

## Episode 21: May 22-31, 2000

(INTRO MUSIC)

### Scene 21.1

OLIVIA

Hello there, this is Olivia and the Y2K podcast. I can't believe it's the end of May already - this term has certainly flown by! And now I'm right in the middle of exam season - have to make sure I pass everything first time round so I can go to New Zealand - the supplementary exams will be after I've left! So far I think it's been going well, I just have two left to do. But feel free to send me good vibes, can't hurt, right? *(laughs)* So last week we found out that Rachel is pregnant, Kat is still pregnant, and Johnno is being sort of... nice? Also Jess has some thinking to do. Let's see what today's voice mails bring. Welcome to the year 2000!

### Scene 21.2

(Modem dial-up tone) (click)

KAT

Hi Jess, so... You've been quiet for a little longer than usual. And I get it, completely. Lots to think about, huh? Let me distract you with some good news - I got a voice over job for a TV ad - not the one for washing up liquid, they didn't want me for that. This is for cake mix. Which is sort of silly as I would never ever actually \*use\* cake mix, but hey, I'm an actor. I can do this. Also I tried it after the audition - wanted to make sure it wasn't horrible - and it was actually quite tasty. So I suppose technically I \*have\* used cake mix now *(laughs)* Getting off my high horses... is it horses? Hippos? No! Hungry hippos and high horses, right? Hungry horses? Is this the kind of thing I need to know once I'm a mother? No, I'll be speaking Swedish to the baby, and Johnno English, so the kid'll be effortlessly bilingual, or that's the idea anyway. So that means I need to know the Swedish kiddie songs and books and stuff, and he can do the ones in English. Right? And then we'll bring in my mother and her Danish to really confuse the shit out of everyone... Yeah I have no clue how that will work. We'll just have to figure it out! I am sure we will. We've started talking more seriously about names, and it's hard - I don't think much about cultural differences in our relationship, I mean, I've lived here for years, and we're both from northern-ish Europe, but when it comes to names? He hates all of my choices and I hate all of his! At this rate the kid will be named Jonathan or Katarina junior because at least we don't hate each others names... Would be horrible if we did! *(laughs)* We could do that American thing of having the same name but using different nickname, like Ina and... Jon? Or Than - that's not a name! Thane?

*(laughs)* Thane is a peculiar name. Sounds like Blaine - remember how we laughed at that name in... John Hughes film? With Molly Ringwald? What was it? I am sure you remember, so just tell me, OK? And there is still time to agree on names. Early days and all that...

(door opening softly, bare feet footsteps)

JOHNNO

*(sleepy)* You still up sweetheart?

KAT

Johnno! Did I wake you?

JOHNNO

No, just need a piss. (gives KAT a peck)

KAT

*(softly)* OK.

(during the following: sounds of footsteps, door opening, peeing, flushing, hand washing, footsteps)

KAT

*(continues, to JESS)* Just got home from work, thought he was asleep. I can never go straight back to sleep once I get home - well you know that! I'm too wired. Though since I got pregnant I haven't been sleeping well at all, so I really should try to go to bed earlier... Anyway. Had a good night in the pub tonight. Worked with only Lee, and it was pretty empty, so we mainly hung around talking. He's so funny, he has-

JOHNNO

*(still a little sleepy)* Talking about me again, sweetie?

KAT

Not this time. About Lee, at work.

JOHNNO

*(much more awake)* Funny, is he?

KAT

Yeah! He told this amazing story today, there was this-

JOHNNO

*(interrupts, angry)* I don't want to hear it.

KAT

O-K?

JOHNNO

*(angry, sarcastic)* So you're sitting here telling your friend Jess all about this amazing bloke Lee?

KAT  
Wha-

JOHNNO  
*(interrupts)* On my computer?

KAT  
Why are you-

JOHNNO  
*(interrupts)* While I'm asleep in the next room?

KAT  
Johnno, I-

JOHNNO  
*(interrupts)* Pregnant with my kid?

KAT  
Lee's just a friend, what-

JOHNNO  
*(interrupts, blindly furious with jealousy)* Or is it my kid?

