

## Deleted Scene: *Lunchroom Humiliation*

Bethany took two steps into the lunchroom and fell on her face.

“Oops, sorry.” Shannon’s prissy voice came from above her, muffled by giggles and laughs and a smattering of applause. “Maybe four-inch heels aren’t the most practical footwear?”

Through a curtain of hair Bethany watched Shannon walk away from her in sensible yet fashionable Doc Martens. Then she picked herself up and left the cafeteria without looking at anyone in the crowd of people mocking her.

In the bathroom, Bethany expected to escape the lunchroom humiliation. Instead she found the last person she wanted to see.

“Hey, Bethany, what’s up?” said Genn, who was leaning against a sink with a cigarette in her hand. Emily sat on the floor next to her, using her book bag as a chair.

Bethany forced herself to continue walking into the bathroom. She didn’t want them to know she was hiding in the bathroom, but she didn’t want to go to the bathroom with them sitting there listening. Although Genn wouldn’t mind, considering what she had done at Emily’s party. “Hey,” Bethany said. She cautiously put her bag down and pulled out her mascara and eyeliner. Emily and Genn watched her.

“So,” Genn said, stubbing the cigarette out in the sink. “Did you have fun at the party?”

“Yeah,” Bethany said, concentrating on her makeup. She felt Genn staring at her.

“How come you left early, then? James looked around for you to give you a ride home.”

“I was tired, and you guys were... busy,” Bethany said.

“Well, you could have said good-bye to me,” said Emily.

Bethany put her makeup away. “I’m sorry.” She really meant it, but she couldn’t bring herself to even look at Emily.

“Yeah, well.” Emily looked away, Bethany saw in the mirror. Even her

friends didn't accept her. She thought about the gun in her bag, then mumbled a good-bye and left the bathroom as quickly as possible.