

Y2K: Take 2

Episode 5: Kat - age 35 - Boston - May 2011

CHARACTERS

KATARINA (INA) - scenes 5.1 - 5.4

MARIE - scenes 5.1 - 5.2

ANDY - scenes 5.1 - 5.2, 5.4

FAN - scene 5.1

SHIRIN - scene 5.3

Scene 5.0

DIRECTOR

Places, please. We'll try again everyone. Right. Whenever you're ready - Take 2.

(MUSIC "Welcome to the Year 2000")

NARRATOR

Episode 5. Welcome to the year 2011. May. Boston, USA. Kat is 35 years old.

Scene 5.1

(INT. Fancy restaurant, early evening, ambient jazz music, carpeted floor, low murmur of voices.)

MARIE

Good evening and a warm *bienvenue* to Chez Renard. My name is Marie, and I'll be your server this evening. Would you like me to tell you about the restaurant's history?

KATARINA

(confused but polite) Um... All right?

(Slight groan from ANDY)

MARIE

Ahem. Chez Renard was established in 1962 by *chef* Jean-Étienne Renard, who had arrived to Boston from the small French town of *Saint-Marcel-sur-Aude* the previous year. The first few months were-

(ANDY gently clears his throat)

MARIE

As I was saying, the first few months were difficult for chef Renard, as he-

(ANDY clears his throat again)

MARIE

Ahem. Yes?

ANDY

I'm sorry, we're kind of hungry, maybe we can hear the history another time?

MARIE

(*offended but tries to hide it*) Ahem. Very well. (*clears throat*) Let me tell you all about our menu. I see you have booked the twelve-course *Les Delices de la Mer* taster menu, excellent choice. Would you like me to tell you about all the dishes now, or each one as I bring them out?

KATARINA

I-

ANDY

(*quickly*) As you bring them out, please.

KATARINA

Yes.

MARIE

(*disappointed*) Certainly *monsieur*. Ahem. May I bring you an *aperitif*, perhaps?

ANDY

(*a little nervous*) Yes, could we have some champagne, please?

MARIE

Of course, would you like a bottle, or a glass?

KATARINA

(*smiles*) I'd like some too, so a bottle maybe?

MARIE

Of course, *madame*. (*places wine menu in front of ANDY*) May I recommend the *Pol Roger Brut Reserve* of 2000 vintage? (*slight menu movement*) It's this one, here.

ANDY

(*slight gasp at price*) Um. Why not. (*smiles*) We are celebrating, after all, right Ina (*EE-na*)?

KATARINA

(*smiles*) We are. Hard to believe that 2000 is vintage now.

ANDY

(*smiles*) Well, in wine anyways.

MARIE

(takes menu) Ahem. A fine choice, monsieur, madame. I will return
toute suite with your selection.

KATARINA

Thank you.

(MARIE's footsteps move away)

KATARINA

(slight giggle, low voice) What's going on with her? Where *have*
you brought me, Andy?

ANDY

(a little stressed) I've only been here once, for lunch. I wanted to
take you somewhere really nice. The food is supposed to be top
notch.

KATARINA

(smiles) It is lovely. Our... 'server' seems a little odd, that's
all.

ANDY

(smiles) Agreed. But I don't think she recognized you, so that's a
plus.

KATARINA

It is! *(sighs)* Maybe I'm too used to people pandering to me 'cause
of the 'fame' thing... You will tell me if I start getting too big-
headed, right?

ANDY

(smiles) Sure thing. Don't think you could get any snootier than
Marie there.

KATARINA

(laughs) OK, good to know.

(MARIE approaches again)

MARIE

Here you are, monsieur.

ANDY

Oh. Yes. That looks great.

(MARIE opens champagne bottle, pours a little in ANDY's glass)

ANDY

(tastes) Yes. Very nice.

MARIE

(pours for both ANDY and KATARINA, places bottle in metal ice bucket) Ahem. Did you know that Pol Roger was Winston Churchill's favorite champagne?

KATARINA

(polite but tries to control giggle) No.

(ANDY groans slightly)

MARIE

It started back in 1908, and it is estimated that Churchill drank two bottles of champagne a day. When he died in 1965, Pol Roger placed a black border around the labels-

ANDY

(gently interrupts) Thank you, very interesting. I think it's time for us to make a toast now.

MARIE

(slightly offended) Naturally, monsieur. Ahem. May I ask what you are celebrating?

ANDY

(happy but nervous) It's our one-year anniversary. *(hastily)* Of dating, I mean.

