5. Dear Diary

CAST: (2M, 2F) TAYLOR, DAD, MEGAN, MOM PROPS: Diary, pen, plate of cookies, milk, cell phone. SETTING: Taylor's bedroom.

1 (At rise TAYLOR is sitting in his room writing in a diary.) TAYLOR: (Writes.) Dear Diary, Today was the worst day of my 3 life. My dad found out about my little experiment. 4 Needless to say, dad was not impressed with my idea of attaching fan blades to the dog's tail with Super glue. 6 DAD: (From the side of the stage) What were you thinking. 7 Taylor? 8 TAYLOR: (Writes.) I thought it was a good idea. Tail wags back 9 and forth, then, ahhhh ... fresh air. DAD: And you expect our dog to run around the house with fan 11 blades attached to his tail? 12 TAYLOR: (Writes.) And, oddly enough, Jasper didn't seem to 13 mind. 14 DAD: I want you to take them off now! And I mean *now!* TAYLOR: (Writes.) Everyone, except for me, knows that Super 16 glue doesn't come out easily. So, unfortunately, our little 17 poodle's tail looks deformed now. Poor Jasper. 18 DAD: Taylor, for the rest of the day, don't plan on going 19 anywhere! And there'll be no TV and no video games! It'll 20 be chores and homework tonight, got it? (Exits.) 21 TAYLOR: (Writes.) So, if that wasn't bad enough ... Well, maybe 22 I should explain first. Mom, being mom, felt sorry for me 23 because I'd spent two hours cutting fan blades out of 24 Jasper's tail and then went straight to my room to do 25 homework. Well, I was about to start homework, but I 26 wanted to check my e-mail first. No crime in that, right?

MOM: (Enters on the side of the stage, Smiling, she holds a plate of cookies and a glass of milk.) Doing your homework, Sweetheart? TAYLOR: (Writes.) When all of a sudden, Mom barges into my room! "Just checking my e-mail, Mom." MOM: (Screams, dropping cookies.) Taylor Don Jenkins! TAYLOR: What? Whoa! Where did that come from! Mom, I didn't ...! It just popped up! I don't know how it got there!" MOM: What do you think you're doing? TAYLOR: I didn't do that! I mean, it just appeared out of nowhere! MOM: How could you? 11 TAYLOR: I ... I ... MOM: I'm so disappointed in you! 15 TAYLOR: But ... I ... MOM: That's it, Taylor! You get off the computer right this very second! And stay off! (Exits.) TAYLOR: (Writes.) So, now we're getting Internet protection. Yeah, that's right. And until then ... well, diary, it's just you and me. (Short pause as he taps his pen.) Oh, but this was 21 not the end of my wonderful day. Megan, my girlfriend, 10.10 called out of the blue and started screaming at me. MEGAN: (Enters on the side of the stage, talking into the phone.) How could you not notice, Taylor? Are you blind? TAYLOR: Notice? Notice what? MEGAN: Notice what? TAYLOR: (Writing.) So, I'm panicking here. What am I supposed to notice? MEGAN: I'm not telling you! TAYLOR: I don't see it. I'm trying, but I don't. MEGAN: And don't you dare guess! TAYLOR: Don't guess? Make something up? Hurry! Quick! Think!

better get this right!

