

# The Lonely Girl



Joan and Emily were classmates but they didn't know each other very well. Emily was very pretty and outgoing and had many friends. In contrast, Joan was timid and shy and she was always alone. Some of Emily's friends thought that she wasn't very attractive either. Emily was a nice girl and felt sorry for Joan but she never dared to talk to her because she was afraid that her classmates would ridicule her. One day, at the end of class, Joan quietly invited her classmates to come to her house for a Christmas party. One-by-one, each girl made an excuse for why they couldn't attend. Emily knew that most of them were lying. Then it was her turn to answer...

Source: Enjoy English

## Vocabulary

outgoing  
in contrast  
timid  
attractive  
ridicule  
made an excuse

## Comprehension Check

1. If you were Emily, and had no plans on Saturday, what would you say?
2. Why do you think that Joan is so lonely?
3. What about Emily's friends? Do they have a right to feel how they do about Joan?
4. Do you think Emily and Joan can ever be good friends?

*"Loneliness is the most terrible poverty." ~ Mother Teresa*