Mother's Note

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FIRST PLACE — FICTION

The friends walked through the school's double doors, holding them open for each other, and laughing as they went. They all held a backpack and a sheet of paper with all their classes. They all had different personalities, traits, and now that summer was over, classes. And this year as seventh graders, they were sure that they were going to be the best students in the whole school.

They'd try. "Guys, who do you have for the first hour?" Chloe asked, holding out her paper.

"I got math, room 204" Amy said, smiling with her love for math.

"Lucky! I've got social studies! 145." Taylor said, sticking her tongue out in disgust.

"I've got writing in room 201!" Emma said, sighing.

"Someone's happy." Chloe said, nudging Emma.

"Well, I'm not mad." Emma said blushing. Emma left her friends and went to her class with Chloe. Her favorite class no doubt was her first hour. When she was writing she felt at home with her characters. She sometimes felt as if she was one of them. Yet she knew that soon the story would end, and her life would go back to normal.

"Come on Emma! We're going to be late!" Chloe said, dragging her back to reality.

RING!

Emma and Chloe sat down in the middle, with seats right next to each other. Pulling her homework out of her binder, Emma noticed a note from her mother. *Have a great day, Emma!*

Chloe noticed the pained expression on her friend's face, "What's wrong?"

"It's an old note from my mother." Emma said and she could tell she was about to cry.

"Oh Emma!" Chloe said, hugging her friend tight.

"My mother has been gone for two years, I shouldn't cry when she's mentioned or stuff like this. I'm being a baby." Emma said, whipping her tears away.

Chloe looked at Emma sternly, "You are not a baby for missing your mother. If I was the one in your shoes, I wouldn't be half as strong as you are."

"You're just saying that to make me feel better. You don't really mean it." Emma said, frowning at her friend's words.

"If that were true then why would I be your best friend." Chloe said, hugging Emma again.

"Now let's get back to work. I don't want everyone staring at us." Emma said, grabbing her math book off her desk.