

Sarah's story

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INT. SARAHS BEDROOM -EVENING

Sarah, 16, pretty and skinny, is laying on her bed admiring all the gorgeous Victoria's Secret models. She looks at the mirror and starts to compare herself.

Mom

Honey! Its time for us to eat!!

Sarah looks at the time, 6:30pm, then back at the magazine

Sarah

Mom, its okay, I already ate a big meal at school!

Mom

Okay honey but if you're hungry, come down!

Mom is suspicious but has to feed the family.

Sarah bites her lip, stomach growling and goes back to her bed.

INT. SCHOOL MORNING

Sarah is approaching her friends at her usual hangout spot.

Sarah

Hey guys, what's up? (wearily)

Lily

You don't look so well, are you sick?

Sarah

No, I feel fine

\*RING\* Sarah and her friends walk to class and all meet at lunch time.

Jessica

Come on guys, I'm starving. Let's go eat

Lily

Yeah, come on, Sarah, lets go.

Sarah is thinking about all the calories and fats in the school food. She was about to say no, but her friends drag her into the lunch line. They all sit & have gotten their food.

Lily

Ooh this looks so good! My favorite, chicken tenders!

Jessica

No, hamburgers are the best. Sarah you only got grapes and a drink.

Sarah

Yea, I'm not that hungry, I had a big breakfast.

Her friends shrug and start eating. Sarah is thinking about all the sugar from the grapes and how it's going to her thighs. She then tells her friends she has to pee.

INT. SCHOOL BATHROOM

Sarah is sticking her finger in her mouth, forcing herself to throw up. Lily comes in.

Lily

What are you doing?

Sarah

Nothing, something was in my throat.

Lily

Sarah, what's wrong with you these days?

Silence enters the room, its empty.

Sarah

No I'm fine, nothing is wrong. I gotta go. Sarah rushes out, leaving Lily to stand there.

## INT. SARAHS HOUSE-AFTERNOON

Sarah walks in and finds her mom sitting at the kitchen table. Her mom motions her to come sit.

Mom

How was school today?

Sarah

It was good, all the same.

Mom

I got a call from one of your friends today telling me that you were forcing yourself to throw up, what's that about?

Sarah

There was something stuck in my throat. You don't have to be so serious about it.  
Her mom stares at her with suspicion while Sarah is trying to avoid eye contact.

Sarah

Well, I have tons of homework so I'll be in my room studying.

## INT.BEDROOM

Sarah locks the door and throws her stuff on the floor. She grabs a box under her bed, opens it and looks at the pictures of her mom as a model. She gazes at them until she hears a knock at her door.

Dad

Sweetie, we have to go somewhere right now

Sarah

Where? Tons of homework!

Dad

It's only for an hour.

Sarah sighs, opens the door, goes into the car with Dad and Mom.

INT. REHABILITATION CENTER FOR TEENS

Sarah

What are we doing here?! Why?

Mom

Its okay honey, were here to help

Sarah

No! No! I want to go home!!

Sarah's dad carries her forcefully to the office. Sarah is begging to go home and here mom gets teary eyed.

INT. OFFICE WITH DR.YELAT

Dr. Yelat is taking notes. Nodding every time he looks up. Sarah is crossing her arms, biting her lip looking out the window. Dad is impatient and is shaking his leg. Mom is calm and patient, staring at Sarah trying to hold her hand.

Dr.Yelat

So, Sarah you havet<sup>n</sup> been eating and have been throwing up, yes?

Sarah

This is so stupid. I have been eating and something was stuck in my throat.

Dr.Yelat makes some more notes.

Dr.Yelat

How long has this been going on?

Mom

A couple of weeks, she hasn't been eating dinner with us and at breakfast she always says shes late and leaves.

Dr.Yelat takes more notes. Sarah stands up and leaves the room

Mom

Where are you going?

Sarah

I'll be outside. This is dumb.

Sarah closes the door and sits outside. She overhears their conversation.

Dr.Yelat

Sarah definitely has some issues with eating

Mom

Is it serious?

Dr.Yelat

Yes, it is. It seems like she needs immediate treatment. If she doesn't get help, she could die.

Mom and dad both stare at each other with worry.

Dad

How long will it take?

Dr.Yelat

Oh about 2-3 months.

Mom

And school? She can't possibly miss that much

Dr.Yelat

She can have homework dropped off and there are teachers here which can help. It'll be like school

Sarah stops listening and thinks about what she's going to do. Sarah thinks about running away and moving in with one of her older friends.

INT. DRIVEWAY OF SARAH'S HOUSE

Mom

Honey, so you're going to go there for a while. Its important

Sarah

Whatever do whatever you want with my life.

Sarah rushes up to her room. Gets her suitcase and starts packing. She drops the box of photos of her mom and finds one with herself at 12 yrs old at the beach with her mom.

-FLASHBACK OF THE PICTURE

Mom

Honey, be whatever you want to be

Sarah

Mom, I want to become just like you!

Mom smiles, with the sun in her face and wind in her hair. Sarah is looking at her mom, admiring her features.

Mom

Being a model is hard, are you up to it?

Sarah

Yes. I'm going to be the best model on earth!

Mom

Whatever you do, I'll always love you. Be healthy and be happy!

-END OF FLASHBACK

Sarah rolls up into a ball and starts to cry. She realizes what she has done. She opens the door and rushes to find her mom, sitting on the couch reading

Mom

What's wrong honey?

Sarah

Mom, I'm sorry. I realized what I've done. I was trying to be a beautiful model, like you.  
But I went too far.

Mom

Its fine, everyone makes mistakes. That's why were trying to help

Sarah

I love you mom and I'm not going to be like you

Mom

I love you and that's perfect.

Sarah went to rehabilitation and got treated. She found a new career to pursue, being a nutritionist and helping young teens around the world who deal with the same issue.