## 50. Why Would Anyone Trust Me?

(Guy or girl)

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ahout three wears	dared to come over know that I haven't seen my floor i	parents know this. My friends know this. The few who hav	I have food that is actually growing underneath my bed. M	see if they're clean because everything I own is on the floo	Unorganized. A slob. Someone who smells his clothes t	See this? This wreck of a room? This is me. Cluttered

8 So knowing all of this — knowing me — why would 9 anyone entrust me with hundred-dollar concert tickets?

That's right. I've got five hundred dollars worth of li tickets somewhere in this mess, and I can't find them. Five hundred dollars! My parents are going to kill me. My friends are going to kill me. I'm going to kill me! I don't have that kind of money. In fact, I don't have any kind of money! Do li look like a guy who's motivated enough to have a job? I don't think so!

17 Why did I ever offer to buy the tickets online for 18 everyone? Why was I dumb enough to have them mailed to 19 this house? Why would my parents be stupid enough to let 20 me use their credit card? Why would I even begin to think I 21 should bring the tickets up here — to this black hole — 22 when they came in the mail?

Well, there's really only one thing I can do. (*Pause*) Move. Take on a new identity. Start in a new town, in a new school where no one can find me ... (*Pause*) ... Shoot! I have absolutely no idea where my suitcase might be!

## 32. Vindictive Player

Nobody could believe it when the coach posted the A and B team lists. Everyone told me that she must've made a mistake. Clearly she'd made a mistake. There was no way I didn't make the A team. I was a third-year player. One of the only third-year players to try out. I've always been on the A team. How could I possibly have been demoted? Pushed down to the team made up of mostly sixth and seventh graders! I'm in eighth grade, for crying out loud! I didn't even play the B team when I was in sixth grade!

Coach Manning wouldn't change it either. Said my tryout 11 score wasn't in the top fifteen. So what? I had a bad tryout 12 Probably because I hadn't even taken it seriously. I mean 13 come on! It was a waste of my time to even try out! We al 14 knew I was going to make the A team.

It's like she's out to get me. She's made me the laughingstock of the team. Practically the whole school. It couldn't let her get away with that! Which is why they're not talking about me any more! They're talking about her! And those suspicious looking pictures that they found on her cell phone! Coach Manning sure has some explaining to do now, 21 doesn't she?

Rumor has it she's going to get fired. Well, it serves her z3 right! She's *obviously* a horrible coach! Look what she's 24 done to me! So maybe I should feel guilty about sneaking 25 into her bag and stealing her cell phone and taking those 26 pictures, but I don't! I'm doing the school a favor. We'll 27 never win a meet with her leading the team! You bring a new 28 coach in here and we'll just see who's on the A team!