

MISSED CONNECTIONS

WEBISODE 1

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7 pages

INT. PUBLIC BUS - DAY (AH)

Passengers sit coupled together on a crowded city bus. The bus makes a stop and the various passengers change seats, all except for JEFF, 31, nerdy, stares out the window, longingly.

Jeff turns his head and looks around the bus. His gaze settles on a girl scrolling through her phone a few seats up.

The girl, REBECCA, 31, long blonde hair, gorgeous, hangs off the edge of her seat with one hand on her phone and the other seductively biting her nails.

Jeff stares intently, then lowers his head. Jeff takes a moment, then raises his head.

Rebecca stands and clings onto the side rails. Jeff takes a deep breath and stands as well. He navigates his way through other passengers until he is a foot from her.

Jeff leans against the side exit of the bus, and a man obscures his view of Rebecca. He glances at her phone.

Jeff approaches for a closer look, but Rebecca's head spins around. She looks directly at him and gestures to wave.

Jeff immediately yanks on a bell cord and the bus halts. The side exit doors open. Jeff squeezes through them and rushes off with a sorry excuse for a wave.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Jeff watches as the bus pulls away. He checks his watch, freaks, and sprints down the street.

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

Jeff gasps for air as the bus drives down the street. He sees CHLOE, 30, short hair, nerdy, walking into the building.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

Windowless office suite, rows of two-by-two cubicles, with stationary fans blowing down each aisle.

Jeff plops down at a desk with a desktop computer and a messy pile of papers. He throws his backpack down and leans back.

CHARLIE, 28, baby-face, walks behind Jeff's back, hovers over him.

JEFF
Not right now, Charlie.

Charlie snickers and falls into a chair next to Jeff's.

CHARLIE
Went that well, huh?

Jeff powers on the computer, and moves his chair away from Charlie.

Charlie twirls around, grins ear to ear.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
Tell me the sob story, Jeff. What happened this time?

Jeff smashes his fist on the desk. Charlie holds his hands up.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
Settle down, killer. I'm just trying to get you out of your head.

Jeff stands and moves away from his desk.

JEFF
I couldn't do it. I just stared.

CHARLIE
That's not creepy.

JEFF
It's not creepy, it's romantic.

CHARLIE
If I had a dime for every creepy man who said that, I wouldn't need this job.

Jeff flips around to his computer. Charlie stands and spots Chloe peeking out from her cubicle.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
Speaking of creepy. How's it going, Chloe?

Chloe ducks down. Charlie struts over to her desk, with Jeff following behind him.

Chloe appears flustered at her desk, surrounded by POP figurines and self-help guides. Charlie smirks and picks up a figurine.

CHLOE
Charlie put that down.

Chloe snatches it away from Charlie. Jeff inspects her desk.

JEFF
Quite the collection you have.

Chloe blushes, jumps out of seat. She runs her hands through her hair with an "oh gosh" expression.

CHLOE
Yeah, I'm keeping them for a friend.

Charlie rolls his eyes.

JEFF
You have a pretty cool friend.

Chloe looks like she stuck her foot in her mouth. Charlie leans over Chloe's desk, getting uncomfortably close.

CHARLIE
Chloe, if a guy stalked you --

JEFF
-- I'm not a stalker. I ride the same bus as her.

Charlie holds his hands up.

CHARLIE
Okay. Okay. Chloe, if some guy who rode the same bus as you stalked you, --

Charlie glances at Jeff and grins.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
-- And never asked you out, how would you feel?

Chloe looks at Charlie, then focuses her attention on Jeff.

CHLOE
I would feel flattered.

Jeff pats Charlie on the back.

JEFF
See, I told you I wasn't giving off stalker vibes.

Charlie pushes Jeff away from him and shrugs. His gaze turns back to Chloe.

CHARLIE
Since you would feel so flattered,
Chloe. What would be your next
move?

Chloe's face turns red as Charlie motions for her to stand.

CHLOE
What do you mean?

Chloe stands and Charlie brings her next to Jeff.

CHARLIE
Pretend that Jeff is your "friend".
What would you say to him?

Jeff and Chloe stand inches away from each other. After a brief awkward pause, Chloe reaches out her hand.

CHLOE
Hello, I'm Chloe. It's a pleasure
to meet you.

Jeff shakes her hand, and her face turns redder. Charlie looks at both of them.

CHARLIE
You see, Jeff. Not as hard as you
make it seem. Now kiss.

Chloe falls back.

CHLOE
I think I forgot something in the
break room. Bye.

Chloe runs to the break room and slams the door shut.

CHARLIE
Man, that's rough.

JEFF
What is?

CHARLIE
Even Chloe can't stand the thought
of you hitting on her.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT (CO)

Jeff walks in and sees Chloe huddled by the snack machine.

JEFF
I'm sorry about Charlie.

Jeff sits on the couch tucked away in the back.

JEFF (CONT'D)
I didn't want to put you into that
awkward scenario.

CHLOE
It's fine. Wasn't awkward at all.

Jeff smiles and leans closer to Chloe.

JEFF
So who's the guy who you like?

Chloe chuckles and her face blushes again.

CHLOE
Just some guy I've known for a
while.

Jeff gets closer and stands up from the couch. They stare into each other's eyes. Chloe puckers her lips when Jeff turns around abruptly.

JEFF
Well, I wish us both luck on the
quest for love. See you tomorrow.

Jeff heads for the door and opens it. He leaves as Charlie walks in. Charlie forms a grin and walks over to Chloe.

CHARLIE
So what has made you so hot and
bothered?

Chloe turns around and faces the snack machine.

CHLOE
Nothing. Please leave me alone.

CHARLIE
You like Jeff, don't you?

Chloe turns around and her eyes grow wide.

CHLOE
How do you know?

CHARLIE

Please give me some credit. I am a ladies' man. I know things.

CHLOE

Please don't tell him.

CHARLIE

I won't. But if you want him, you better hurry.

Chloe hugs Charlie and sprints out of the building.

INT. PUBLIC BUS - NIGHT

Jeff sits down in his seat. His eyes fixate on the door. It opens and Rebecca walks in. She smiles and talks on her live stream. The bus starts when Jeff shakily stands up.

JEFF

(to himself)

Just say hello.

Jeff walks to her. Rebecca's focus never leaves her phone.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Hey there.

Rebecca barely looks up from her phone. She receives a message and scrolls to check it.

Rebecca turns, faces Jeff, and smiles at him.

REBECCA

Hey there, cutie. What can I do for you?

JEFF

Well, I saw you this morning and couldn't stop thinking about you.

Jeff stumbles and blushes.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Not in a creepy way, of course.

Rebecca giggles and glances at her live chat.

REBECCA

Same. I was hoping you would talk to me tonight.

Jeff exhales.

JEFF

Really? I was wondering if you
wanted to go out sometime.

Rebecca's live stream goes off.

Rebecca picks up her phone and motions for Jeff to sit next
to her. She gets both of them in view of the phone.

REBECCA

Sorry guys, but that's it for the
night. Tune in tomorrow. Love
ya'll.

Rebecca puts her phone away and her smile goes away. Jeff
sits there, stares at her. She looks past him.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Need something?

JEFF

Your number? So we can plan out our
date.

REBECCA

Are you serious?

Rebecca bursts out laughing.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

It was an act for my stream. I
would never date someone like you.

The bus stops, and Rebecca stands to leave. Jeff sits in the
seat motionless and a frown forms on his face. She blows a
kiss and chuckles to herself as she exits the bus.

JEFF

(to himself)

I will never find love.

Chloe sits in back, peeks her head out from an obscured seat
and stares at Jeff.