MARIE

Ah, *félicitations, monsieur, mademoiselle.* *(to ANDY)* You'd better pop the question quick, *monsieur*, you don't want this *belle demoiselle* to get away. If I may, *monsieur*, we have had many beautiful proposals right here in the restaurant. Ahem. I will return shortly with the first course.

(Footsteps as MARIE walks away, ANDY swallows nervously)

KATARINA

(trying to control epic giggles, low voice) She's giving relationship advice now? *(more suppressed giggles)* I mean, who proposes in a restaurant? I've never understood that. *(faint giggles)*

ANDY

(completely taken aback) I... yeah. *(strained laugh)*

KATARINA

(oblivious) I guess it's an American thing? Like people proposing at baseball games? I mean, what if they get a no? Or what if the person being proposed to feels like they have to say yes? It seems like too much pressure to me.

ANDY

(trying to regain his composure) Suppose it **is** an American thing.
(beat) So, not for you I guess.

KATARINA

(oblivious, laughs) No! Can you imagine? Such an embarrassing
spectacle. *(smiles)* I like us. I like what we have.

ANDY

(smiles, still quite thrown) I like us too. I am very happy I met
you.

KATARINA

(smiles) Me too. Did I ever tell you I almost didn't make it to that
fundraiser?

ANDY

No! That would have been... I mean, I would never have dared
approach you if I'd known who you were.

KATARINA

(laughs) The distracted professor strikes again!

ANDY

(slight laugh) Yes, I never was one for movies. I've tried to catch
up, though.

KATARINA

You're doing great. And it's good you are not in the... 'biz', you
know? Means I can be in... *(slight laugh)* the real world, I guess,
with you.

ANDY

(smiles) I am happy to provide some realness.

KATARINA

(smiles) You know what I mean.

ANDY

(serious) I do. *(beat)* I love you, Ina *(EE-na)*.

KATARINA

(serious) I love **you** Andy. *(grabs glass)* To us?

ANDY

(grabs glass) To us! *(glasses clink softly, they sip)*

KATARINA

Mm. That is nice. Say what you like about our new chum Marie, she
knows her stuff.

ANDY

She sure does.

(MARIE approaches with two plates and sets them down during following)

MARIE

Let me just move the orchids, like so... *Monsieur, mademoiselle*, may I present your first course. Ahem. So here we have *Cassolettes de Saint-Jacques à la crème safranée...*

(Slight giggle from KATARINA, suppressed snort from ANDY)

(Fade out)

Scene 5.2

(INT. restaurant, much later that same evening. New ambient jazz, slightly more boisterous background conversations.)

ANDY

Oh wow. Not sure I can move now.

KATARINA

Me neither. That was a lot of food.

ANDY

Delicious, though.

KATARINA

Yes. *(smiles)* I'm glad you chose this place. *(giggle)* And the entertainment was free!

ANDY

(laughs) It was! Think we needed those breaks in-between the courses, actually!

KATARINA

Absolutely. Wanna take a walk or something? To shake down all the food?

ANDY

Perfect. Boston Common is right down the street.

(MARIE approaches)

MARIE

Thank you, *monsieur, mademoiselle*. It has been a *plaisir* to serve you. Ahem. If you follow me, I will get your coats.

(ANDY and KATARINA get up, both 'oof' slightly as they are so full, all THREE start walking, we follow)

FAN
(approaches, nervous but excited) So sorry to interrupt, but, aren't
you Ina (*EE-na*) Fischer?

KATARINA
(*polite*) Yes, that's right. Hello.

(*Surprised gasp from MARIE*)

FAN
Hi. Big fan. Loved you in *As Stars Align*.

KATARINA
(*polite*) Thank you so much.

FAN
Could I get a picture? I'm Eric.

KATARINA
(*polite*) Of course.

(*Shuffle as FAN gets out his phone and KATARINA gets into position.
A few phone camera clicks.*)

FAN
Thank you so much! All right if I post it on Instagram?

KATARINA
(*polite*) Of course.

FAN
Thank you! This is so exciting!

KATARINA
(*polite smile*) Nice to meet you, Eric. Take care. (*to MARIE*) Could
we get our coats please, Marie?

FAN
Bye! Thank you! (*excited squeal, walks away*)

MARIE
(*flustered*) Of course, Miss Fischer, I mean, *mademoiselle* Fischer, I
apologize, I didn't realize, you look so much *taller* on screen,
oh! I'm sorry, I didn't mean-

KATARINA
(*polite*) That's quite all right.

