

Episode 1: January 1-9, 2000

Intro music

Scene 1.1

OLIVIA

Hey, um, I'm Olivia and this is the Y2K podcast! I'm a little nervous, I've never done anything like this before. But I guess I should tell you what this is all about... So a few days ago I managed to get my Mum's old laptop working. I was hoping to find baby pictures of me, there are hardly any and I was just, well, curious.

I rummaged around this really old black-and-white dodgy-looking interface and found -- absolutely no baby pictures. No pictures at all actually. But I did find something else. These old audio files, dozens of them, all labeled with dates from January 2000 onwards. It seems to be a conversation in voicemails between my Mum and a friend of hers, and I've only listened to a couple of them but they seem... interesting somehow. Though it's weird to hear Mum so young - I'll be 20 this year and she would have been about... 25 when this was recorded. Almost the same age. Cool. But so strange. Right I'm rambling. I thought this would make an interesting podcast. So...
Here are the first two messages.

Scene 1.2

(Modem dial-up tone) (click)

(library ambience)

JESS

(whispering) Hi Kat! I'm here! And *so* jetlagged. New Zealand sure is a long way away. Sorry about the whispering, I'm at the library computer as I'm still staying in the hostel. Been calling ads for rooms to rent and think I have a few good leads. (muffled footsteps receding, speaks slightly louder) Right, the librarian is out of earshot so I can talk a little louder. Where was I? Yeah. Housing.

Auckland is beautiful, it's summer here and still warm. Flowers everywhere. Really messes with your mind after London winter. One thing I really didn't grasp before I got here was how incredibly hilly Auckland is - on the map the hostel and the university seem really close together, but in reality there's an incredibly steep hill between them! Downhill in the morning, thankfully, I couldn't have coped with the other way around. Anyways, I guess that'll be an important factor in deciding where to live - whether it's uphill or downhill from school! Though - come to think of it - I guess I'm not going to be able to afford walking distance so maybe it doesn't matter. I haven't quite figured out the buses yet, but they seem fairly straightforward. The flight was very long but uneventful. I

got a little sleep on the first leg but on the flight to Auckland I got seated right behind the smoking seats and it was torture. I thought they'd banned smoking on airplanes. Ugh. Sorry. I know you're a smoker, but you're a considerate smoker (*laughs*). Remember that time -

RACHEL

Shh! This is a library you know.

JESS

Sorry! Almost done! (*in lower voice*) Let me know how you're doing - what are you auditioning for? Any luck with the day-job-hunting? And are Shirin and Emma pestering you to let some annoying person have my room? Let me know! Love you! Bye!

(Clicks)

Scene 1.3

(Modem dial-up tone) (click)

KAT

Hello Jess! Great to hear your voice! Feels like you are much closer than the other end of the world.. London is gray. Or at least Wood Green is gray. (*Sighs*) I miss you. Emma and Shirin are great but they're not you. And I miss working with you - even that awful Cinderella disaster -- I mean that lovely panto -- we did at Christmas. I've been auditioning for everything I can find but it's always the same. You know. They want some really specific British regional accent that I just can't do. Or perfect RP for that matter. Or else it's two lines unpaid in something and 300 girls auditioning. (*deep sigh*) Anyway. I just want to run home to Trollhättan and bury myself in my old bedroom at my mother's house and eat cheese. (*groans*) Sorry to be so depressing. (*beat*) I did find a bartending job, though. You know it's not my favourite thing but at least it pays the bills, and I really really need that. The only thing is... it'll mean working for Lee. You know, microwave-tuna-Lee? Stop laughing! He's OK, really. He gave me a job so I have to think he's OK, right? It's five nights a week and the pay is OK. I start tomorrow. Also... I've been thinking about Johnno since New Year's. You know we had that drunken kiss at midnight and it just... hit me, you know? Definite spark. But maybe I'm just so starved in that department that anything will get me going. We will see. OK, what else... Emma and Shirin have called a flatmates' meeting tomorrow, so I guess I'll find out then who they have lined up to move in. I know, I know, I'm supposed to have a say but Shirin's nan does own the flat and I'm just not as good at standing up to them without you. They're off to the pub in a bit but I said no, I'm just too... something. Not depressed but just down, you know? I'm just going to sit here and... be depressed I guess. (*beat*) Hang on. You would tell me to go to the pub. In fact, you would drag me there and

cheer me up. OK. *(laughs)* Stop pestering me! I will follow your silent advice. Be right back! *(footsteps, door opens, muffled yell)*
Shirin! Emma! Are you still here?

SHIRIN

(muffled) We're in my room!

KAT

(muffled) Don't leave without me!

SHIRIN

(muffled) All right but you'd better get a move on, we're almost ready!

KAT

(Muffled) OK! *(footsteps)* Right, sorry Jess! Let me know how everything goes - what's uni like? Did it start already? Are you meeting any nice people? I miss you! Bye! *(clicks)*

Scene 1.4

OLIVIA

Right, so that's it for today. I hope you enjoyed it! I rather like hearing their voices from 20 years ago - before I was even born... Anyway. I'll put these out weekly for as long as it's fun I suppose. There are a LOT of these files, I haven't counted them but I think they go until at least December. So, listeners, of which I as yet have none *(laughs)* did any of you know my mum or her friend around the year 2000? Do you know anything about the other people they mention? I'd like to get more of the story around these voicemails.

Please e-mail me at y2kpod@gmail.com, or find me on Twitter or Instagram @y2kpod, that's the number two. Our wonderful music is created and recorded by Jake Haws, check out his podcast "Making Music with Jake Haws" to hear more. I guess I'll put a link to that... somewhere. I'm still figuring out this podcasting thing. Right. *(reads)* Thank you for listening, and welcome back next week when we return to the year 2000.

(click like something's turned off but it's still recording) *(lets out a sigh)* *(mumbles)* Too cheesy? Maybe. They might wonder why I don't just ask my mum but... Well they can wonder. *(deep sigh)* Hang on, that light's still on. *(click)*

(OUTRO MUSIC)