

Episode 23: June 5-11, 2000

(INTRO MUSIC)

Scene 23.1

OLIVIA

Hey! This is Olivia, and I think you know by now which podcast you're listening to. (*Laughs*) If you don't, may I suggest you start from the beginning? This is going to make so much more sense if you do! (*laughs*) OK. Tammi and I are leaving for New Zealand in a month, and there is still so much to do. My parents want me to come visit before I leave, and I'm trying to fit it in but it will be tight. Maybe I'll make them come here instead and pick up all my stuff that I can't bring with me! We'll see. Sorting through my things and figuring out what to pack and what to leave. It's hard! I like my stuff. Some people don't seem to care, but I enjoy having my books and things around me. It's comforting. (*beat*) Passed all my exams, happily, and so did Tammi, so we don't have to worry about that.

Plane tickets are booked. Covered by a grant, fortunately, air travel to New Zealand is so expensive. It even covers us 'going home for Christmas' and back again, though maybe I won't bother. Last Christmas was... let's just say was not fun. Anyway. Here are this week's voice mails. Last week Kat missed mother's day and Jess had a panic attack. Welcome to the year 2000!

Scene 23.2

(Modem dial-up tone) (click)

JESS

Good morning Kat, just a quick message before school. So... I didn't realize until today that I was probably still recording during the whole panic attack, and that I never turned it off. Lots going on...

Yeah. But it looks like it got sent off to you, so who knows how much dead air you got. (*sips coffee*) Sorry about that, my dear. Actually I'm not that sorry you got to hear the panic attack, you've been there before and I know you can deal with that even if it's not pleasant, but also if you heard that you also heard Bri help me figure out what I want afterwards. And it makes me happy you were "there" for that. You and Bri and Antonio together were such a support in all of this. Thank you. So much. So... I called Rachel last night, and we cried and laughed and were so very happy. She's been in Rotorua visiting her parents for a few days, coming back tomorrow. I simply can't wait to see her! I feel so... A-MAZING - as you would say! (*Laughs*) Making this decision feels so *right*. Yes, all my concerns are still there, but at a basic level this is perfect for me and for us and I feel confident that we can figure all this out together. So, hey! I'm going to be a mommy too! Who'd

have thought? (*laughs*) As long as all goes well... Yes, of course that whole thing is still worrying - even more so now I am fully on board this adventure. (*sips coffee*) True to form, Jess, always finding new stuff to be worried about (*laughs*) But today I am going to try to just enjoy this feeling of excitement and contentment and... love. So much love. Also coffee. Cheers, Kat! (*sips coffee*) Love you more than coffee! (*laughs*) Oceans of hugs!

(clicks)

Scene 23.3

(Modem dial-up tone) (click)

KAT

Hey Jess! So I organized this when you were feeling down to cheer you up, but now it can be a celebration instead! I'm at the flat with Shirin and Emma - say hello!

SHIRIN

(at the same time as EMMA) Hello Jess!

EMMA

(at the same time as SHIRIN) Hey Jess!

(*They ALL laugh*)

KAT

So I told Emma and Shirin your amazing news, hope that was all right.

SHIRIN

You're going to be a mum, Jess! That's so cool!

EMMA

And a little scary! But wonderful!

SHIRIN

And Rachel sounds great.

EMMA

I can't believe you managed to pick someone up in a library! That's my DREAM!

KAT

Isn't it? And a *librarian*!

EMMA

Oh yes! You managed to find the sexy librarian!

SHIRIN

Thought they were a myth!

KAT

Jess probably caught the only one.

EMMA

Yes, they're like unicorns!

(They all laugh)

KAT

But seriously, Jess, I am so very happy for you, and for Rachel.

SHIRIN

Yes, congratulations, Jess, terrific!

EMMA

Also, Shirin and I just found out - you two - Kat and you I mean - both having babies on the way at the same time is so wild!

KAT

Isn't it? *(smiles)* Never would have thought it...

SHIRIN

(carefully) But... You're happy too, Kat, right?

KAT

Of course! Johnno and I have our issues like any other couple, but we are both so excited about the baby!

EMMA

Good. *(carefully)* And... he's being nice to you?

KAT

(a little too quickly) Of course! Listen, um, I usually give Jess an update on what's up with me, you want to do that too?

SHIRIN

(pause, then at the same time as EMMA) Absolutely, I-

EMMA

(pause, then at the same time as SHIRIN) Sure, I've-

(They all laugh)

KAT

Why don't you start, Emma?

EMMA

Sure! Work is pretty much as usual, I've got a new assignment where I ask "the-man-on-the street" one inane question every week - I

actually try to ask the *woman* on the street more often than not as they tend to have more interesting things to say, and also don't tend to hit on me in creepy ways. *(beat)* And if they hit on me in non-creepy ways, that's a win! *(laughs)* This week I was asking people how they felt about the whole Y2K problem six months in - the world didn't go under, so was it all just unnecessary scare-mongering? You, know, that sort of thing.

