

## AN EMAIL TALE

Colleen walked into class on Thursday morning and before she had taken her seat, the teacher told her the Principal was expecting her. Colleen rolled her eyes. This was a usual occurrence. Colleen wasn't exactly the perfect student and had her fair share of detentions and suspensions.

As Colleen slowly walked to the office, she thought about what she had done this time. Surprisingly, she couldn't think of anything. Colleen though it had been a pretty calm, innocuous week.

Maybe I'm actually being rewarded for something, Colleen wondered. Wouldn't that be a nice surprise?

When Colleen walked into the office though, she quickly determined that she wasn't being awarded Student of the Week. There was a print out of an email on Ms. Dudley's desk.

"Good morning Colleen. Could you please read this email aloud that you sent Mr. Runbar last week?"

Colleen didn't remember sending an email but read it anyways.

"Dear Mr. Runbar, I hope you find love soon because then maybe you won't focus on making our lives miserable."

Colleen paused. "I didn't write this, Ms. Dudley!"

Ms. Dudley pointed for her to continue.

"I heard a rumor that you were eyeing the librarian, so hey, give that a try. That might be your best shot. Regards, Colleen"

Ms. Dudley then gave a long speech about how inappropriate this was. She explained that this could mean another suspension on Colleen's record, which Colleen knew she couldn't afford. Colleen was outraged, she had not written that email. Someone had accessed her account and sent that message. She had a few guesses of who it could have been.

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### Guiding Questions:

- How did this happen? How could someone have accessed Colleen's account? How could your accounts be vulnerable?
- What do you think Colleen did next?
- What steps should Colleen take to fix the situation?
- How do you think the school should have dealt with this? How could they have given Colleen a fair shot?

**Topic: Privacy and Security, Digital Literacy**

**Age: Middle and High School**