Jade's Monologue from THE PHYSICS FOR POETS CLUB

Written by

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Jade tells the other girls about her sibling rivalry and her fascination with bugs. She was enjoying today's detention, the research and the company of the other girls before Enya had to ruin it.

(Redacted to avoid a spoiler)

JADE

 $[\ldots]$ I walked in on my sister as she was opening my display cabinets the other day. In my room. Bugs everywhere. My parents were furious. But not with her, at first. With me! Like it was my fault. Thankfully, she told my dad the truth and they're letting me start my collection over again. But I had some of the rarest specimens...and now they're out there...somewhere. So I keep looking. (No one wants to know about her bugs, she gets it) Well, the way I figure it, it's like Mary Anning's fossils. Why did the dinosaurs die out after living on the earth for hundreds of millions of years? Asteroid or comet or whatever crashed into earth and okay. We sometimes have to start over. Life. It forces us...to change, evolve. But you're not fooling anyone, Enya. Maybe yourself, just a little. We've not wasted any time today. It's not some stupid period of history. We've learned something today. We all have. We've learned we don't have to sneak reading math books under our covers by candlelight. [...] You have a choice. You have to stand up for yourself. You said it yourself --what's wrong with these women?! You can be your own trumpeter! We have the choice. Okay, we didn't have the choice to be here, today but Ms. Winthrop's given us a little nudge in the right direction. Right? External force? We can learn and change or just go home today. Keep things as they are. (pause) All I know is that life carries on, Enya. (thinking of her bugs) Out there... somewhere.