

Miscommunication

By Anna Levin

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Fade in.

A low-income high school classroom with windows on one side, shelves on another, and a door on the other. Shelves and countertops are covered in books and other school supplies.

There are desks and chair in the shape of a three-sided square with the opening facing the camera. There are three groups of students, one group on each wall of the classroom. Some people sit on chairs while others sit on the desks. Everyone has a lunch box and is eating lunch.

Pan out over the whole set.

Close up on the first group, Kimberly, Daniel, Taaaj, and Keren. Quick pan to the second group with Anna, Fatima, Emma, Alma, and Ashley. Pan to the first group with close up on Keren and Kimberly.

Hushed tones and whispers fall over the whole classroom.

KIMBERLY

Come on Keren. You have to talk to her.
You haven't spoken for two weeks.

KEREN

Kim, I don't know. She doesn't seem to
want to talk to me. She's the one who
stopped talking to me.

KIMBERLY

Ugh. Do you want me to go talk to her
for you?

KEREN

Just see if she's willing to talk to
me because I really don't know what
I did wrong.

KIMBERLY

Fine.

Camera follows Kimberly to Anna and Kimberly whispers in their ear and they walk outside.

EXT. A LONG HALLWAY — DAY

Fade in.

A long hallway with door to the classroom. Hallway is painted a light off-white color like a hospital room. A billboard is posted outside with posters of upcoming events.

Close up on Kimberly and Anna.

KIMBERLY

Ok Anna. What's going on? Will you
talk to Keren?

ANNA

I just...I don't know. Maybe.

KIMBERLY

Will you stay here while I get her
then?

ANNA

Fine. I guess.

Kimberly leaves and Anna staying in the hallway looking at her phone to pass time. Kimberly enters with Keren and then she leaves.

Silent awkward pause.

KEREN

Anna, what's going on? Why did you stop
talking to me?

ANNA

I needed some space. I just felt like
you just keep trying to control me and
you have so many double standards.

KEREN

What do you mean?

ANNA

It's like it's not ok if I don't text you
back right away but it's absolutely okay
if you never text me back. I just don't
get it. I just feel like you're always

telling me what I can and can't do.

KEREN

I'm sorry you feel that way. I didn't
realize. I'm sorry.

ANNA

It's okay...

KEREN

Are you sure? Are we ok? What does
this make us?

ANNA

We're okay. I don't think we can
go back to the way things used to
be right now.

KEREN

Ok... you know you could have just
talked to me right?

ANNA

Yeah. I'm sorry.

They walk back inside the classroom and lights fade out.

1 page artist statement should attempt to examine some of the following questions: Why did you capture the scene you did? What meaning did it have for you? How were you changed by this experience? Were you constructed in some way, or were you given agency to construct yourself?

Or was it some type of combination of the two

Artist statement:

To me, this scene is incredibly important in my development of who I am now. Although this scene is just a snippet of the situation in its entirety, it was the beginning of change and it really defined my relationship with my friend Keren. It really taught me that communication is key and hiding from people, situation, and feelings is bad and, in the end, helps no one. It is way better just to confront people about something that is bothering you especially if they are a close friend.

This scene means even more beyond what was written because about a month or two after, we became friends again like we were before and then the following year she began to shut me out. And so I confronted her over text because she would avoid me and I asked her what was wrong and then we had a similar situation where she felt like I wasn't being a good friend.

In the end this scene was life changing because it opened up the door to our relationship and myself as well. This moment in high school made me realize that I need to be a better communicator with people I interact with and I need to be honest to myself by being accountable for my actions as well as take initiative.