



SCRAPS

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Character Breakdown

- Hannah:** The new kid in town who desperately wants to fit in. She has a learning disability and is bullied by Mikala.
- Mikala:** The popular “mean” girl in school. She doesn't get a lot of attention at home.
- Austin:** A shy, awkward kid who is dragged around by Mikala, who is attempting to make him “cool.”

Props Breakdown

- Hannah:**
- Headband/bracelet
- Mikala:**
- ABC book
 - Lunchbox
- Austin**
- Textbook
- All:**
- Phones
 - Backpacks
 - Lunch trays

NEIGHBORHOOD SLIDE

(HANNAH enters SR, addressing the audience)

HANNAH

Hi, my name's Hannah and I just got done with my first year at a new school. Going to a new school can be really hard, but I have actually gotten pretty good at it. My family moves around a lot because of my dad's job, which does get pretty old, but things usually go fine. Lots of times at new schools there are lots of people who will go out of their way to make you feel welcome and let you hang out with them, I have friends from all over the country. Okay, this is a little embarrassing but I make a scrapbook for each school year and I am just finishing up this year's scrapbook. As I look back I can see how this past year turned out good, but started out pretty rough. Here is one of the people from my school this past year.

(MIKALA enters SL texting on her cell phone)

This is Mikala Hawkins. Smart, funny, popular, and generally looked up to by the other kids at school. Her mom is a surgeon, and she always has the newest and best things. And if Mikala likes you, you are in. She is sort of the head of the popular group. Which I learned right away, the same day I moved here. She was walking outside in front of my house with one of her friends and...

(AUSTIN enters SL)

MIKALA

Hi!

HANNAH

Hi.

MIKALA

Who are you?

HANNAH

I'm Hannah. Hannah Bailey. Who are --

MIKALA

What grade are you in?

HANNAH

I'm in 7th grade - I will be I, mean.

MIKALA

Well then, I will probably see you up at school.

HANNAH

I know I'll be going to Mission Middle School. I haven't been there yet. I don't know anything about any of my classes.

MIKALA

Don't worry. We can help you, can't we Austin?

AUSTIN

Yeah, sure! Hi!

(HANNAH breaks away from the scene to introduce Austin, Mikala messes with Austin's hair)

HANNAH

And this is Austin Cook. At the beginning of the year, these two were attached at the hip. You never saw one without the other. It was kind of weird because Austin and Mikala didn't really seem like two people who would hang out. I mean Mikala was into music and fashion and Austin was more into video games and sports. I never really understood what they had in common or why they always hung out.

(Scene begins again)

MIKALA

So were you popular at your old school?

HANNAH

Popular? Yeah, I guess, I don't know.

MIKALA

You don't know? Well, you either were or you weren't, Hannah, I mean come on.

HANNAH

Well, I just--

MIKALA

Well, whatever, you want to fit in here, right?

HANNAH

Well, yeah, of course.

MIKALA

Well, then you are lucky you met me today, I bet you would totally fit in with me and my friends. Don't you think Austin?

AUSTIN

Yeah, sure. (Pause)

MIKALA

(Jokingly, but mean)

Austin doesn't talk much, he's kind of shy but we still let him hang out with us, mostly because we feel bad for him. Right Austin?

AUSTIN

Yep...

MIKALA

See, totally socially awkward. He's been my project for the past year, trying to make him cooler, not having much success, maybe you could help me out with him?

HANNAH

Uhh, okay.

MIKALA

Great... See Austin, there *is* still hope for you.

HANNAH

So what is there to do around here for fun?

MIKALA

Ugh, nothing, this place is so boring. Sometimes we go to the movies, sometimes the mall. Sometimes we will go over to Austin's to hang out. That is if his mom isn't home. If she is home we never go over there because she is so annoying. I think the reason Austin never talks is because his mom never shuts up.

HANNAH

Well, are you all doing anything tonight? I'd like to meet some people if you are doing anything.

MIKALA

Actually, yeah, we might be hanging out tonight. But first, if you want in my group, I need to know that I can trust you. So how about this...let me borrow that headband and you can totally come hang out tonight.

HANNAH

I'm not really sure about...my friends from my last school got me this as a goodbye present and...

