[redacted]

BENJI. I'm doing my chores – washing dinner dishes. I go in my room when I'm done, and she's sitting there holding the tape and the note. Her face is all twisted. Disgusted. And then she yells for my dad and brother, and when they come in, she shoves the note at me and goes:

"Read it. Aloud. To your father."

And I read. And she shakes and cries. And my brother swears. And my dad just stands there. I get to the end and I hear this…this crack sound. And she snapped it in half. Your tape.

(**BENJI** *goes to his bag and pulls out the ruined cassette and the note.)*

I snatched it from her. I don't know why. It's useless now. She tried to take the note, too, but I held onto it, because I had to give it to you.

And then things are so messed up. She tells my brother to take me outside. And he just picks me up and she yells and yells as he takes me out front and throws me out of the house. He actually threw me off the porch. And they go back in, and I don't know what to do, so I just sit there on the front lawn too scared to go back in. And I hear more yelling, until eventually my dad comes out with a bunch of my stuff. He puts me in the car and says he'll talk to her, and if that doesn't work maybe his sister can take care of me for a little while, but is there somewhere I can stay right now? I'm sorry I told him to call you. I don't mean to –

[redacted]