

1 normal and not embarrassing me. I really appreciate that.
2 (*ANNA walks away from the car, up to GRACE.*)
3 GRACE: Oh no. Is that your dad in the car?
4 ANNA: Yeah, he drove me. I couldn't get another ride. But he
5 promised that he wouldn't embarrass me. In fact, I *told*
6 him that he *had* to be on his best ... behavior ... Wait,
7 what's he doing? Why is he stopping ... why is he rolling
8 down the window?!

9 MR. MARTIN: (*Yelling*) Anna-poo, I love you! You be good, OK?
10 Oh look! Look who's here. (*Pointing*) Isn't that the cute boy
11 from your class? Jake? I heard you talking on the phone
12 with Grace about him. Hello, Grace! Look girls, he's
13 walking your way. You lucky ducks! Now Anna, remember
14 to call your mommy and daddy when you're ready to be
15 picked up. But not too late! You don't want to turn into a
16 pumpkin.

17 ANNA: Oh my gosh! Quick. Get inside.
18 MR. MARTIN: Now don't rush off, girls. Anna! Come here and
19 give me a kiss good-bye. You know I can't *leave* without a
20 kiss from my little girl. You don't want me out here *all*
21 night, do you?

22 ANNA: (*Turning around and stomping toward the car*) Dad!
23 MR. MARTIN: (*Still yelling*) Are you really going to leave your
24 poor daddy without giving him a kiss good-bye?
25 ANNA: (*Walks over to the car. Through clenched teeth*) What. Are.
26 You. Doing?

27 MR. MARTIN: How's that for best behavior? Sure hope I didn't
28 embarrass you. I sure wouldn't want you to *ever* be
29 embarrassed that *I'm* your father, or anything.
30 ANNA: Dad ... come on ... you know I didn't mean ...
31 MR. MARTIN: Gotta run. (*Yelling out the window as he waves and*
32 "*drives*" off.) Tell your friend Jake that I'll be watching him!

First Detention

CHARACTERS

(3 Girls)

Brittany: A girl who gets a detention and is freaked out about it.

Alice: Brittany's best friend who is much calmer about getting in trouble.

Mrs. Rice: Brittany's teacher who won't cut her any slack.

SETTING

Action starts at school in a hallway, then moves to Mrs. Rice's classroom, then to a class Brittany and Alice have together, and finally in another hallway.

1 BRITTANY: Oh my gosh, I forgot to do my homework!
 2 ALICE: So?
 3 BRITTANY: So?! I have Mrs. Rice next hour. She gives out lunch
 4 detentions to people who don't do their homework.
 5 ALICE: You've got time. Work on it now.
 6 BRITTANY: Really?! We have three minutes until the bell rings.
 7 Oh gosh, Alice. What am I going to do? I absolutely can *not*
 8 get a lunch detention. My life will be over.
 9 ALICE: Chill out, you always do your homework. I'm sure she
 10 knows that, she probably won't give you one. Not a first
 11 time offender.
 12 BRITTANY: That doesn't matter to her! I can't get my first
 13 detention in seventh grade. Mom and Dad will kill me. It'll
 14 go on my record! Every teacher will think I'm a horrible
 15 student. I won't make Beta Club. I won't get college
 16 scholarships. I won't —
 17 ALICE: You are being so dramatic! It's not that big of a deal.
 18 Seriously. I don't think this is going to stop you from
 19 getting into college or anything.
 20 BRITTANY: No! This is the worst thing that could possibly
 21 happen. My sister never, *ever* got a detention. My parents
 22 will think I'm heading down the wrong path ... they'll
 23 probably test me for drugs ... or ground me for life ... they'll
 24 think I'm a horrible person. Even worse, they'll think I'm a
 25 terrible *student!* Lazy, and unmotivated, and —
 26 ALICE: Brittany! Calm down. No one will think you're a bad
 27 student. I get detentions all the time, and look at me. I do
 28 just fine.
 29 BRITTANY: That's not comforting. You have Ds and Fs. I have
 30 all As! I don't get detentions. I'm not a bad kid. Oh gosh,
 31 this will be the end of me! I can just kiss my future good-
 32 bye, because after this, I won't have one.
 33 ALICE: Stop overreacting. You'll be fine, I promise. *(Bell rings.)*
 34 BRITTANY: Alice! What do I do, what do I do?! I can't go in
 35 there and get a detention and ruin my life as I know it.