MIKALA

Hannah, how will I know that I can trust you if you don't trust me? This isn't so much about the headband as it is about us trusting each other! I promise you can have this back later, I just want to borrow it today because it will look awesome with this outfit. (Pause) So, can you trust me so I can trust you?

HANNAH

Uh, yeah, sure fine. As long as I get it back.

MIKALA

Oh yeah, of course! I don't think I'll want to keep this forever, it will probably break soon. It looks kind of cheap. No offense. Anyway, as far as tonight goes I am going to make Rachel have us over, she's one of my best friends, and then we'll introduce you to the group. She lives really close to here so we'll just walk over and get you later, okay?

HANNAH

Cool! See you tonight!

MIKALA

See ya! Come on, Austin.

(AUSTIN and MIKALA EXIT SR)

HANNAH

And that was how it all started. I went over to Rachel's that night and met the group. I was having a decent time and it was nice to be included but I was getting a weird vibe from them all. They kept asking me really personal questions about my life and family and even though I tried to avoid most of them, they wouldn't let up. The most awkward part of the night was when Rachel said jokingly that Mikala had a crush on Austin. Mikala got really angry at her for that and told her she had better shut up. I don't think that Mikala thought it was a joke. Mikala and I walked home together that night...

(MIKALA enters SL; both X SR)

MIKALA

Oh, I can't believe Rachel!! What a freak! Why would she tell everybody that I have a crush on Austin? He's my project, I'm just trying to get him to meet some cooler friends. He hangs out with total losers.

HANNAH

I know and that's really nice of you, I think she was just joking though.

MIKALA

Well, it wasn't very funny. I don't think I can talk to her anymore. What about you?

HANNAH

Uh, well..

MIKALA

Come on Hannah, you have to take my side on this one. I got you in with us and now Rachel needs to be out for making fun of me and spreading rumors about me. I cannot believe she would say that, I bet she's been telling everybody.

HANNAH

Yeah...

MIKALA

So don't talk to her anymore, okay. She's fat and ugly anyway, and she makes our group look worse. Deal?

HANNAH
(Hesitant)

Okay, I won't talk to her.

MIKALA

Thanks, I knew I could trust you to be cool.

(Exits SL, MIKALA TAKE OFF THE HEADBAND OFFSTAGE)

SWITCH TO BLUE LOCKERS SLIDE

HANNAH
(Hannah exits SR to get backpack)

And so the next day I didn't talk to Rachel. She was really upset. Whenever she walked up to our group at school that week, we would all just stop talking and stare at her. Then when she started to talk we would all just walk away. I felt bad doing it, but didn't want to be left out, so I went along. The worst was after 6th period on Friday. She came up to my locker when none of the other girls were around and asked me what was going on with everybody. I wanted to tell her something, but just kept my back to her and pretended I didn't hear her. Mikala's locker was just down the hall and I didn't want her to catch me talking to Rachel. When I didn't answer, I think Rachel started to cry. I didn't see her at school the rest of the day. I felt really bad about it and wanted to do something, but wasn't sure what. Austin came up to me that day after school, so I decided to talk to him about it.

(Austin enters SR)

AUSTIN
Hey Hannah! What's up- What do you think of this place?

HANNAH
Yeah, it's pretty cool here, thanks for asking! Hey, did you hear about Rachel?

AUSTIN
Yeah, kinda, all I know is that Mikala hates her now and won't talk to her. I don't know why though.

HANNAH

Do you know where Rachel is? I haven't seen her since 6th period.

(MIKALA SL enters without AUSTIN or HANNAH seeing her)

AUSTIN

I heard she went home sick.

HANNAH

Oh...

AUSTIN

Why is Mikala so mad at Rachel?

HANNAH

Well, I think that-

MIKALA

(Interrupting)

Well, I think that you better shut your mouth, *new girl*.

HANNAH

Whoa, Mikala, I didn't know you were here.

MIKALA

Obviously. Austin, get out of here..

AUSTIN

Why, what's going on Mikala?

MIKALA

Nothing, just that me and my new *friend* need to have a talk.

AUSTIN

Is everything okay, Hannah?

MIKALA

Yeah! And it has nothing to do with you, so leave.

(AUSTIN exits SR)

HANNAH

Mikala, I wasn't going to say anything, I promise.

