

RS#2 - Maya, Jessie, Sam, & Derek

Scene: Coffee shop on a rainy Sunday. Jessie and Maya are seated at a table. Sam and Derek enter, looking for a place to sit.

Start



MAYA:

(eyeing Sam and Derek)

Here comes trouble. And by trouble, I mean the human equivalent of a dating app glitch.

JESSIE:

(sips coffee)

Perfect. Just what I need: a walking reminder that men still exist.

SAM:

(to Derek)

Let's sit here. There's something... cozy about people who clearly want to be left alone.

DEREK:

(flashing a grin)

Hi. You ladies look like you might forgive us for sitting here if we buy the next round.

MAYA:

Only if the next round is your immediate departure.

JESSIE:

(half amused)

Let them sit. I could use a distraction from the gaping hole where my dignity used to be.

SAM:

(cheerfully sitting)

Well that sounds promising. We're Sam and Derek. This is... going to be awkward, isn't it?

MAYA:

Only if you start quoting poetry or talk about cryptocurrency.

DEREK:

(leans in)

I once wrote a haiku about Bitcoin. Want to hear it?

JESSIE:

Please don't.

SAM:

(laughs, to Jessie)

Rough day?

JESSIE:

Rough month. My ex left me for a woman who runs a goat yoga retreat in Vermont.

SAM:

That's oddly specific. And painfully 2020s.

JESSIE:

She posts affirmations like "Your soul is a garden. Water it with breath."

I want to water her with a hose.

MAYA:

That's the spirit.

SAM:

You're funny. Most people would be bitter. You're bitter and funny. It's kind of refreshing.

JESSIE:

Don't flirt with me. I'm emotionally unavailable and legally bound to bitterness for at least six more months.

DEREK:

That's okay. I'm emotionally unavailable year-round. We could be seasonal.

MAYA:

How are you both still single? Oh wait, never mind.

SAM:

(serious for a beat)

Look, I know I'm just some stranger at a coffee shop, but I think... the fact that you're here, laughing about it, means you're doing better than you think.

JESSIE:

(pauses, surprised)

Okay... that was almost charming.

MAYA:

Whoa. Is Jessie... smiling?

DEREK:

I'll call the press.

JESSIE:

(to Sam)

Fine. You can sit here. But if you say the word "manifest," I'm throwing you into traffic.

SAM:

Deal. And I'll even buy the next round—no goat yoga required.

← **End**