

HOOKY CHECK

Written by

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INT. TEENAGE GIRL'S BEDROOM - DAY

SKYLER, 16, wears trendy conservative clothes, sits in her bedroom which bridges between young girl with pink and purple decor and that of an older teen. She looks at a neon green flyer. Flyer reads: "CONCERT TONIGHT WATCH OUR SOUND CHECK IN THE MORNING @ THE VAN BUREN."

SKYLER

Mom would kill me. But I cannot miss this. I'll catch up on school work tomorrow.

Skyler takes off her shoes then pulls out a pair of high heels from her backpack. She looks at the heel carefully. She walks to a mirror and applies more blush and lipstick to her face.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

MOM, 40's, dressed in business attire, stands at the kitchen counter. She takes a thermometer from a small box then opens a cabinet filled with over the counter medicines and searches the bottles for one.

SKYLER (O.S.)

(singing)
I can't take it. You can't make it.
Go on and break it. It's only my
heart. Go on and...

Skyler turns the corner into the kitchen then sees her mom. She stops abruptly then wobbles in her heels.

SKYLER (CONT'D)

Mom!

Mom looks at the label on a bottle of medicine. She faces away from Skyler.

MOM

Skyler, honey, what are you doing out of bed? I was about to bring you...

Mom turns around then looks at Skyler.

SKYLER

Mom, I...uh

Mom stares at Skyler.

MOM

Skyler, what are you wearing?

Skyler looks down at her outfit which is different than earlier. She wobbles in the heels.

SKYLER

Mom? What are you doing here?

Mom puts the bottle down then grabs the thermometer from the counter and shakes it.

MOM

You must be sick. What are you doing in those clothes?

SKYLER

I...

Skyler walks to the kitchen counter in wobbly heels. The neon green flyer shakes in her hands. She grabs the counter's edge to steady herself.

MOM

You said you weren't feeling well today.

Skyler gets a glass from a cabinet behind Mom then goes to the fridge and gets juice. She faces away from Mom.

MOM (CONT'D)

Skyler! I'm talking to you.

SKYLER

I didn't feel well. Now I feel fine. I'm going to the Van Buren for a sound check.

Skyler looks at Mom, smooths her skirt, then stands taller. Mom reaches for her coffee cup and sips.

SKYLER (CONT'D)

I thought you were at work.

MOM

What? You're going where?

Skyler drinks her juice then shakes her head.

SKYLER

You wouldn't understand.

MOM

I wouldn't understand what?

Mom picks up medicine bottle then SLAMS it on the counter.

MOM (CONT'D)

I understand you were staying home
from school sick and now you're
standing in front of me looking
like a...like a...

Mom stops abruptly. Skyler timidly puts the juice glass in
sink.

MOM (CONT'D)

Now tell me what else I don't
understand.

SKYLER

Nothing, Mom. Never mind.

MOM

Okay then. If you won't tell me
what your plan was, then go change
your clothes and get ready for
school.

SKYLER

Mom. No.

Skyler takes a step and twists her foot in the heels. She
recovers.

MOM

Go. Now.

Mom points to the doorway Skyler walked through earlier.
Skyler puts the flyer on the counter then turns and walks out
of the kitchen. She rolls her foot again on her way out.

MOM (CONT'D)

(to herself)
I do understand.

Mom shakes her head then picks up the flyer and reads the
information about the sound check. She drinks her coffee as
she looks up at a group of photographs on the wall. One shows
a teen in 80's attire at a concert.

INT. TEENAGE GIRL'S BEDROOM - DAY

Skyler laces Converse shoes on her feet. She wipes a tear
from her cheek.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Skyler turns the corner with her backpack on her back. She wears a conservative outfit. She looks at her mom.

SKYLER

I'm ready. Let's go.

Mom stares at the photograph then picks up the flyer from the counter. She holds up the flyer.

MOM

Is this what you had planned for today?

SKYLER

Yes. But before you say anything...

Mom places the flyer back on the counter.

MOM

You lied to me.

SKYLER

I knew you wouldn't let me go. I just wanted to see the sound check.

MOM

You expected me to go to the office this morning and you were going to leave this house to go somewhere. What if something happened to you, Sky?

Mom drops the flyer on the counter then wrings her hands together.

SKYLER

I didn't think of that. Nothing would have happened. They are letting twenty kids in to see the sound check this morning.

Skyler shuffles her feet.

SKYLER (CONT'D)

I lied. I'm sorry. I wasn't sick.

MOM

I used to be a teenager, too, you know. I had a band I loved.

Mom walks to the photographs on the wall. She looks closely as she places her hands over her mouth.

MOM (CONT'D)
I never would have left the house
without asking my mother, but I
know how you feel. I do understand.

Skyler watches her mother looking at the old photos.

MOM (CONT'D)
Let's go.

Mom turns then walks to kitchen counter and picks up keys and her purse.

Skyler grabs the flyer off the counter then puts it in the trash.

MOM (CONT'D)
Do you need that to get in?

SKYLER
Do I need what?

MOM
The flyer. Do you need it to get
in? To the sound check.

SKYLER
I don't know. Why?

MOM
Get it. Just in case they want to
see it.

Skyler pulls the flyer from the trashcan and smiles.

MOM (CONT'D)
I'm not rewarding your behavior.
You lied to me. But I do understand
this means a lot to you. So I'm
taking you.

Skyler beams.

MOM (CONT'D)
But we will be talking later. About
lying. And about those heels. The
band probably likes Chucks better
than heels anyway.