

Mike pulls his phone. Shoots off a quick text. He then turns and walks into Ashley's room to help her pack for school.

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INT. DAHLIA'S APARTMENT - ASHLEY'S ROOM - DAY

86

Ashley puts a book in her hot-pink Dora the Explorer backpack.

Mike carries something wrapped in butcher paper and twine and sealed over with clear plastic wrap - the kilos of heroin.

MIKE

How's my girl?

ASHLEY

Hi, Dad.

He walks over and kisses the top of her head.

MIKE

Think you can do a gigantic favor for Dad?

ASHLEY

Maybe.

MIKE

(dramatic)
Maybe?!?

He laughs. She laughs back.

He grabs her Dora backpack, unzips it, and inspects the inside.

ASHLEY

What are you doing?

He begins shoving the package into the back of her backpack, behind her coloring books.

MIKE

I need you to take something to school for him. Uncle Louis is going to pick it up during recess. Know what?

*

ASHLEY

What?

MIKE

If you do this, I'll buy you anything you want.

*

ASHLEY
More video games?

He smiles, nods, zips her backpack up.

The shower goes off.

DAHLIA (O.S.)
Ashley, be ready to leave in five
minutes!

Mike helps Ashley slip on her backpack.

ASHLEY
It's heavy.

MIKE
Yes, but you're a big girl, right?

ASHLEY
Yep.

MIKE
Now, here's the most important
thing. This has to stay between us.
Our secret, okay? Mom can't find
out.

She looks at him suspiciously.

ASHLEY
What is it?

MIKE
(in a whisper)
It's a surprise for her. Because
she's the best.

Ashley smiles. She likes surprises. Mike holds out his pinkie
finger.

MIKE (CONT'D)
Pinkie swear. Our secret.

She wraps her pinkie in his.

ASHLEY
I swear. Our secret.

He smiles, kisses her on the head, and walks to the door. She
goes back to playing with her phone. His red ball sits on the
bed next to her.