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“Help!” I shouted, banging on the metal door. My chest felt really tight. I had to get out of there before I had a full blown asthma attack, and shouting wasn’t going to help. I searched my pockets for my asthma pump but then I remembered it was in my school bag which I’d left in my English classroom. I tried not to panic which was exceedingly difficult in a situation like this.

I heard footsteps. I hoped it wasn’t Ruby turning round and coming back. I started banging on the door frantically then I heard the lock click and the door swung open and Miss Sheridan was staring at me.

“Olivia, what on earth are you doing in there?”

“Ruby,” I choked, my asthma fully kicking in now.

“Oh dear, where’s your pump?”

“In my bag in the English room,” I said breathlessly.

Miss Sheridan took me by the arm and led me to the English room and got the pump out of my bag and gave it to me. I inhaled it gratefully.

“Thank you,” I said when I’d finished.

“Olivia, you should be more careful, you know you are prone to asthma attacks and don’t blame fellow students for things they haven’t done. As a matter of fact I saw Ruby moments before I found

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you in the courtyard with Evie and Poppy gossiping with each other. So tell me this: how exactly *did* you get locked in that locker?”

“I told you Miss; Ruby pushed me in there and locked the door then ran off.”

“Don’t be ridiculous Olivia, Ruby would never do something like that!”

Well, *your* impression of Ruby is far from the truth, I thought.

“Go to your Maths lesson, you’re late as it is. Come and see me at lunchtime in my office.”

I stormed off. Why does Miss Sheridan always side with Ruby just because she gets perfect marks in every test? I thought to myself. The injustice of it made my skin crawl.

After school I headed home. Mum didn’t pick me up because she works late on a Monday.

“Hello,” Ruby said as she jumped out from behind a Willow tree.

“What now, Ruby?” I replied in a voice as quiet as a mouse.

“It was nice to see you at break time – Not!!”

“Hey where are your side kicks? I said sarcastically.”

“Nunya,” replied Ruby.

“Ha ha, very funny, pretending to be Jupiter North are we?”

“Who?” said Ruby.

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“Oh, I forgot, you wouldn’t know because you can’t read I replied. If you must know, Jupiter North is a character from *Nevermoor*.”

“Maybe if you didn’t spend so much time with your head in a book you would be as pretty as me,” said Ruby.

“Yeah, yeah.”

Ruby shoved me hard in the back. I tripped, banged my head on the willow tree as I fell backwards and then everything went black.