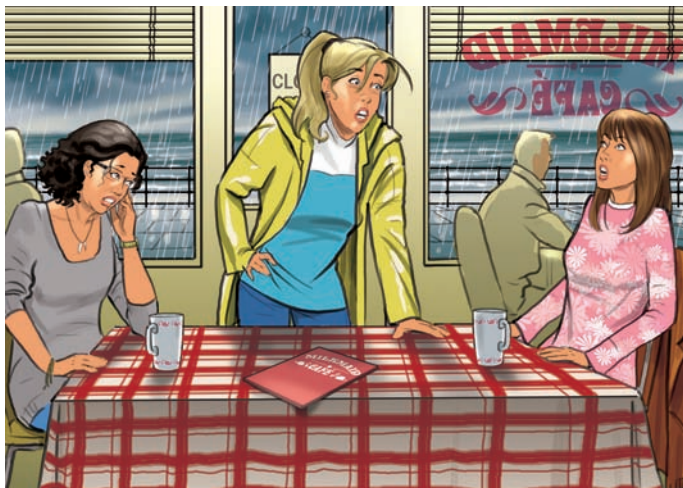


“What?! But you – ”

“Quiet, Lauren! Look who’s coming.”

It was Samantha Brown, a girl they knew from the tennis club. She had come into the café and seen the two girls. Now she was coming up to their table.

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“Oh, Becky, I’m so sorry!” she said. “I just can’t believe this about Jack! With all your problems anyway – and now this! Oh, it must be especially horrible for you now ...”

“My problems? What do you mean?” But when Rebecca looked at Lauren, she suddenly understood what Samantha was talking about. Lauren turned away guiltily when she saw the look of horror on her friend’s face.

“Lauren! Can you never keep anything to yourself?” Rebecca got up from the table and ran out of the café.