

Episode 32: August 7-13, 2000

(INTRO MUSIC)

Scene 32.1

(new ambience - slight kitchen echo)

OLIVIA

Hello listeners, this is the Y2K podcast - from Wellington!

(*CASSANDRA and TAMMI laugh*)

OLIVIA

(*continues*) Today we are visiting one of our listeners - hello Cassandra!

CASSANDRA

(*a little nervous but mostly excited*) Hello! (*smiles*) Call me Cassie, please.

OLIVIA

Thanks! And thanks for inviting us! Tammi is here, of course, fiddling with tech stuff.

TAMMI

(a little distant) Hi!

OLIVIA

Everything OK?

TAMMI

(a little distant) Hang on... (click, sound quality changes) Yes!

OLIVIA

Great. (*beat*) So, the reason we are here, in Cassie's kitchen, is that you have some things to tell us, right?

CASSANDRA

Yes. I- (*beat*) Where do you want me to start?

OLIVIA

Um... why don't you start with your first e-mail to me?

CASSANDRA

All right. So I started listening to the podcast - my friend got me into it actually - Hi Kate! - and I thought I recognized Jess' voice. (mic bump) Wasn't sure, but e-mailed you. And then, of course, Rachel and Maia turned up more in the voice mails and I used to know them both fairly well. You see, (mic bump) we worked in

different libraries, but all the Auckland librarians would meet up every now and then, and of course we were always sending books between the libraries and- (mic bump)

TAMMI

(a little distant) I'm sorry Cassie, you're going to have to watch those hands!

CASSANDRA

(*laughs*) Sorry!

OLIVIA

(*smiles*) I do that too! I talk with my hands!

CASSANDRA

(*smiles*) I'll sit on them!

(*TAMMI and OLIVIA laugh*)

TAMMI

(a little distant) That's all right. Just watch the mic.

CASSANDRA

All right!

OLIVIA

So... You are a librarian too.

CASSANDRA

Library assistant at that time, but yes. Got my degree now.

OLIVIA

And you and I e-mailed back and forth for a bit. I asked if you knew anything about my bio-dad before I talked about it on the podcast.

CASSANDRA

Yes. I thought that was exciting, actually. To be 'in the know' before the other listeners (*smiles*). So, I was at the conference where I, um, gosh, um- (*doesn't know how to continue*)

OLIVIA

Where I was conceived? (*mini laugh*) Now THAT is a weird thing to say. And think about... Go ahead, Cassie.

CASSANDRA

(*smiles*) Yeah. I was at the conference, it's an enormous yearly thing, always heaps of people from all over. (mic bump) Sorry! Suppose I remember this one in particular 'cause it was my first one ever. Rachel - your mum-

OLIVIA

Mama. Yes.

CASSANDRA

Of course! Rachel and some others were showing me the ropes, and I was basically following them around everywhere. On the first night, we got talking to some Aussies at the hotel bar-

OLIVIA

(*surprised*) Aussies? Right. (*smiles*) You know, maybe we should continue this after today's voice mails - is that all right, Cassie?

CASSANDRA

'Course.

OLIVIA

Thanks. So, let's see what today's voice mails bring. Last week Jess and Rachel had hopes for a new flat, and Kat was exhausted. Tammi, can we all listen?

TAMMI

(a little distant) Yup. All set.

OLIVIA

Great. So, welcome-

CASSANDRA

Oh, can I say it?

OLIVIA

(*smiles*) Absolutely!

CASSANDRA

(*excited*) Welcome to the year 2000!

Scene 32.2

(Modem dial-up tone) (click)

JESS

Hi Kat, how are things on your side of the world? We are in full winter here and it is fine - more or less like London winter... But this season switch thing is somehow feeling much more... unfair this time of year (*laughs*) Anyways. Hope the weather is good for your trip to Devon. It's funny - Rachel and I are going to Rotorua this week-end to visit her family. Weird how things get all parallel sometimes. We were supposed to go ages ago, but, you know, stuff happened. I did meet her sister Nicola a few weeks ago when she was up here for work, and she was really nice, so I'm feeling a little less anxious about meeting everyone. Also Rachel has promised to stagger the meets and greets so I don't have to see everyone all at once. I'm sure it will be fine. They seem like really kind and relaxed people. (*deep breath*) Only thing is we are borrowing a car

and driving down and Rachel was supposed to drive but she is so nauseous and has such ligament pain that she asked me to do it. I said yes, of course, haven't driven in forever but I usually don't mind driving - and then today I realized I'd have to drive on the left side of the road and that freaks me out. Never drove in London - never came up - and here I haven't had to either. So I have my license but... guess I haven't driven a car for... more than five years. I- (*breathes*)

(slow footsteps during previous)

RACHEL
Jess?