MARIE
(*still babbling*) -of course we have had quite a few famous guests
over the years, Bette Davis was the very first, in 1963, right
around the time of "What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?" - wonderful

performance - see? We have our wall of fame over the- *(there)* Oh! We
HAVE to take a picture for our wall! If you just come with me...
(starts walking, mumbles) Ina Fischer, *mon dieu!*

ANDY
(low voice) You don't have to, you know.

KATARINA
(low voice) It's all right. Part of the job.

(KATARINA and ANDY start walking towards MARIE)

MARIE
(yelling to someone) Garçon! Over here! Come take a picture!
(whispers loudly) Ina *(EE-na)* Fischer is here! *(To KATARINA)*
Mademoiselle Fischer! Here, right in front of the orchid
arrangement, please. Ready? *(Does not wait for reply, sing-song*
voice) Fromage!

KATARINA
(Mumbles through smile) Fromage? *(camera clicks)*

MARIE
One more! *Encore!* *(camera click)* Thank you so much Mademoiselle
Fischer, we will be honored to display this on our wall. And please,
come again! Sadly *chef Renard* is not here tonight, but he would be
enchanté to meet you.

KATARINA
(smile a little strained) Thank you.

ANDY
(gently) Our coats, please?

MARIE
Pardon, monsieur, of course! *(bustles off to get coats)*

KATARINA
(relieved) Thank you.

ANDY
(smiles) Anytime.

MARIE
Madame, pardon, mademoiselle Fischer *(helps KATARINA into her light*
jacket, to ANDY) You should do something about that *monsieur*, didn't
I say so before? *(loud whisper)* Propose! Ahem. Don't want her
getting away! *(helps ANDY into light coat)*

ANDY
Right. Thanks.

KATARINA
Thank you. Bye!

(KATARINA and ANDY start walking out, open door)

MARIE
Goodbye, and please come again, it was a true *plaisir*... *(cut to muffled as door closes behind KATARINA and ANDY)*

(EXT. evening city street)

KATARINA
(lets out breath, happy) We escaped!

ANDY
(happy) We did! And it's a nice night - you up for that walk?

KATARINA
Absolutely!

(BOTH start walking, leisurely pace)

ANDY
Guess we are not going back there?

KATARINA
I guess not. Shame, the food was good.

ANDY
Plenty of other restaurants.

KATARINA
Yeah.

ANDY
(pause) Listen, I... *(trails off)*

KATARINA
What?

ANDY
I thought... *(starts over)* I mean... Sometimes, despite everything... I guess I am just a typical American guy, you know?

KATARINA
(confused) Yes?

ANDY
And I assume things.

KATARINA
OK, like what?

ANDY

Like... *(starts over)* We're in our thirties, and... we've been dating for a year and things seem to be going really well...

(They have reached Boston Common)

KATARINA

(oblivious) They are. I love being with you.

ANDY

(smiles) And I love being with you. *(beat)* So... *(swallows nervously)* I was planning to... I... *(deep breath, stops, pulls KATARINA to stop too)* I was going to be that embarrassing, cliché guy proposing in a restaurant tonight.

KATARINA

(shocked) Wha- OH! Oh, Andy, I'm sorry. I didn't mean to-

ANDY

(interrupts, very stressed) So, I mean... You don't have to answer right away.

KATARINA

(still in shock) Right. OK.

ANDY

(very stressed) And I'm not going to go down on one knee or anything, but... Will you think about it? About... our future, if we have one?

KATARINA

Yes. I will. But marriage, I don't-

ANDY

(interrupts, tries to smile) All right. Not sure my heart could take the end of that sentence.

KATARINA

I don't want to hurt you. *(pause)* And... I want us to have some kind of future.

ANDY

I do too.

KATARINA

(small smile) OK. So that's a start.

ANDY

Yeah. *(deep breath)* I think I want to... go home and be alone.

KATARINA

You sure? I added you to my hotel room.

(BOTH start walking)

ANDY

Yeah. The train ride will do me good. Time to think.

KATARINA

OK. If you're really sure?

ANDY

Yeah. It's been a long night.

KATARINA

So... see you tomorrow, maybe?

ANDY

All right. *(small smile)* Non-fancy dinner somewhere?

KATARINA

I'd love that.

ANDY

It's a date.

KATARINA

Good.

ANDY

Here's my exit. *(stops)* See you tomorrow. *(walks away)*

KATARINA

(calls) See you. *(quietly)* I love you.

(Fade out)

Scene 5.3

(EXT. Outdoor seating area, lunch restaurant near water, midday. Distant chat from other lunch guests. KATARINA and SHIRIN are having lunch.)

KATARINA

-and I made fun of people proposing in restaurants and it turned out that's what he planned to do last night. Shirin, I feel awful!