MEGAN: Tell me! What is different about me today? And you

- 1 TAYLOR: I better get this right? And if I don't?
- 2 MEGAN: 'Cause if you can't even notice a major change like
- 3 this, Taylor, then obviously you don't really care about me!
- 4 TAYLOR: I noticed! I noticed! (Writes.) I'm lying through my
- 5 teeth.
- 6 MEGAN: Then tell me!
- 7 TAYLOR: Quick! Think!
- 8 MEGAN: Tell me!
- 9 TAYLOR: Your eyes ...
- 10 MEGAN: My eyes?
- 11 TAYLOR: Are bluer than the day before. (Writes.) I thought it
- 12 sounded good. Romantic.
- 13 MEGAN: Wrong! So you didn't notice, did you? And you don't
- 14 really love me, do you?
- 15 TAYLOR: I do, it's just ...
- 16 MEGAN: It's over, Taylor! You and me ... we're over!
- 17 TAYLOR: Over? Wait! What did I miss here? What did I not
- 18 notice?
- 19 MEGAN: You just look right past me, don't you? A major change
- and you don't even notice! Thanks, Taylor! Thanks a lot!
- 21 TAYLOR: No, no, I noticed!
- 22 MEGAN: You're lying!
- 23 TAYLOR: No! You ... you look so beautiful every day! (Writes.)
- You'd think that line would get me somewhere, wouldn't
- 25 you? But no ...
- 26 MEGAN: Oh, nice try, Taylor! Like I said, just forget it! It's over
- 27 TAYLOR: It's over?
- 28 MEGAN: I'm breaking up!
- 29 TAYLOR: Over something I didn't notice?
- 30 MEGAN: That and everything else!
- 31 TAYLOR: Everything else? What's everything else? (Writing)
- 32 Girls are so hard to understand.
- 33 MEGAN: You ... you just don't understand. And I can't believe I
- spent three months with you and now it's this ... (Begins to
- 35 cry.)

- TAYLOR: And now comes the guilt. She's crying. Probably fake tears, but it's working.
- MEGAN: (Crying.) I'm really hurt, Taylor.
- TAYLOR: I'm really confused, Megan.
- MEGAN: OK, I'll tell you.
- TAYLOR: Finally!
- MEGAN: I cut my hair, you idiot!
- TAYLOR: You did?
- MEGAN: Yes I did and you didn't notice!
- TAYLOR: I'm sorry, Megan! Like I said, you always look beautiful to me. So, how much did you cut off?
- MEGAN: (Crying.) Two inches!
- 11 TAYLOR: And I was supposed to notice?
- II MEGAN: Yes!
- TAYLOR: Oh my gosh! (Stands, leaves diary, moves to the opposite end of the stage and talks into a phone.) Oh my
- gosh! You want to break up with me for not noticing that you cut two inches off your hair?
- MEGAN: (Sniffling) Yes. (MOM and DAD enter behind TAYLOR.)
- TAYLOR: Megan, you are so stupid! And obviously you have no
- brains, either! Maybe you need to Super glue some common sense into your head so you can figure out when
 - you make no sense whatsoever!
- H DAD: Son, that's enough!
- MOM: Taylor!

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- TAYLOR: (Into the phone) I have to go.
- DAD: Taylor, you are to never speak to anyone like that!

 Especially a young woman!
- MOM: What were you thinking, Taylor? Did I not teach you any manners?
- 1 TAYLOR: But ...
- DAD: (Holds out hand.) Hand it over. No cell phone. No TV. No video games.
- MOM: And no computer!
- M DAD: For a week!

TAYLOR: A week? MOM: And I want you to give the dog a bath. Poor thing. (MOM and DAD exit.) TAYLOR: (Returns to the diary. Writes.) I guess this is what life was like in the olden days. Before computers, cell phones and video games. And it sucks. Well, I'll write more later. I have to go bathe the dog. (Stands, as he is leaving.) I still thought it was a good idea. Jasper wags his tail ... then ahhhh ... fresh air.

6. Star Search

CAST: (3F) MABLE, ROCHELLE, KELLIE PROPS: Tissues.

- MABLE: We need to decide on a talent act for the competition.
- ROCHELLE: One that we can perform together.
- KELLIE: (As if twirling batons) How about fire batons?
- ROCHELLE: Kellie, we don't know how to twirl! Do you want us to catch our hair on fire?
- KELLIE: We could learn.
- MABLE: In one week?
- KELLIE: It was just an idea.
- ROCHELLE: Sing?
- KELLIE: Great idea.
- MABLE: Except I can't sing. Guys, you know that.
- ROCHELLE: That's true. When you sing along with the radio ... well, it's painful.
- KELLIE: Well, Rochelle and I could sing and you could just mouth the words.
- MABLE: No! I want to be a part of this talent competition and not just stand there like this. (Mimes moving her mouth.)
- ROCHELLE: Mable is right. Let's think of something else.
- KELLIE: A magic show?
- ROCHELLE: With three people?
- KELLIE: Well, you could be the magician and Mable could be the attendant and you could make me disappear.
- MABLE: I wish.
- ROCHELLE: There are already a couple of people doing magic shows. We need something different.
- **KELLIE:** How about if we make up a dance to a cool song?