MIKALA

Well then why were you talking to him?

HANNAH

He came up to me. I was just wondering if he knew anything about Rachel...

MIKALA

About Rachel? Why do you care about her?

HANNAH

It's just that...I saw her today and she was really upset, she was crying and...

MIKALA

Listen, I hate to tell you this Hannah, but I am just not sure if this new "friendship" is working out for me. I thought I could trust you. I thought you were pretty cool. Looks like I must have been wrong. Oh, and remember that headband that your friends at your old school gave you as a goodbye present? Yeah it was cheap, just snapped right in half. I threw it away. Your friends at your old school must have hated you too.

(Mikala exits SR)

HANNAH

And that was it for me. After just one week of being at the new school, I had gone from the popular group to totally alone. Nobody at school would let me in their group after that because Mikala was not shy about telling people that I had betrayed her and that if anybody was my friend, they couldn't be her friend. I didn't even understand what I had done wrong. I wasn't going to tell Austin anything about what Rachel had said, I just wanted to know how she was doing. After that, one of Mikala's favorite things to do was to find dirt on me, whether it was true or untrue. One of the things she would pick on me for was my learning disability. I have dyslexia, which means I don't read as well as other people because I see things differently. It's really not a big deal, and I am just as smart as everybody else in my class. In fact, I'm in the top

10% of my class. But sometimes I have to have my tests read to me because it takes me longer to get through them. One day in Geography, the teacher excused me from the class to take my test in the resource room. Mikala and Austin saw me in the hall later that day...

(Mikala and Austin enter SR-crossing to Hannah)

SWITCH TO HALLWAY SLIDE

MIKALA

So, I saw that you had to be excused from class today. Why was that, new girl?

HANNAH

Oh, uh, no reason.

MIKALA

Yeah, no reason other than you are too stupid to take the test with the rest of us so they send you down to the resource room so you don't fail. Is that right?

HANNAH

Mikala, I have dyslexia, so I need the extra help.

MIKALA

Oh, so you're not stupid. You're just special education.
(Laughs)

AUSTIN

Mikala, come on, we gotta get to class.

MIKALA

Okay, I think I am done talking to "sped" girl anyway. Don't worry Hannah, from now on when I talk to you I will talk really really slow and use short words so you can understand me.

(Laughs and exits SL)

AUSTIN

Sorry...

(Austin looks over his shoulder and exits SL)

HANNAH

Later that day, I got this text from Austin.

PINK/BLUE SPLIT SCREEN SLIDE

(Sits SR chair)

(AUSTIN enters SL, texting)

AUSTIN

Hey Hannah, I don't know what happened between you and Mikala, but I think it must have something to do with me because it happened right after we talked that one day. I hope I didn't do or say anything that caused this to happen. I feel like I should tell you that the only reason I hang out with Mikala and go along with her is...well... this is gonna sound stupid, but...I'm scared of her. Last year she picked on me all the time. She would make fun of my family and tell everybody that I was a loser who needed some help. And now she says that she is helping me be cool but I never really thought there was anything wrong with me to begin with. I kind of like just blending into the crowd.. Anyway, I guess the reason I am writing this is just to tell you that I am going to do my best to keep Mikala off your back. I don't know how I'm going to do it and I can't confront her on it because then she would freak out on me. But I am going to just try to keep her distracted from you. Just wanted you to know that I'm sorry for how mean she is being.

(Austin exits SL)

SWITCH TO HALLWAY SLIDE

HANNAH

And I didn't really know what to think of it. I mean, it was nice that Austin was sorry and that he was going to try to keep Mikala away from me, but I was doubtful that anything he tried was really going to solve any of my problems with Mikala. I didn't know how anybody could solve my problems with Mikala. After some thinking, I just tried to ignore her and hoped that the situation would blow over. I knew Rachel had gotten back into the group, so I knew people could get back in. I just wasn't sure how, and I wasn't even sure if I wanted to get back in. I just wanted it all to stop!

(Exits SR)

(MIKALA and AUSTIN enter SL with backpacks walking down a hallway, they sit down)

MIKALA

So Austin, I know that Hannah was talking to you the other day about Rachel, and I just want you to know what happened.

