**THE SCHOOL BALL DISPUTE** (Secondary School Students)

Nikora and Blake are both prefects at their college. They, along with six other prefects, have been tasked with planning the upcoming ball. Nikora and Blake have been put in charge of choosing the theme. Nikora is determined that they should go with a “Winter Wonderland” theme as their college already owns most of the decorations that would be needed for that. Blake is set on going with a Steampunk theme.

Nikora has been telling the other prefects on the planning committee that Blake is being difficult and not taking the task seriously. Blake has been telling people that Nikora does not have an original bone in her body and should be removed from the creative part of the planning process.

The other prefects are tired of their bickering and have advised Nikora and Blake to go to mediation.

**Nikora’s information**

You have been planning for this event before you were even elected onto the committee. You have been taking this very seriously and chosen the Winter Wonderland theme because it is by far the most rational choice. The college already has all the decorations which would mean that committee could spend the decorations money towards a cooler venue. You have found a magical place that has an incredible dance floor and a stage for the band. Okay, the Winter Wonderland might not be that original but you feel it is way more important to have a great venue than a new theme.

You also feel that Blake has not really listened to your reasoning or even considered the budget. You feel she has just gotten this idea in her head and won’t even hear you out or listen to reason. You don’t feel that her plan is even possible with the money allocated to decorating.

You are really hurt that Blake has said that you do not have an original bone in your body. You have always considered yourself a very creative person and so you feel that it is quite a personal attack. You feel that Blake should have said it to your face, not to everyone else.

**Blake’s information**

You were not originally that big on being on the planning committee but now that you are, you feel it is your duty to shake some new life into it. You find it lame that college balls always have the same tired, old themes. Your sister finished college three years ago and they also had a Winter Wonderland ball theme. You would be so embarrassed to be on the planning committee if it is just going to be another dumb repeat. You love Steampunk, it is formal wear but it is edgy and creative. You haven’t really looked into the cost of the decorations, but, how much could it be right?

Your main thing is that you feel that Nikora has already made up her mind and planned everything in advance and is not even considering the possibility of an alternative. It makes you feel like you are not at all a part of the process.

One of the other prefects told you that Nikora has been saying that you are being difficult and not taking the planning seriously. You find that really hurtful because you do really care, you just don’t see the point of really talking to her as she already seems to have made up her mind. You wish she would say it to your face instead of to other people.