

SOCIAL STUDIES

Written by

Tabatha Delgado

207 James
Street
Dobson, NC
27017
336-468-7232

EXT. HUDSON MIDDLE SCHOOL - ESTABLISHING

A mid-sized, inviting looking building with a forested backdrop

INT. HUDSON MIDDLE SCHOOL - SOCIAL STUDIES CLASSROOM - DAY

Students sit at their desks, watching MS. GREGORY, their teacher, and taking notes.

INT. FRONT OF ROOM - DAY

MS. GREGORY, late twenties, and very attractive, stands at a white board, on which a scene of a knight defending a princess against an enemy is depicted.

MS. GREGORY

...So, the knight's job was to
defend his queen, at any cost...

SITTING ALONE at a table, DILLON KRZICK, 13, small, doodles busily in his notebook. In one hand he grips a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle action figure. He has several colored pencils laid out neatly in front of him. He pauses doodling to set the Ninja Turtle in battle against his eraser.

DILLON

Hah! Yah!

INT. THE CLASSROOM - DAY

Other kids turn and look at him. A RED-HAIRED GIRL sneers at him, and rolls her eye, then whispers in her friend's ear. The two girls laugh.

MS. GREGORY

(to the RED HAIRED GIRL)

Nora. Shh.

Ms. Gregory smiles at Dillon, who returns to his doodling.

THE BELL RINGS and the kids leave. Dillon remains behind, slowly gathers his belongings, approaches Ms. Gregory's desk, where she sits, sipping tea.

MS. GREGORY (CONT'D)

Hello, Dillon.

DILLON

This is for you.

INSERT - DRAWING

Dillon shows her his artistic doodling of a knight defending a queen from a giant, opposing knight in black armor, all drawn inside a heart.

DILLON (CONT'D)
I'd protect you if you were my
queen.

MS. GREGORY
Thank you, Dillon. That's very
sweet. I am so glad you like the
topic we're learning.

Dillon smiles awkwardly.

DILLON
It's not just the topic I like.
It's --

He's interrupted when MR. LESTER, an athletic, well-built man wearing sweat pants, a whistle and a HUDSON ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT T-shirt marches into the room like a gift who's finally arrived.

MR. LESTER
(pointing to his watch)
Lunch?

MS. GREGORY
Yes. Sorry.

Ms. Gregory quickly rises and walks to Mr. Lester who puts his arms around her. Dillon notices as Lester's arm slides down to grab Ms. Gregory's behind. They leave the room together.

INT. SCHOOL - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

As Lester and Gregory walk down the hallway, Dillon follows. He sees the RED HEADED girl move far away from Mr. Lester. Lester squeezes Ms. Gregory close but turns his head to notice the girls in the hallway.

INT. DILLON'S BEDROOM - DAY

Walls covered in Dillon's drawings.

Dillon stands in front of a full-length mirror practicing his karate moves. He is not very good at it.

From a DESK DRAWER, he pulls out a *Spy Camera*. It's a small, pin-on camera. He pins it to his shirt. Dillon pulls up an app on his phone. The camera's view of his room appears on his camera screen.

INT. SOCIAL STUDIES - CLASSROOM - DAY

Ms. Gregory sits at her desk as the class dismisses. Dillon, now dressed all in black and wearing combat boots, approaches her while other kids make SMOOCHING SOUNDS behind him.

DILLON

Ms. Gregory...?

Mr. Lester's no good for you. But I will defend you. I vow it!

Dillon makes his Ninja Turtle dive through the air like an attacking ninja.

MS. GREGORY

Uhh... that's very... noble of you, Dillon....

DILLON

Sir Dillon.

MS. GREGORY

Sir Dillon. But I quite like Mr. Lester.

DILLON

He looks at other girls in a way that he shouldn't. I'm going to stop him and save you from a horrible fate. I will prove myself to you. I will protect you.

Ms. Gregory chokes back her laughter.

MS. GREGORY

Thank you, Sir Dillon. Very noble.

Dillon turns and leaves. The handle of a ninja knife sticks out of his pants.

INT. HUDSON MIDDLE SCHOOL HALLWAY - LATER

The hallway teems with students.

Dillon holds his spy-camera in his hands and tests his cell phone for the video reception.

INSERT - DILON'S CELL PHONE SCREEN

It captures the hallway action.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Mr. Lester smiles at the girls.

MR. LESTER
(to the girls)
See ya in the gym.

The girls giggle to themselves and rush off.

Dillon hides the spy-camera in his pants pocket.

Mr. Lester passes Dillon who stands statuesque. Dillon tucks a ninja star deeper into his front pocket.

MR. LESTER (CONT'D)
You comin' to gym, Kar-sick?