AUSTIN

(Hesitant) Okay.

Mikala

Well, we were hanging out at Rachel's house and Hannah would not stop talking about you. So, as a joke, Rachel said that Hannah must have a crush on you and Hannah flipped out. Anyways, when I walked home with Hannah that night she told me that she was really mad at Rachel and that we needed to ignore her and kick her out of the group.

AUSTIN

Really?

MIKALA

Yeah, so it was Hannah's idea the whole time to kick Rachel out. So I went and talked to Rachel and I said that I was sorry about it, but that it was all Hannah's idea.

AUSTIN

What did Rachel say?

MIKALA

Well, obviously, she was pretty mad at Hannah, so she wanted to get some dirt on her to get back at her. So Rachel found out that Hannah is so stupid that sometimes she doesn't even have to do all of her homework. She said she noticed when we were passing our *two* page papers forward in Geography class that Hannah only had to write a *one page* paper. And since I know this, I have an awesome idea for study hall next period.

(Exits SL)

AUSTIN

What are you going to do?

(Exits SR)

SWITCH TO CLASSROOM SLIDE

(HANNAH ENTERS SR, sits in SR chair)

HANNAH

So in study hall that day.

(AUSTIN enters SR with MIKALA who has an ABC book behind her back)

MIKALA

(As they are entering and loud enough for Hannah to hear)

Okay, here I go, this is gonna be hilarious.

AUSTIN

Hey, Mikala, actually I need some help with this section of my homework, do you think you could help me out?

MIKALA

What? No, not right now. I'm gonna do this.

AUSTIN

But-

MIKALA

Shhhh!

(AUSTIN sits in the SR chair. MIKALA approaches HANNAH with ABC book still hidden)

MIKALA

Hi, Hannah.

HANNAH

Hi.

MIKALA

Listen, I feel really bad about breaking your cheap, crappy headband, so I bought you a present.

HANNAH

A present?

MIKALA

Yeah, it's... An ABC book! Now you can learn to read so that you won't be special ed anymore. We all pitched in and bought it for you. Even Austin, right Austin?

(Austin doesn't say anything)

Right Austin?!?

AUSTIN

Yeah, whatever!

(Stands and gestures for Mikala to go with him)

Now can you help me with my homework, please? I need to go to the library.

MIKALA

Sure Austin, I'll help you. I wouldn't want you to only finish half of your homework like some other people here.

(Laughs, puts book down on Hannah exits with Austin SL)

HANNAH

(Furious, throws the book down)

Ooh! I know Austin was trying to help me that day by getting Mikala out of study hall, and that did get her away from me for a while. But Mikala was not stopping, and ignoring her wasn't doing anything either. And my frustration with her was building, until one day it just got out of control.

SWITCH TO BLUE LOCKERS SLIDE

(HANNAH crosses to one side of the stage and grabs a backpack. MIKALA enters from the other side holding some books. They are crossing in a hallway at school)

MIKALA

(Loudly; crossing SR to SL)

Watch out everybody!

(Pointing to Hannah)

Retard coming through over here!

HANNAH

(Crossing SL to SR)

Shut up Mikala!

MIKALA

Oooo, and a tough retard too!

HANNAH

Mikala, if I'm so- (She almost says the word, then stops herself) Then how did I get an A on the test you got a D on in geography?

MIKALA

That's only because you get to take the sped test, idiot.

HANNAH

Just leave me alone.

MIKALA

And why would I do that, new girl?

(HANNAH grabs MIKALA'S books and throws them violently. HANNAH glares at MIKALA. She is ready to fight. Pause)

MIKALA

Okay, Hannah. That's it. Has anybody seen the principal? I need to make a report.

(Exits SR)

HANNAH

Mikala went straight to the principal's office that day and told them I threw her books all over the hallway. The principal asked me if that was true and I said it was, but that Mikala provoked me. And you know what, I got the detention for being physically aggressive and Mikala didn't get in trouble at all. I told the principal all of the stuff that had been going on and she said that while she did understand why I did it, she didn't agree with the way I responded to Mikala."Actions have consequences, regardless of the situation." She said that she had to stick to the rules that are in our handbook, which was why I got the detention for being physically threatening.

