

**BRYCE:** And she's the biggest.  
**BERT:** Her mom doesn't have Alpo delivered to the door for nothing, you know.  
**RYAN:** Well, she was the one chosen, and there is nothing I can do about it.  
**BRYCE:** You mean, nothing you **WILL** do about it.  
**RYAN:** Whatever.  
**BRYCE:** Well, there's one good thing about this whole business, Bert.  
**BERT:** Yeah? What's that?  
**BRYCE:** That we will be in the locker room when he has to crown her.  
**BERT:** I hear you.  
**RYAN:** Guys . . .  
**BRYCE:** Let's go, Bert.  
**BERT:** See ya, Ry. Have a good time crowning this queen.  
**RYAN:** Thanks a lot, guys. (*BERT and BRYCE exit laughing. RYAN looks at the name and exits in depression.*)

## SHELLY

**MIKE:** 17  
**CHUCK:** Also 17, Mike's best friend.  
**SETTING:** Mike enters the room, Chuck, on the phone, motions to Mike to take a seat on the bed.  
**CHUCK:** I don't know . . . Maybe . . . Well, what do you want? . . . Shelly, do we have to go into this now? . . . OK . . . Because Mike is here and . . . No, that's not what we're going to do . . . Hey, why don't you just hire a private detective to keep an eye on me . . . No . . . Fine . . . I swear, Shelly, I don't know what it is you want from me . . . Listen, we'll talk later . . . Mike is here I said and he . . . Hello? Hello?  
(*Hangs up.*) Jeez.  
**MIKE:** Problems?  
**CHUCK:** Very funny.  
**MIKE:** Just trying to lighten the mood. Really, is she hassling you again?  
**CHUCK:** Mike, just back off, OK? I don't need it tonight.  
**MIKE:** Whatever. (*They sit for a few seconds in silence.*) Well, I can see we're in for an exciting evening's entertainment.  
**CHUCK:** You know, I just don't know what the girl wants from me. I try to be nice, then I get treated like dirt. I get tired of that so I give dirt back and then she says I'm cheating on her.  
**MIKE:** I don't know why you take this crap. She isn't worth it.  
**CHUCK:** I love her, OK?  
**MIKE:** Why? She's mean to you, she hates me and I'm your best friend.  
**CHUCK:** She thinks that you try to get me to go out on her.

**MIKE:** Yeah, that's it. I have nothing better to do with my life than to break you and Shelly up.

**CHUCK:** She's jealous of the time we spend together.

**MIKE:** Come on, man. That's just stupid. You need time with your friends. If she had a brain under all that make-up, maybe she'd understand that.

**CHUCK:** I told you to back off.

**MIKE:** Just stating a fact, man.

**CHUCK:** Listen, I don't want you saying anything against her.

**MIKE:** I'm not. It's just that ever since you started going with her, she is the main thing in your life. Football school, work, everything takes a back seat to what that ...

**CHUCK:** Hey ...

**MIKE:** Sorry, to what SHE wants. Including our friendship.

**CHUCK:** What does that mean?

**MIKE:** Nothing. Forget I said anything. Are we going or are we staying?

**CHUCK:** We're going after we stay and talk about this.

**MIKE:** About what?

**CHUCK:** What you just said. Our friendship. Shelly coming between us.

**MIKE:** Why bother? This is old territory and we've been through it before.

**CHUCK:** What does that mean?

**MIKE:** What it means is that last year when you first started going with Shelly you completely ignored the fact that you have a friend, you spent every minute with her, we never went out like buddies are supposed to do.

**CHUCK:** We went out all the time.

**MIKE:** No. We doubled with me going out with Shelly's friends who were not girls I would choose.

**CHUCK:** I thought we had some great times.

**MIKE:** No, you had some great times with Shelly, exploring the many facets of young love. I and my date sat in the other room listening to the sounds you two made.

**CHUCK:** Great. Very nice.

**MIKE:** Chuck, face it, we almost stopped being friends. Shelly hated my guts because she couldn't stand for you to be with anybody but her.

**CHUCK:** Maybe it's because every time we did go out together, we did some heavy partying, some dancing, and some major scamming on girls. She had reason to be mad.

**MIKE:** Chuck, we're 17 years old. That's what we were supposed to do.

**CHUCK:** Well, you can understand then why Shelly still doesn't like you, right.

**MIKE:** And you can understand why I hate the b--

**CHUCK:** I told you not to call her that.

**MIKE:** Call her what you want, she is what she is. I swear, you were so much better to hang out with when you guys finally broke up. You were ... I don't know ... a guy again.

**CHUCK:** What was I before we broke up.

**MIKE:** Whipped.

**CHUCK:** Thanks a lot.

**MIKE:** I don't know why you are even thinking of getting back together with her. Look at you. You're tense, you're arguing with her over the phone and you haven't even gone on a date yet.

**CHUCK:** I don't know what to do. She calls all the time, she cries, tells me she loves me. The hard part is I still love her, too.

**MIKE:** Do you?

**CHUCK:** What does that mean?

**MIKE:** Did you ever think that maybe what you miss isn't Shelly, but is something that she gave you?

**CHUCK:** Man, it isn't the sex. Sex I can get from anybody.

**MIKE:** Heck, I don't know then. Because I sure don't see it. All I see is my best friend starting all over with a girl who did nothing but make him miserable.

**CHUCK:** Man, I don't know.

**MIKE:** Me either. *(The phone rings, they both look at it.)*  
**Chuck, you do what you have to do. See her or don't, but no matter what, I'm your friend.**

**CHUCK:** *(Picking up jacket)* **Let's go.** *(They start to exit, MIKE leaves first, CHUCK looks back at ringing phone, walks out.)*

## THE JERK

**CHRIS:** Sixteen years old, has finally reached the point of no return with his best friend's manner of life style.

**STEVE:** A sixteen year old insensitive clod, caught up in his own needs, completely disregarding the feelings of his family and friends.

**SETTING:** The scene takes place in Chris's bedroom. It is empty when Steve enters, all full of angry emotions.

**STEVE:** *(Enters in an angry rush, calls out.)* **Chris, are you in here?** *(Throws himself in a chair.)* **I can't stand it anymore.**

**CHRIS:** *(Enters, sarcastically.)* **Hey, make yourself at home.**

**STEVE:** **Are you ready for this? They took away my car. Can you believe it? My car!**

**CHRIS:** **Your parents took away your car?**

**STEVE:** **No, the tooth fairy took away my car. Yes, my parents.**

**CHRIS:** **Why?**

**STEVE:** **They say it's because of my grades.**

**CHRIS:** **What do you mean "They say?"**

**STEVE:** **It's not my grades. It's just another one of their power trips. Another way to show me that I'm the kid and they are the adults.**

**CHRIS:** **What were your grades, anyway?**

**STEVE:** **Chris, my grades are not the point. You are missing the point entirely.**

**CHRIS:** **So, what is the point.**

**STEVE:** **I told you. It's power. My parents are into this major power struggle with me. That can't stand to see that I'm becoming a man, that I'm not their little boy anymore.**

**CHRIS:** **Oh . . . So, what were your grades, just out of**