

Best Friends

LAURIE (16)

Everything here is so quiet... so unreal. Like everything and everyone suddenly slipped into slow motion while we weren't looking. And there's Julie... not looking like Julie at all.

Just yesterday, we were hanging out at Shopper's World. Doing the mall thing, y'know? Julie's like real funny. She went into Imaginarium and demanded her money back for this plastic dinosaur egg. Said she sat on it all week and it still didn't hatch. Then we went into Victoria's Secret, where Julie told the sales girl she needed to buy her great grandmother something real sexy for her 75th wedding anniversary. She asked if they had any flannel bikinis with matching fuzzy slippers. People never know when she's joking around. But I always do.

After that, we went to the food court for some pizza. I remember Julie got real serious all of a sudden. She was worried about this date she had that night, 'cuz the guy had a reputation as a big drinker. Like he thinks being an alcoholic at seventeen is way cool. I told her it'd be okay... as long as he didn't barf on her shoes. Julie laughed so hard, she dropped the pizza on her lap.