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SCENE 3

“Lose your colors.”

(MARIEL is with IRIS in her room. The crown MARIEL had worked on has been transformed into a forest crown. It’s hanging on an easel or on a shelf.)

MARIEL

You still have the crown. Wow! It looks awesome.

IRIS

I added some sparkles. Can’t have too many sparkles! The drama club is using it this winter for Titania.

MARIEL

Who?

IRIS

The Queen of the Fairies in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*.

MARIEL

Never heard of it.

IRIS

It’s a play. By Shakespeare. The guy who wrote *Romeo and Juliet*?

MARIEL

Oh that guy! Are you in it?

IRIS

I’m backstage. As usual. And I have to wear black when I’m backstage so it’s a challenge.

MARIEL

So, did they ever figure out what is wrong with you?

IRIS

Excuse me?

MARIEL

Come on. Everyone knows. You’ve been taken out of class for a gazillion tests.

IRIS

Just so you know – and you can spread the word – they were all negative.

MARIEL

Don't get puffy! That's what I tell people! I always say, "There's nothing wrong with Iris. She's just different."

(Beat.)

IRIS

I'm working on feeling grateful.

MARIEL

I really like you, Iris.

IRIS

You just don't want to be seen with me.

MARIEL

Jess says if I spend a lot of time with you, people will think I'm ... like ...

IRIS

Different, too.

MARIEL

Kind of. But I still like you! And I mean – you're the first one in our group to have a boyfriend – so that counts for something.

IRIS

Except I don't have a boyfriend.

MARIEL

You can tell me. We have all noticed Tony hanging around you.

IRIS

If you have been carefully noticing me then you would know he is so *not* a boyfriend.
(Beat.) I have stuff to do.

MARIEL

Me, too. I just wanted to clear up some stuff. I'm trying to help you. You could try, you know. You could – just put on jeans and some logo wear and fit in. Stop dressing like the color wheel. It's loud.

IRIS

(Proclaiming loudly!) I am not loud!

MARIEL

That's what's weird about you. You're quiet and loud at the same time. And put away Miss Ellisandra. The time for tea parties is over.

IRIS

You liked them!

MARIEL

Like – a year ago!

IRIS

And make-believe?

MARIEL

I used to think it was fun – when you told me all the things you were seeing. Like, “Wow, Iris is crazy with imagination.” But now – well sometimes I think maybe you're just crazy. (Beat.) I'm trying to be your friend.

IRIS

Not feeling it.

(MARIEL exits.)

End of Scene