car screeches to a stop further in the parking lot.

FINLEY

Are you okay?

COACH

I, uh...I think so?

Nell and Olivia rush to them.

NELL
Finley! Are you hurt?

FINLEY
I'm good.

OLIVIA
Wow! Finley! Your reflexes are amazing!
I didn't even have time to process what
was happening before you moved.

NELL
She thinks fast.

OLIVIA
I guess!

COACH
What happened?

NELL
That was Mrs. Montgomery, wasn't it?
What was she doing?

FINLEY
I don't know.

COACH
Losing her job, that's what.

Finley stands.

FINLEY
Let me help you up.

Coach stands.

COACH
I should be helping you up. Young lady,
I believe you might have saved my life.

FINLEY
Just quick on my feet, I guess.

COACH

I'll say.

(beat)

Hey, you ever think of trying out for soccer?

FINLEY

I, uh...I think I'm good.

NELL

Fin, people are coming over to see what happened. Maybe we don't want to answer a lot of questions?

FINLEY

Yeah. Good call. I, uh, need to go, Coach.

COACH

I think you should stay until the police get here.

FINLEY

Nah. I didn't do anything. I have to get home. My dad will be worried.

OLIVIA

I'll stay here with Coach.

NELL

Okay. See you tomorrow, Olivia.

Finley and Nell walk away.

FINLEY

That was crazy.

NELL

No. That was Finley and her superpower. You saved someone's life.

FINLEY

No. I mean...did I?

NELL

You did. Maybe it's time for a costume.

FINLEY

I just think fast, Nell. I can't stop
bank robbers.

NELL

Okay. No costume. But Finley...you're
like a superhero now.

FINLEY

I don't know.

(beat)

Maybe?

THE END