1 ALICE: You could always skip class. That's what I do.
 2 BRITTANY: Very funny, Alice. You know I'd never do that. It
 3 would just get me in even more trouble.
 4 ALICE: Just a suggestion. You'd better get going then. You don't
 5 want to add "tardy" to the list.
 6 BRITTANY: Oh my gosh, you're right. That wasn't the tardy bell
 7 was it? It was only the *warning bell*, right? Oh my gosh,
 8 now I'm *tardy!*
 9 ALICE: You are *not* tardy. Not yet. That was just the warning
 10 bell. Seriously, you have *got* to calm down. You're going to
 11 be the youngest person ever to have a heart attack over a
 12 stupid lunch detention.
 13 BRITTANY: It's not stupid. This is serious!
 14 ALICE: Well, gotta run. One more tardy for me and I get a
 15 Saturday detention. Talk about ruining a good weekend.
 16 Good luck, hope you don't get the electric chair! *(Laughing*
 17 *as she walks off)*

19 In Mrs. Rice's Class

20
 21 BRITTANY: Mrs. Rice, you have to understand my situation. I
 22 was so busy last night with softball practice and my
 23 English project, I just didn't have time to do it. But I
 24 wanted to! Man, did I want to. I would've picked it over
 25 sleep if my mom had let me. But you don't know my mom.
 26 She is *serious* about me getting to bed on time. One
 27 minute past eleven and she starts freaking out. I think
 28 maybe she needs some help or something ... maybe you
 29 could talk to her for me? Tell her how important it is for me
 30 to do my homework, even if that means I don't get to bed
 31 on time?
 32 MRS. RICE: I'm sorry, Brittany. Sounds like you have a busy
 33 schedule. But I gave out this assignment several days ago.
 34 I hate to do this since I know you typically do not have late
 35 assignments, but it wouldn't be fair to the others —

1 BRITTANY: I wouldn't tell anyone, Mrs. Rice. I swear! I would
2 take it to my grave. You don't understand. You think my
3 mother obsesses about bedtimes, you wait until I tell you
4 about how she acts over detentions. She'll go crazy.

5 MRS. RICE: I'm sure your mother will understand one mistake.
6 And I'm *sure* she would want me to be fair —

7 BRITTANY: Oh, I think she'd be perfectly fine with you bending
8 the rules a little on this one. Really ... I mean, who doesn't
9 bend the rules a little sometimes, right?

10 MRS. RICE: I'm sorry, Brittany, but I'm still going to give you a
11 lunch detention. They're my rules, and you broke them.

12 BRITTANY: But ... but you can't! I've never gotten one before.
13 You don't really want to give me my first lunch detention
14 over a silly thing like this, do you? One teensie little
15 assignment? Instead of a lunch detention, I can just work
16 on it through lunch today and have it to you by this
17 afternoon. Technically, it won't even be late, right? Since
18 you *are* getting it today. Just not in this class.

19 MRS. RICE: Late is late, Brittany. The detention is final. That's
20 what happens when you don't do your homework. I'm sorry
21 it's going to be your first, but you should have made time
22 for my assignment.

23 BRITTANY: But I always do the homework! This is the first time
24 I've ever not done it. It's not fair. I'm a good student. A four
25 point oh student! Doesn't that mean anything to you?
26 People like me don't get lunch detentions.

27 MRS. RICE: Brittany, that's enough. Stop pestering me, or
28 you'll get two lunch detentions. Now go sit down!

29

Next Hour

30

31 ALICE: So, did you end up getting a lunch detention?

32 BRITTANY: Yes. My life is officially ruined. I can't believe she
33 wouldn't budge. I even told her how my mom would go
34 crazy. And believe me, I wasn't exaggerating. When she

1 gets wind of this, she will go psycho.