SHIRIN

Of course you do. *(sighs)* American men. They can be as progressive as you please, but when it comes to this proposing nonsense they are all completely brainwashed. Poor things.

KATARINA

(laughs) Sounds like you've been proposed to a lot!

SHIRIN

(laughs) Well I am married, so one, obviously!

KATARINA

(laughs) You had a beautiful wedding, but that's not what I asked.

SHIRIN

(smiles) I think we proposed to each other, actually. But she is American so she did have some odd ideas about weddings... Anyway, where was I?

KATARINA

American men.

SHIRIN

Yes! Before Beth I had two proposals from American men, both sort of out of the blue - I think that's what threw me the most, I mean, don't people talk about this sort of thing beforehand? Or is there a schedule I don't know about? After x amount of months or years together, I should expect to be offered a ring? I don't get it.

KATARINA

That's exactly what Andy said! He was like - we've been together a year, and we are over thirty, and everything's going well... I think you're right, there **is** a schedule!

SHIRIN

A-ha! And the number of months go down if you're over 30, and up if you're not getting along well - it's not a schedule, it's an algorithm!

(BOTH laugh)

KATARINA

Shirin, I've **missed** you! I'm so glad you happened to be in town today!

SHIRIN

Me too. I don't see you nearly as often as I'd like, Ina *(EE-na)*. You should come hang out with us for a week-end, play with the twins.

KATARINA

I'd love to. Haven't seen them - or Beth! - since your wedding. How old are they now?

SHIRIN

Almost three. They're completely impossible, but - lucky for them! - adorable.

KATARINA

(smiles) I can imagine.

SHIRIN

(gently) Are you... I know you gave up the idea of having kids, is that still where you're at?

KATARINA

Yeah. I've closed that book. Other priorities. I mean, imagine if I'd had a kid that one time I **was** pregnant? Be tied to **that** asshole my whole life? *(thinks)* I don't think I ever really wanted children, I just got caught up in fixing what was broken. It was probably best it turned out the way it did.

SHIRIN

Yeah. Definitely. So that's not a factor for you and Andy?

KATARINA

No. We've talked about that part, at least. Neither of us want kids.

SHIRIN

All right, just the proposal to deal with then.

KATARINA

Yeah. Or, rather, the "Where is our relationship going?" thing. He's not setting ultimatums, he just... wants to know.

SHIRIN

That's fair enough.

KATARINA

Yeah.

SHIRIN

So. What do **you** want?

KATARINA

(sighs) I was sort of hoping to just... go on like we have been. Andy is amazing. I've never been with anyone like him. He's really laidback but he has such integrity, you know? A lot of the men I've dated - especially those I've met through work - get weird about my job. Either I'm more successful than they are, and they get insecure, or it's the other way around, and they don't take my work seriously. With Andy, none of that matters. It's been such a relief to come here, to Boston, and sink into his couch and his arms for the week-end and hear all about the office intrigue at MIT. Feels real, you know? No spectacle or illusion, just life. *(sighs)* Though no matter where I live or who I date there will always be an element of long-distance. *(beat)* As long as I am still getting cast in movies, anyway.

SHIRIN

You think that will stop?

KATARINA

My agent says it will probably peter out. I'm 35, Shirin, not quite the ingenue anymore.

SHIRIN

You're in your 30s, you're still young! But I get it. Hollywood standards of beauty and youth, all that rubbish.

KATARINA

Some of my peers are going for TV gigs instead, and it makes sense - if you get a syndicated hit show, you get to stay in one place, and have steady employment for - hopefully! - multiple seasons. But I enjoy the variety of different films, and I like to do indie productions when I get a chance... I don't know. Oh shit, Shirin, this is turning into some sort of life crisis. What do I want to do? What do I want my life to be? *(frustrated laugh)*

SHIRIN

Sounds like you don't want to pursue a TV job.

KATARINA

(sighs) You are right. I don't. I probably **should** but I don't want to.

SHIRIN

And it sounds like you want to be with Andy.

KATARINA

I do!

SHIRIN

You just don't want to say I do.

KATARINA

(laughs) True! You make it all sound so simple.

SHIRIN

(smiles) I get that it's complicated, but... Your feelings don't seem very conflicted here. You know what you want. You just need to be honest with Andy about it. Maybe you can figure out a compromise.

KATARINA

Yeah.

SHIRIN

See? Sorted.

KATARINA

Easy-peasy.

SHIRIN

That's what I'm here for.

KATARINA

Thank you! *(beat)* Now, enough about me, I want to hear all about this project you are in town for. You're working with the MFA, is that right?