DILLON
What's thirteen cubed?

MR. LESTER
What?

DILLON
What's thirteen cubed?

Lester pauses.

MR. LESTER
You are one weird kid, Kar-sick.

Lester walks away.

DILLON

Two thousand, one hundred and
ninety seven.

(beat)

And my name is pronounced *Kur-*
szhik.

(to himself)

Moron.

MR. LESTER

See you down there.

Dillon watches Lester walk to a staircase and disappear down the stairs. Dillon quickly affixes the spy camera to his shirt, then launches into motion. He rushes off in another direction.

INT. STAIRCASE - CONTINUOUS

Dillon rounds a corner and speed-steps down a different staircase, bumping into other kids along the way.

He sees Lester exiting another staircase and follows from a distance.

Lester turns down another, less populated hallway. Lester opens a heavy blue door that says *BOYS LOCKER ROOM* on it.

Dillon peaks his head into the frame from behind the wall. Dillon follows down the hallway.

Dillon arrives at the Boys Locker room door. He reaches for the handle. Turns the knob and opens the door.

INT. BOYS LOCKER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dillon fake-coughs, bends over, and pulls the spy camera off of his shirt. He fake-coughs again, and tucks the device into his pants.

MR. LESTER
 You need to get changed. For gym.
 So, get in there.

Lester nudges Dillon towards the showers. Dillon walks ahead, trying to act like he's not up to anything. He stands in the shower area watching Mr. Lester.

MR. LESTER (CONT'D)
 Well...? Whataya doin'? Change, hot
 shot. Get outta yer clothes.

DILLON
 Can I have some privacy?

MR. LESTER
 Privacy?! This is a locker room!
 There's no privacy in here! Change.

DILLON
 Please. Can I have some privacy?

MR. LESTER
 Change!

Dillon doesn't move.

DILLON
 You need to stop dating Ms.
 Gregory. I love her and you are a
 pervert. You don't deserve her.

MR. LESTER
 Why you - !?

Lester grabs Dillon and shoves him into the boys bathroom area. Then Lester races out of the locker room.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Lester SLAMS the big blue door behind him and locks it.

Satisfied, Mr. Lester walks back up the hallway.

MOMENTS LATER... Dillon BANGS on the door.

DILLON (O.S.)
 HEY!!!

BANGS again.

DILLON (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 OPEN THE DOOR...!!

BANGS. But the hallway is silent.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dillon leans against the blue door. He sighs.

DILLON
(to himself)
My queen. I have failed you.

Dillon looks at his cell phone.

CLOSE ON: The time - 2:30 PM

Dillon sits. Waits.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - LATER

Dillon's eyes pop open as if from sleep. He looks at his cell phone again.

CLOSE ON: The time - 3:30

Dillon quickly gets to his feet.

DILLON
(to himself)
School's over. Missed the bus.

Dillon bangs the door.

DILLON (CONT'D)
Hello...??

Nothing. Silence.

Dillon scours the floor and finds A PAPER CLIP.

DILLON (CONT'D)
(to himself)
Why didn't I think of this before?
Not very ninja of me.

Dillon unbends the clip into a straight wire with a hook. Holding the hook, Dillon grabs the handle of the blue door.

DILLON (CONT'D)
(to himself)
I will not fail you, my queen.

CLOSE ON:

The paper clip slides into the door's lock.

CLOSE ON:

Dillon's face, twisted in concentration.

DILLON (CONT'D)
(to himself)
I'm coming, my queen. I am coming.

Dillon twists the paper clip until it *CLICKS* and the blue locker room door opens.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Dillon steps into the empty hallway and quickly rushes away...

Dillon turns a corner and runs into Ms. Gregory.

MS. GREGORY
(surprised)
Dillon! What are you still doing here? You must have missed your bus.

DILLON
Mr. Lester locked me in the locker room.

MS. GREGORY
What? Why would Mr. Lester do that? That's a very serious accusation.

DILLON
He knows I'm onto him. He's no good for you, Ms. Gregory.

MS. GREGORY
Stop this now, Dillon. This has gone far enough.

DILLON
As soon as I complete my mission.

Dillon runs off.

INT. HALLWAY NEXT TO THE GYM - MOMENTS LATER

Dillon sees the gym and the office behind it.

INT. MR. LESTER'S GYM OFFICE - DAY

Dillon looks at Mr. Lester's messy desk. He opens a drawer and finds a pair of panties. He opens another file drawer and finds a file of porn magazines.

Dillon's eyes go wide with shock.

MR. LESTER (O.C.)

HEY!

Mr. Lester grabs for Dillon. Dillon dodges him and heads for the door. Deftly, Dillon pulls a ninja star out of his pocket and hurls it at Mr. Lester.