2 ALICE: Your mom is *not* going to go psycho over this. She
3 probably won't even care. I know my mom never does.

4 BRITTANY: Yeah, I *wish* I had a mom like yours. She doesn't
5 care about *anything*.

6 ALICE: (*Quietly*) Especially me.

7 BRITTANY: Sorry. You know I didn't mean it that way.

8 ALICE: Oh well. Truth hurts. (*Shrugs and acts like it doesn't bother
9 her.*) At least I don't have to freak out like you.

10 BRITTANY: I'm not freaking out. This is real. I'm going to get
11 grounded, teachers will think differently about me now, and
12 it will go on my record. And thanks to the new phone
13 message system about tardies and detentions, my parents
14 will hear about it in a phone message before I even get a
15 chance to explain it to them. They'll probably be waiting for
16 me at the door.

17 ALICE: So you'll get grounded for a bit. It's still not that bad.
18 Believe me, it could be worse.

19 BRITTANY: Not that bad? What isn't bad about it? I'm not
20 supposed to get lunch detentions. People who do bad
21 things are.

22 ALICE: Geez. Thanks a lot. I can really feel the love here.

23 BRITTANY: You know what I mean. No offense to you, but I
24 never do bad things. Ever!

25 ALICE: Then maybe you should have done your homework.
26 Obviously that's bad enough to earn a lunch detention.

27 BRITTANY: Well, thank you, Captain Obvious. You think I didn't
28 know that already?

29 ALICE: I promise you, you won't be the only "nearly perfect" kid
30 in there today. It's not like you think.

31 BRITTANY: Oh, I'm sure it's exactly how I think. People like me
32 do *not* get lunch detentions. I will be surrounded by all of
33 the bad students who don't care about school and get
34 lunch detentions every day.

35 ALICE: Actually, people like you get lunch detentions all

1 the time.
2 BRITTANY: If you're trying to make me feel better by lying to
3 me, it's not working.
4 ALICE: I'm serious! Everyone slips up once in a while. It's not
5 like anyone's perfect.
6 BRITTANY: I know, but that doesn't mean I have to get them. I
7 can be imperfect without the lunch detention.
8 ALICE: There will probably be some of your other straight-A
9 friends in there with you.
10 BRITTANY: No, there won't be. People probably won't even
11 think I get all As if they see me in lunch detention. Ugh,
12 this is going to ruin my reputation.
13 ALICE: Stop freaking out!
14 BRITTANY: How can I not? Oh my gosh! Was that the lunch
15 bell? No! Already?
16 ALICE: It's OK. I promise it won't be bad.
17
18 After the Lunch Detention
19
20 ALICE: So, was it as bad as you thought it'd be?
21 BRITTANY: Don't say I told you so, but no. Not even close. I
22 actually did have a few of my all-A friends in there. They
23 had lunch detentions for the same reason.
24 ALICE: See? Even you straight-A students forget to do your
25 homework every now and then. No big deal. And it didn't
26 even kill you to hang out with the "bad" kids like me, did it?
27 BRITTANY: Sorry about that. You know I was just stressed.
28 ALICE: You think? Now go on and get to class. I can't take you
29 getting another detention.
30 BRITTANY: *(Runs off, freaking out.)* Oh my gosh! Was that the
31 bell? Oh my gosh, I can't be late. *I can't be late!*

The Never-Ending Gossip Cycle

CHARACTERS

(3 Girls)

Lauren: Girl who likes to talk about her friends behind their backs. First it's Missy, then it's Michaela.

Missy: Girl who dresses uniquely, is sometimes klutzy, and on occasion forgets to stop eating while talking. Lauren and Michaela are "friends" with her but talk about her behind her back. Missy then talks about each of them behind their backs.

Michaela: Girl who also likes to talk about her friends behind their backs. First it's Missy, then it's Lauren.

SETTING

At school in various classes or in a hallway.