SHIRIN

Well not yet - have to win the bid first. But, yeah, we're meeting them this afternoon. They're opening their new contemporary wing this year and are looking to overhaul their whole visual identity. It's a really challenging-

(Fade out)

Scene 5.4

EXT. Early evening, city street outside restaurant. KATARINA is waiting for ANDY, she is pacing.

KATARINA

(hums Adele's 'Rolling in the Deep', the tune that includes "We could have had it all", stops, sighs, murmurs, in Swedish) Äh, det är jag som är tidig. *(deep breath)* OK. Be cool. *(slight nervous laugh)* Cool Kat... Ina... Cool Ina...

ANDY

(slow footsteps) Ina. *(EE-na)*

KATARINA

Andy. *(smiles)* There you are.

ANDY

Here I am.

KATARINA

(same time as ANDY)

Do you want to-

ANDY

(same time as KATARINA)

I was thinking we-

(BOTH laugh nervously)

KATARINA

(same time as ANDY)

Say what-

ANDY
(same time as KATARINA)
You go-

(BOTH laugh even more nervously)

ANDY
Go ahead.

KATARINA
No, you.

ANDY
(smiles) I was thinking maybe we could walk and talk? Unless you're really hungry?

KATARINA
(smiles) I was going to suggest the same thing.

(BOTH start walking)

ANDY
Great minds and all that.

KATARINA
Yeah.

(They walk in silence for a little while, end up by the water)

KATARINA
I was thinking-

ANDY
Wait. Before you say anything. I've been doing a lot of thinking since last night. I don't- I would love to marry you, if you'll have me, and live with you, if you want, but also... I don't want any of that to put pressure on you. I want you to be happy, and, if I can be a part of your life and part of making you happy, I want to do that, but if not... I will be OK with that. I get that your life is pretty complicated.

KATARINA
It is, but... Can we sit? (BOTH sit on bench) I don't... (gently) I've never wanted to get married. I was engaged once, long ago, got caught up in the romance of it... It was a really bad idea. And yes, my work means I am away a lot, and if we lived together, I think I would be more concerned about that.

ANDY
I get that.

KATARINA

To me, commitment is what we decide it is. You and I, in this relationship. It's no-one else's concern. *(gently)* I... I don't believe in marriage. And I don't believe you need it to be happy.

ANDY

(beat, slowly) Well, I definitely know a lot of married couples who are unhappy.

KATARINA

Me too. And happy ones, too, of course, but...

ANDY

So... what do **you** want? *(slight laugh)* Guess I should have asked that before buying a ring.

KATARINA

Can you take it back?

ANDY

Yeah.

KATARINA

So, what I want... I really like our relationship the way it is right now. Where we each have a home to welcome the other into. And where we make sure to spend time together, but where we also know that we are OK apart. Since I met you... you are always the first person I want to tell when something happens, good, bad, *(smiles)* silly... There is an... ease that I've never experienced before.

ANDY

(smiles) I think I know what you mean. *(more serious, thinking as he speaks)* So basically you want to stay as we are?

KATARINA

Yes. Would that work for you?

ANDY

(thinks) Yeah. It would. *(smiles)* I'd like that a lot.

KATARINA

(joyful) You would?

ANDY

(joyful) I would. *(thinks)* I think I got caught up in... the idea of 'catching' you, as Marie from last night would say.

(KATARINA laughs)

ANDY

(continues) But I agree with you. **We** make our relationship and it doesn't concern anyone else.

KATARINA

(smiles) I'm so happy.

ANDY

(smiles) Would it be OK if we broke the no-PDA-rule just this once?

Kat

(happy laugh, looks around) Well, I don't *see* any paparazzi, so...

(They kiss, then both laugh small happy laughs)

(Fade out)

Scene 5.5

NARRATOR

Thank you for listening to Y2K: Take 2. This episode was written and directed by Karin Heimdahl with sound design by Tal Minear. Our intro and outro music is created and recorded by Jake Haws, listen to his podcast "Making Music with Jake Haws" to hear more. This episode featured Janis Westin as Ina[/Kat], Bailey C. Elis as Andy, Anjali Kunapaneni as Shirin, Shannon Perry as Marie and Harlan Guthrie as Eric the fan. The drama school director was Sarah Golding, and the narrator Emma Laslett. For more information, please go to Y2Kpod.com or find us on social media @Y2Kpod If you enjoy the show, please consider supporting us on Patreon.com/Y2Kpod Please join us again next month when we meet Rachel in 2003.

DIRECTOR

(claps hands) All right, thank you everyone. That's a wrap for today!

(MUSIC "Welcome to the Year 2000" - instrumental)