JESS
(opens door, peck, helps Rachel sit down) Rache, you all right?

RACHEL
Yeah. Just the hips. (*smiles*) I sound like I'm 90!

JESS
(*smiles*) You're not, just pregnant. You want anything?

RACHEL
I'm fine. (dangles car keys) Got the car keys from Annie, she says we can keep it 'til Monday.

JESS
(*uncertain*) Yeah. Right.

RACHEL
What's up, love?

JESS
(*smiles, pause*) Nothing. Oh, I'm recording for Kat, haven't told her yet what we did yesterday.

RACHEL
Hello Kat! You want me to tell her?

JESS
(*smiles*) Please.

RACHEL
We signed the lease for our new apartment!

JESS
We did! And it is wonderful!

RACHEL
It is pretty nice.

JESS

And we move in September, so time to start packing! I don't have that much stuff, but you have a bit.

RACHEL

Yes. You might have to help me with the heavy stuff, love-

JESS

Of course! And Bri (*Bree*) has offered to help too, and Maia, and Tia, and so many others. We'll be fine.

RACHEL

We will. (*yawns*) Think I'll have an early night my love - do you mind?

JESS

Of course not! Let me just finish this.

RACHEL

Perfect. I'll go brush my teeth.

(JESS helps RACHEL up, quick kiss, RACHEL leaves)

JESS

(*to KAT*) Better wrap this up. (*lowers voice*) She has this incredible calming effect on me. Right before she walked in I was feeling all panicky about driving and then I look at her and know she'll be with me and I am all OK again... I love that. I love her so much. Let me know how your week-end plans are shaping up. (*laughs*) At least I know you won't be driving! Are you ever getting a driver's license? (*smiles*) Anyways, take care my dear. Love you! Oceans!

(clicks)

Scene 32.3

(Modem dial-up tone) (click)

KAT

Hey Jess, congratulations on the apartment! So glad it worked out. So you and Rachel are going to be busy bees these next few weeks. Wait! Bees? Ants? In Swedish it's 'diligent ants'... No. Bees is right. Sorry. Johnno and I are heading to Devon tomorrow, and no-one is driving, we are being civilized and taking the train (*smiles*). If I keep living in big cities I will probably never get a driver's license. There's no point. (*beat*) I'm... nervous about meeting Johnno's parents. Well, mainly his mother. They don't get on very well. We're staying one night with each parent, which seems very fair and equal and all that but not so comfortable. Starting with his father, thankfully, who lives in Exeter. Then on to Exmouth,

which is where Johnno grew up. He doesn't have much of an accent, though, he says he tried to get rid of it once he moved to London.

Pity really. I like the regional accents (*laughs*) Well you know that. Oh! I just realized I don't know what to call his parents. Is it Mr and Mrs like you always call that generation or can I use their first names like I would in Sweden? I have to-

(footsteps during previous)

JOHNNO

Kat?

KAT

Come in, Johnno!

(door opens)

JOHNNO

Do you know where- Oh! (*a little annoyed*) You're recording?

KAT (*same time as JOHNNO*)

Yes! I wanted to ask you-

JOHNNO (*same time as KAT*)

Where is the whisk?

KAT

Um, think I put it in the third drawer.

JOHNNO

(behind KAT, kisses her neck) Now why would you do a silly thing like that? (kisses KAT) You know they go in the first drawer.

(deeper kiss, with a peck as an endpoint) (*seductive and threatening*) Naughty girl.

KAT

(strained smile) Yeah... I was going to ask you something.

JOHNNO

Be quick about it sweetheart! Have to get back to my pancake batter.

KAT

(beat) Um, no, flew out of my head. You do your pancakes.

JOHNNO

(kisses KAT) Come help me in the kitchen, yeah?

KAT

OK. Be right out, sweetie. (JOHNNO leaves, footsteps) Jess... I have no idea what I was saying. Hope your driving goes well, and that you have fun in Rotorua - did I say that right? Such a

beautiful name for a place! Rachel's family seem lovely. Wish me
luck for Devon! Oceans of hugs!
(clicks)

Scene 32.4

OLIVIA

Hello again, we're back. Still in Cassie's kitchen in Wellington.
(laughs) Cassie just waved - I'm not sure the listeners are going
to pick up on that!

