

Scene 2

In front of the high school.

(Lights come up immediately. Enter Ceci, Lupe, and Susana.)

Susana: Girl, what's wrong with you? I mean, he wears a calculator on his belt!

Lupe: And his *pantalones* are all the way up to his throat. Like they're choking him or something.

Susana: And did you hear what he wants to start? *(Ceci shakes her head)* A club for people into ant farms.

Lupe: *Qué loco!* He's a funny dude.

Ceci: But he's sweet.

Lupe: So! If you want something sweet, buy a soda.

Ceci: I'm not talking thirst, girl. I'm talking about a guy I can trust. He's better than that no-

good Sleepy. He said he was going to the library.

Lupe: (*eyeing Susana*) Instead he was with you know who.

Ceci: (*angrily at Susana*) Yeah—her! Susana!

Susana: I'm sorry. He said that you and him broke up. I didn't know. Honest, Ceci. I'm not the kind of *chola* who goes out with her best friend's dude.

Lupe: *La flaca's* telling the truth. She was really sorry, Ceci. She cried exactly ninety-six *lágrimas*. Huh, Susana?

Susana: It's true. I spilled them tears all over my bedroom. And I felt so bad that I let Lupe pull my hair for an hour.

Lupe: *De veras*. I punished that girl.

Ceci: (*tenderly*) I know. I don't mean to be hard. But it still hurts. (*pause*) I was a fool to trust that *ratón* Sleepy. And now look at him. In juvie for putting his name in wet cement. How stupid!

(*Offstage, Sleepy's voice rumbles, "You better not go out with Junior Einstein."*)

Ceci: (*to offstage voice*) You can't tell me what to

do. We're through, Sleepy. You're locked away and out of my life.

(The girls pace.)

Lupe: It's like the bad experience I had last year.

Ceci: Sleepy hit on you too?

(Lupe grows silent. She walks away from her friends.)

Ceci: What? What happened?

Lupe: Remember when I was in love with Little Ray? And I begged him to let me wear his Raiders jacket?

Ceci: *(frustrated)* Do you have to bring this up again?

Lupe: And I lost it, his jacket. The one his mother had bought him when she won a hundred *bolos* from the lottery. He made me feel so low!

Susana: *Cállate* already.

Lupe: *(with tears)* Then I found it under the bleachers. The jacket his mom bought!

Susana: Get over it, girl.