

## PICS BY THE POOL

Lotta's Instagram page was extremely beautiful and curated, full of pictures of school friends and her doing sports. As an amazing skier, sailor and just someone all-around great at any sport she had a ton of followers and guy friends. She was tall and sporty with long blond hair. Her hair was always crucial in her pictures: braids, pigtails or just cascading down as she climbed, jumped, sailed and impressed on her Instagram feed.

Lotta was used to a lot of likes and comments on her daredevil, curated feed. She had shots of herself skiing backcountry, doing jumps, flips and things that impress. During the summer holidays she went with her family and some family friends with other teens to a sprawling house in Provence in southern France. The house had an enormous private pool, so Lotta decided to undo the back of her bikini not to get tanning lines. They were all family and friends and for their culture going topless wasn't an issue.

One of her friends thought she looked gorgeous lying there and asked her to look up and back as she captured a fantastic picture. You couldn't see anything, but it was apparent she was not wearing anything above her waist.

Lotta posted the pic on Instagram, and before long she had more likes than average and a lot of comments about her looks.

"Damn girl"

"You're taking this up a notch"

"Gorge"

Then she got a few DMs. She opened the first from a guy friend she skied with a lot.

"Hey, Lotta, this picture is hot. Do you have more, maybe with even more skin? Please send what you have."

Then another. "Want more pics! Do you have more from this day or where you can see more? Damn you're hot!"

Lotta felt disgusted. Both guys had girlfriends she knew, and they wanted her to send pictures. She sat in her room wondering if she should delete the picture and how in the world she would answer the guys. She liked their comments but at the same time they made her feel somehow like an object and even dirty.

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### Guiding Questions:

- How does Lotta feel? Explain a situation when you were surprised by people's reaction to a post or comment you made online.
- Have you ever realized a post you thought was innocent wasn't as innocent to others?
- Should Lotta delete the picture? Why / why not?
- How should she answer the boys?
- How do you feel about online requests like the ones the boys made? When does this cross a line?
- How do you take into consideration the responses of other people (maybe even including others than your friends) when posting online?

**Topic: Online Identity and Digital Literacy**

**Age: Middle and High School**