(TAMMI laughs)

CASSANDRA

(laughs) Right! Course not!

OLIVIA

We were talking about- oh, sorry! Do you want to say anything about
the voice mails we just heard, Cassie?

CASSANDRA

Um... Really excited I got to hear them before anyone else. (beat)
That Johnno is a right asshole, though, isn't he?

TAMMI

(a little distant) Oh yes.

OLIVIA

It's insidious. A lot of what he does seems all right, and then you
think... Wait! That wasn't OK at all.

TAMMI

(a little distant) The rape was not so subtle, though.

OLIVIA

No. (disgusted sigh) It really wasn't. But even that was only
implied from Kat. So still a *little* ambiguous.

CASSANDRA

That was horrible. Seems she's put it out of her mind afterwards,
though.

OLIVIA

Yeah. (beat) Time to get back to your story, I think. Where were we?
Oh yes! Hotel bar.

CASSANDRA

Yes. Right. So we were talking to some Aussies at the hotel bar on
the first night. They were from a few different places - let's
see... Sydney, Adelaide and some other cities I can't remember. Not
sure that they were all Aussies, come to think of it, maybe some of

them were Kiwis... I talked mostly to two lovely women from Sydney, Charlene and... um... can't think of her name...

OLIVIA
Right. And... Rachel?

CASSANDRA
Yes, of course! Rachel talked to this Mike - that must be your bio-dad! - and his friend... Henry maybe?

OLIVIA
And were they Aussie too?

CASSANDRA
I think so. As I said, the group was probably a little from all over, but I'm pretty sure Mike was Australian.

OLIVIA
But... from the voice mails it seems Jess at least thinks he's from here, from New Zealand. Why would- Oh! (*laughs*) Mama never did have an ear for accents. She's always confused when we're watching movies and mum and I talk about where people's accents are from and how they don't match...

CASSANDRA
(*small laugh*) That makes sense. (*beat*) And I think maybe they didn't do all that much talking in the end. Rachel and Mike left the bar together quite early on.

OLIVIA
Right. (*smiles*) Not sure I want to know much more about that bit... (*clears throat*) So, anything else you remember from the conference?

CASSANDRA
Um... Not really. Don't think I saw Mike after that first night, and Rachel was just her usual happy self.

OLIVIA
And you haven't seen him at other conferences, later?

CASSANDRA
No. Not that I recall. And I've attended that same conference many times. Bit odd, really...

OLIVIA
(*emotional but tries to hide it*) What did... what did Mike look like?

CASSANDRA
(*smiles*) Oh, he was a looker! Brown hair, dimples, great smile! (*beat, just realizes this*) You look a little like him you know.

OLIVIA

(*excited and a little embarrassed*) Oh. Wow. (*beat*) I only have one dimple, though.

CASSANDRA

Yeah. Maybe he did too? Not sure...

OLIVIA

(*voice wavers a little*) So, is there anything you can do to help me find him?

CASSANDRA

I think so. I've e-mailed Charlene in Sydney - I've met her many times over the years - and she's agreed to help out. She didn't remember Mike, but she is sending out the word to her colleagues and she's sure we'll be able to track him down.

OLIVIA

That is great, thank you so much!

CASSANDRA

Oh, no worries. Happy to help. I'll let you know as soon as we find something.

OLIVIA

Thank you. And thanks for letting us record in your kitchen!

CASSANDRA

My pleasure. So what are you getting up to in Wellington?

TAMMI

(*a little distant*) We're going to explore the city, and then our field trip starts on Monday. We're going to (*slight hesitation*) Wairau Bar, on the South Island.

CASSANDRA

Sounds great - have fun!

OLIVIA

We will! Guess we're done for today, bye listeners!

CASSANDRA and TAMMI

Bye!

(Trailer for Girl in Space)

OLIVIA

If you know anything about my biological father - Mike - please let me know, I would very much like to get in touch with him. (*pause*)

Please e-mail me at y2kpod@gmail.com, find me on Twitter or Instagram @y2kpod. Also check out our webpage, at y2kpod.com, where you can find out more about the show, and, of course, listen to all

the episodes. We are also on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Spotify and wherever you get your podcasts. If you like Y2K, please tell your friends to listen too! And 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. I am so very happy and so grateful to our wonderful amazing patrons! We also have merch - check it out at [Y2Kpod.com\[/merch](https://Y2Kpod.com/merch). Our amazing intro and outro 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)