Dillon misses. But the star flies past Lester and sticks into the wall.

Lester yells in surprise:

MR. LESTER (CONT'D)

What the - !!!

Dillon holds another ninja star in his hand, ready to throw.

MR. LESTER (CONT'D)

Now just wait a minute!

Something makes a BANGING sound in the back of the office, behind a door that says BATHROOM.

MR. LESTER (CONT'D)

Get out of here, kid! This is my last warning!

DILLON

Not until you promise to never see Ms. Gregory again!

MR. LESTER

What?

DILLON

Promise!

More BANGING.

MR. LESTER

Get outta here!!

DILLON

Promise!

In that moment, the RED-HEADED GIRL from earlier, forces her way out of Lester's office bathroom. Her shirt is untucked on one side. She rushes past them, veering wide of Mr. Lester.

MR. LESTER

(feigning shock)

Nora! What were you doing back there?

Ms. Gregory shows up to see it all and GASPS.

MR. LESTER (CONT'D)

(to Ms. Gregory)

Jessica, it's not what you think -

But Jessica Gregory cuts off Mr. Lester's explanation with a SLAP across his face.

Ms. Gregory turns to walk away.

MS. GREGORY

(to Dillon)

Let's go.

Ms. Gregory moves towards the Red-headed girl.

MS. GREGORY (CONT'D)

Nora...! Wait...!

Mr. Lester makes one final attempt, reaching out to grab Ms. Gregory's arm.

MR. LESTER

Come on, Jessica...?!

Suddenly, Dillon expertly spins, 'un-sheaths' his Ninja dagger from his pants, ducks and lunges at Lester. The tip of Dillon's dagger pushes into Mr. Lester's gut. It pokes his belly, but does not break the skin.

MR. LESTER (CONT'D)

Ow!

Mr. Lester backs off, and checks if he's bleeding. He's not.

DILLON

Keep your pervert hands off my lady!

Ms. Gregory beams, and steers Dillon away from Lester.

MS. GREGORY
Who would believe what just
happened?

Dillon smiles as he plays back the recording on his cell
phone.

DILLON
Oh. They'll believe it.

Ms. Gregory and Dillon walk out of the gym.

INT. PRINCIPAL DINAPOLI'S OFFICE DOOR - DAY

THE NEXT DAY

The VOICE of PRINCIPAL DINAPOLI can be heard behind the
closed door.

PRINCIPAL DINAPOLI (O.S.)
This is disgusting, Lester! You're
done here. You'll never work again.
(beat)
He's all yours, Officer.

The Office door opens. A POLICE OFFICER leads Mr. Lester out
of Ms. Dinapoli's office.

Lester notices Dillon standing by his locker, dressed all in
black again.

CLOSE ON: LESTER's eyes, staring at Dillon.

CLOSE ON: Dillon's eyes, staring down Lester.

CLOSE ON: Lester, as he looks down.

The police officer walks Lester out of the building.

Ms. Dinapoli comes out of her office, looks for and finds
Dillon.

PRINCIPAL DINAPOLI (CONT'D)
Dillon...?

He approaches. Dinapoli hands him his cell phone.

PRINCIPAL DINAPOLI (CONT'D)
Thank you. I'll keep the recording
equipment, if you don't mind. We
can't have this going on all the
time.
(beat)
(MORE)

PRINCIPAL DINAPOLI (CONT'D)
You know, you should consider
writing for the school paper.
Investigative journalism.

Dillon takes his cell-phone.

DILLON
Maybe.

And walks away.

INT. MS. GREGORY'S CLASSROOM - LATER

As class dismisses, Ms. Gregory approaches Dillon's desk. He's doodling as usual, with his Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle - also dressed in black - gripped in his hand.

Ms. Gregory stands patiently by Dillon's side, almost timid, not wanting to interrupt...

MS. GREGORY
Dillon...

Dillon keeps doodling.

MS. GREGORY (CONT'D)
Dillon... I just wanted to say...
thank you. I'm sorry I didn't take
you seriously at first.
(beat)
But, I mean, obviously, it wouldn't
have worked... out....

Ms. Gregory notices Dillon's drawing: *A Ninja streaking down from above, as if to the rescue.*

MS. GREGORY (CONT'D)
Wow - that's really good - !

Dillon suddenly closes his doodling book, methodically packs away his notepad and coloring pencils. Dillon stands.

DILLON
It was my pleasure to serve you, my
Queen.

MS. GREGORY
Dillon, please, you shouldn't call
me that.

DILLON
But, I can't anymore.

The Red-headed girl approaches. She looks up at Dillon.

RED-HEADED GIRL

Ready?

She takes his hand and they walk out of the classroom together.

THE END