KAT  
What the hell? Of course it's yours! I'm turning this off now, Jess  
doesn't need to hear more of this shit.

JOHNNO  
Bitch.

KAT  
*(to JESS)* Bye Jess, love you.

JOHNNO  
*(mimics, hatefully)* "Love yo-

(clicks)

### Scene 21.3

(Modem dial-up tone) (click)  
(library ambience)

KAT  
*(very tired, all energy spent)* Hi Jess. So sorry you had to hear  
that. *(beat)* Back at the library. Had to get out of there. We argued  
for hours. And then talked. And then he fell asleep but I couldn't.  
Got about an hour of sleep I think. He's just so jealous. I don't

know how to handle it. When he finally calmed down he apologized, of course. Said he didn't mean it. Said he would never think it was (voice wavers) someone else baby. Oh Jess. (sighs) How the hell did this happen? I can't... I can't let him do this to me. This is not OK. He can't say that to me. (beat) I've cried so much there's nothing left. Just this empty feeling. (pause) But I understand him, too. He's been betrayed by other girlfriends and it's hard for him to trust me. I get it. Still doesn't make it OK. And I think he got that. So I guess we move on. And I will get over this too. It's just... Just... I don't even know. Let me know what's up with you. OK? I love you. Oceans and oceans. Bye.

(clicks)

### Scene 21.4

(Modem dial-up tone) (click)

JESS

Oh fuck, Kat, how are you? Do you want me to call you? I can in emergencies, you know? Money-schmoney, all right? You are right, this is not OK. Saying that to you is not acceptable behaviour. Also, the arguments I've heard you two have escalate so quickly, like you're fine, and then something sparks and it's just - boom! You have to find a way out of there before the explosion - I mean together, you have to figure out what the triggers are and how to defuse them. Maybe Johnno needs to talk to someone about this jealousy thing? A therapist? Or couple's therapy or something? It seems so wildly unfair that you have to deal with this when you are probably the least likely person to cheat on a partner I've ever met. My dear. I'm so sorry. I have to run to class but I can call you later if you want? And tell you more about what's going on over here, nothing to worry about, much calmer on this end. Love you! Oceans of hugs!

(clicks)

### Scene 21.5

(Modem dial-up tone) (click)

KAT

Thanks, Jess! So much. Just hearing your voice and knowing you are there and ready to call and support and.. everything means so much. And makes me feel better. And calmer. Yes. I will suggest therapy to Johnno, in whatever form makes sense to him. And... (sighs) you're right. It always happens so quickly, I never understand what is going on until we're all of a sudden in mid-argument. It's OK. You don't have to call. Let's save it. I'm meeting Shirin for coffee. Feels good to reconnect a little. I went back home and got a few hours of sleep in, so now I feel less drained as well. Looking

forward to your update - I'm glad that it's calmer but still - lots going on, right? Love you!

(clicks)

## Scene 21.6

(Modem dial-up tone) (click)

JESS

Kat! So good to hear you sounding a little more yourself. And say hi to Shirin for me - we've only e-mailed a little since I moved here, and... I miss her. There's been so much else going on - well you of all people know that! - I haven't really thought much about Shirin and Emma. Will e-mail them soon. Anyways. So... yeah. What's going on over here. Well, apart from what you heard, not much. I asked Rachel for time to process, and that's where we still stand. Me processing. And of course, Rachel gave me some more info on this whole 'Surprise! I'm pregnant!'-thing. Still haven't quite grasped it's real. I mean, she's been clear all along that she's bi and dates both men and women. Also, we aren't exclusive - and we definitely weren't even close to it when this happened - so it's not a betrayal in any way. I think we were maybe heading that way before... all this. And I would love to be a parent... someday. And possibly with Rachel. Probably with Rachel, in fact. I mean she's fantastic and everything's been so great between us, but... now? The timing is... We haven't known each other long, and I'm still in school, and who knows what kind of job I will find, and where in the world I will find it. (*breathes*) So. Rachel had a one-off-thing with this guy Mike at the librarian conference, and didn't think much of it. Until now, of course. She is trying to figure out how to contact him but so far no luck. It was a huge international conference with librarians from all over the country and the world, and since she doesn't know his last name, it's hard. So many Mike:s! (*sigh*) This makes me worry. What if she never finds him - what will she tell the child? Or what if he turns up suddenly and wants to be involved and make decisions and just confuses the kid? Or - worst case - what if he turns up and forms a bond with the baby and then leaves again, breaking their heart? (*breathes*) Ugh. Way too much uncertainty there. Though in one way it's all perfect of course - Rachel is offering me a ready-made family, I don't even have to be pregnant myself! You know I've always felt anxious about that idea. But can I just jump into this? Isn't there supposed to be some sort of - I don't know - \*briefing\* before you do this much adulting? Or a class or something?? (*brief laugh*) Yes I know I'm being silly. I feel overwhelmed by all these adult choices coming at me. I still feel like an irresponsible teen, for chrissakes! How am I supposed to be responsible for a kid?? Aaargh! Do you ever feel this way? About becoming a parent, I mean? You seem pretty zen about the pregnancy, I guess you mostly have to deal with making your relationship work... I have a therapy appointment tomorrow, thank goodness!