SHIRIN

Oh, it was definitely much ado about nothing - I mean what actually happened?

EMMA

There was an alarm at a nuclear power station in Japan, that was probably the freakiest, but it turned out to be nothing. Also some dates showed up wrong, but that was harmless as far as I know.

KAT

Also I heard some ticket machines on buses in Australia stopped working. So yeah. Much ado.

EMMA

(laughs) That was pretty much the consensus of the people I spoke with as well. And apart from work - I've started blogging, which is fun, and got quite a few followers already. You should check it out, Jess! And, you know, still having fun being single, as per usual. Your turn, Shirin!

SHIRIN

All right, let's see... Work is fine, but dull. As always. *(sigh)* I just wish I could stop doing all this admin stuff and fixing other people's designs and start doing some more actual designing of my own. I entered this competition last week where the prize was a design internship in New York, that would be seriously cool. More realistically, I am job hunting. But there's not much to apply for. Oh, and am back with Dave, again. Not sure what we're doing anymore. But, you know, we seem to be happier together than apart, at least for now, so we shall see.

KAT

Hang on, you're back with Dave? How did that happen?

(EMMA laughs a little)

SHIRIN

Well... He was miserable. And I missed him. And we have fun together, I just got... bored I suppose.

KAT

But what about... what's-her-name?

EMMA

Donna.

SHIRIN

I like her too. But it was never supposed to be some long-term-thing, it was just fun. *(beat)* Could be again perhaps.

KAT

But -

SHIRIN

Oh no, I'm completely done with exclusive monogamy, Dave knows that.

EMMA

Cool.

KAT

Yeah, good, glad you worked that out. *(beat)* Right. Anything else you want to say to Jess before we log off?

EMMA

Miss you Jess!

SHIRIN

Yes, I miss you too! And let's e-mail more often, yeah?

KAT

Sounds like a plan! OK, we love you Jess!

SHIRIN and EMMA

Love you!

(They all laugh)

(clicks)

Scene 23.4

(Modem dial-up tone) (click)

JESS

(a little teary-eyed) Aw, thanks so much for doing that Kat! Made me feel almost like I was hanging out in the kitchen with you all again... And made me miss you all even more! Will try to stay on top of my e-mail game a little better... Oh, Kat, I am so happy I am just... bursting! Like a balloon *(laughs)* No, that doesn't work! But I am happy. And relieved. I didn't know what to do with myself when I thought I had to break up with Rachel. She's so *easy* to be with. And she makes me want to be... better. When I'm with her I feel like I *am* better. It's just the most wonderful thing and-

(soft footsteps, knock on door)

RACHEL

Jess?

JESS

Rachel! Come in!

(door opens, JESS gets up, they kiss)

RACHEL

(softly) Hello, my love.

JESS

(softly) Hey there. *(louder)* Sit down, say hi to Kat - you haven't yet, right?

(JESS sits)

RACHEL

Not really. Apart from... when you and I were very much focused on other things. (RACHEL sits) Hello, Kat! I've heard so much about you.

JESS

And she's sure heard a lot about you - mostly me going on about how wonderful you are.

RACHEL

(jokingly) Sure, and what a bother I am getting myself pregnant all of a sudden.

JESS

(laughs) Yeah, a little bit of that too.

RACHEL

(smiles) I can imagine. But what are friends for, right?

JESS

Listening to all your worries... and joys too! And you are a joy, you know.

RACHEL

Good. So are you my love. *(beat)* And Kat, I hear you're pregnant too!

JESS

She is - life works out in funny ways sometimes. I think you two must be more or less at the same point in pregnancy.

RACHEL

Really? I was sort of late in figuring out what was going on, but the doctor says I'm probably at 8 or 9 weeks, so still early days.

Hey Kat, are you having any morning sickness? Don't know why they call it that, it's more like all-day nausea for me. Apart from that not many pregnancy symptoms so far - my mum apparently had easy pregnancies, and so did my sisters, so hopefully I have those genes...

JESS

Yeah, fingers crossed! Oh wow. So much could go wrong Rache. *(sigh)*
Just power through, right?

RACHEL

Yeah. Together, remember?

JESS

(smiles) Oh yes. Together. *(deep breath)* I- (RACHEL's tummy rumbles, they both laugh) So, Kat, I think I need to feed the pregnant tummy-rumbler over here. Thanks again for doing a message with Emma and Shirin, that was wonderful! And take care of yourself - you probably need to go eat something too, pregnant lady! *(laughs)*

RACHEL

Take care Kat!

JESS

Love you! Bye!

(clicks)

Scene 23.5

OLIVIA

Right... I- I loved 'meeting' the flatmates properly! It's funny how they seem so abstract when they are just talked about or leave brief messages. It's so much more real when they're in conversation. And they all seem pretty happy again in this one, so that's a relief. Though with the way everything's been going so far I- I can't help wondering how long it will last. But what do I know. Could be sunshine and roses all the way from here... That's it for today, here's this week's trailer.

(Trailer for Moonbase Theta, Out)

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 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)