And not only did I get a detention, but it also didn't solve my problem with Mikala, it just made her more aggressive with me. That night she posted this on social media...

PINK/JUNGLE ROOM VB SPLIT SCREEN SLIDE

(MIKALA enters SR, Hannah stays on to watch the video)

MIKALA

So since Hannah *freaked out* on me at school today I had to go to an after school meeting with Hannah, the school counselor, and the principal. At the meeting Hannah kept saying how *sorry*

she was and how she had made such a *big mistake*. I wondered why she was being so nice to me but since I am such a nice person, I forgave her. Hannah cried when I did and begged me to walk her home. While we were walking home though, she was being really weird and like...trying to hold my hand and stuff? It was totally disgusting. She actually even had the nerve to ask me out! Sorry Hannah, but unlike you, I'm not gay. Anyway, just thought you should all know.
#hannahtheretard #hannahthelesbian

(MIKALA exits SR, Hannah goes to get lunch tray off SL)

SWITCH TO CAFETERIA SLIDE

HANNAH

(Crossing CS)

None of it was true, there was no meeting and I never apologized or walked anywhere with her! But after that some people at school kept even more distance from me than they had before, some joined in, I got threatening notes in my locker, and they even made a whole bunch of posts on social media saying how gross and disgusting I was. I started to get depressed after that and pretended I was sick sometimes so I wouldn't have to go to school and deal with Mikala. I even talked to my parents about switching schools. But I knew if I left, Mikala would just start picking on someone else. I knew I had to do something, I just wasn't sure what. Austin was standing next to me in the lunch line and then Mikala got into line right behind me.

(Mikala enters SR, Austin enters SL)

MIKALA

Hey Hannah, some of us girls have been talking and we decided that you could maybe sit with us at lunch today. We know things are hard for you since you aren't very smart so we were thinking maybe we could give you a second chance at being in our group. (Beat) On one condition...

HANNAH

I don't think-

MIKALA

You have to apologize to me in front of the whole group and say you are sorry for hitting on me and throwing my books.

HANNAH

No thanks.

MIKALA

Oh, so you WANT to be a loser and sit all alone! Fine by me!

AUSTIN

Oh, do you not have anywhere to sit Hannah? Because I think there is an open chair at our table.

MIKALA

Aren't you sitting with us Austin?

AUSTIN

Oh... actually, no. Some of my old friends and I have been talking and I think I'm gonna sit with them today.

MIKALA

Austin, haven't you learned anything I taught you?! They're total losers!

AUSTIN

Yeah, I'm gonna teach them some of the stuff you've been teaching me. They're gonna be my projects now.

MIKALA

But Austin, I am not done with you.

AUSTIN

Well, I think I've learned everything that I WANT to from YOU.

MIKALA

So you're determined to be a loser.

AUSTIN

(Pause) Yeah, I guess so.

MIKALA

Whatever.

(MIKALA exits SL)

AUSTIN

(Watches MIKALA leave, then with a huge sigh of relief)

Whew, I am so glad that's over!

HANNAH

What was that all about Austin?

AUSTIN

Oh, I have been looking for a way to get out of Mikala's group of friends forever and I have still been trying to find ways to get Mikala off your back, too. I guess I just did both things a little bit.

HANNAH

Yeah, thanks! But I didn't know you wanted out of Mikala's group that badly.

AUSTIN

Ya know, I always really wanted to hang out with Mikala, but I always felt like I was constantly being judged or watched. No one was ever kind, and it was too much. I wanted out of the group awhile ago but didn't know how to leave without making Mikala mad.

HANNAH

Well, you're out now, and she looked pretty mad.

AUSTIN

Maybe, but I saw how you stood up to her and I figured if you had the guts to do that, maybe I could, too. Thanks.

(AUSTIN turns back to the lunch line and sees...)

Oh! That's right, it's Taco day!

(He exits SL)

HANNAH

And so I joined Austin and his old friends that day at lunch and each day after that. I finally found a group of people to hang out with and it made a huge difference. And I wish I could say that Mikala never bothered me or Austin again, but she would still make comments or say things to both of us, but it was way easier because we had our friends for support. So yeah, it's been a really tough year, but things have really gotten better. And I have Austin and my new friends to thank for that. Thanks for listening to my story.