Hopefully Antonio can help me sort through my feelings and thoughts about this whole... mess. Because right now I feel like I could \*explode\* with all these conflicting emotions and concerns and worries and - *(breathes a few times to calm down)*... *(sighs)* Anyways. It's "Pretty in Pink" by the way. That movie with Molly Ringwald? Andrew McCarthy plays Blaine. My friend Jen had the most enormous crush on him when we were teens so we watched it like fifty times. I was crushing on Iona, she was so cool. Still am if I'm honest. Didn't tell anyone of course. *(laughs)* Right, enough for now. Take care of yourself. And of the little bean. I love you! Oceans!

(clicks)

### Scene 21.7

OLIVIA

Listening to this I... I feel like I'm eavesdropping, you know? I haven't felt like that so much before but this... Yeah. Something about their feelings and thoughts about the pregnancies feels more... private than even all that horrible sex talk. *(beat)* So... Mike... Must be a lot of Mikes out there. *(beat)* I can relate a little to what Jess is saying there - not that I am anywhere near parenthood, FIRM no on that! - but the *(beat)* feeling like a kid when you have to make adult decisions, and feeling like there should be a rulebook or a test or something. Like when I was little, and all the way up until I started learning how to drive, I sort of thought cars magically \*knew\* where they were going. I mean, I saw people drive them of course, but still. I didn't get it. *(laughs)* I was so shocked when I realized that \*I\* had to make \*every\* \*single\* \*decision\* to get the car from one point to the next. I had to choose lanes and keep track of exits and pick a parking spot and so on and so on... And I suppose before doing this podcast I'd been seeing my parents the same way. Like two people who magically just knew what they were doing and where they were going. And it is becoming so clear that they... that they don't. *(sighs)* And neither do I. Suppose we are trying our best, at least most of the time. That should count for something, right? *(beat)* 'Til next week, listeners! Please listen to this trailer.

(Trailer for The Subjective Truth)

OLIVIA

If you knew either Kat or Jess or any of their friends twenty years ago, I would like to hear from you. Please e-mail me at y2kpod@gmail.com, find me on Twitter or Instagram @y2kpod, that's the number two. Also check out our webpage, at y2kpod.com, where you can find more info, and, of course, listen to all the episodes. The show is also on Apple Podcasts - what used to be iTunes - on Google Podcasts, Spotify and wherever you get your podcasts. If you like Y2K, please tell your friends to listen too! And if you have a

minute, it would mean so much if you would rate and review the show on Apple Podcasts. It can help others find the show. And also, it makes me very happy! If you want to support the show further - thank you so much - you can do that by going to [patreon.com/y2kpod](https://patreon.com/y2kpod) and pledging a monthly amount - from 1 US dollar you get all our episodes early! So if you were a patron, you could check out next week's episode in just a few days! Our fantastic music is created and recorded by Jake Haws, check out his podcast "Making Music with Jake Haws" to hear more. I'm Olivia, thank you for listening, and welcome back next week when we return to the year 2000.

(OUTRO MUSIC)