

FIRST DATE

Written by

Jill Narciso

Jill.narciso@gmail.com
626-375-4835

FADE IN:

INT. FRONT DOOR - DAY

JOSS checks herself out in a mirror next to the front door. She's nervous. Fidgets with her hair.

JOSS
(to herself)
Please don't be boring or dumb.

EXT. WALKWAY - SAME TIME

MYA holds a bouquet of flowers, approaches.

MYA
(to herself)
Please look like your profile picture.

INT. FRONT DOOR - MOMENTS LATER

Joss opens the door to Mya. They smile at each other, pleased. Mya holds out the bouquet.

MYA
For you.

JOSS
Aww, thanks. But, this isn't a date.

MYA
It's not? Well, this is embarrassing.

Mya turns to leave.

JOSS
Wait! No. I mean, It's kind of like an interview game.

MYA
Interview? I have a job.

JOSS
Me too! Full-time?

MYA
Yes. You too?

MYA (CONT'D)

Yes! Great! Come in. Come in.

Joss smiles as she holds the door open wide. She's a little off, but Mya can't resist.

MYA (CONT'D)

Fine. But if you try anything weird, I work in the medical field, and I know where to cut you.

JOSS

And you're funny!

Mya enters Joss' home.

INT. DINING TABLE - DAY

Joss leads Mya toward a table with snacks, cards, poker chips. Joss sits, beckons for Mya to sit.

MYA

I don't know how to play poker.

JOSS

Me neither.

Mya sits, points to a giant poker trophy in the room.

MYA

That's not yours?

JOSS

Ok yes. But this isn't poker. I just wanted to get to know you better in person. I really like your online profile, but not sure I like online dating.

MYA

How do we play? And does the winner get a prize?

JOSS

Yes! You get me. I'm the prize.

MYA

Oh.

Mya gets up.

JOSS
 Okay, okay, I'll throw in a dinner.
 Fine.

Mya sits back down. They shake on it.

MYA
 Deal. So, how do you play?

JOSS
 We take turns flipping over these cards with very specific questions. It's a fun way of getting to know each other in a short amount of time.

MYA
 Okay. What do we do with these poker chips?

JOSS
 We throw one chip in the pot if we both answer yes. If one of us answers no, the person who answers yes takes the pot.

MYA
 Seems easy enough.

Joss takes a card. Reads it, smiles.

JOSS
 Have you ever been in love?

Mya throws in a chip. So does Joss. Mya takes a card.

MYA
 Do you have kids?

Mya throws in a chip. Joss doesn't. Mya takes the pot.

JOSS
 How many?

MYA
 One. You?

JOSS
 Nope.

Joss takes a card.

JOSS
 Are you out to your family?

Joss and Mya throw a chip in the pot.

MYA
How'd it go? Mine wasn't too bad.

JOSS
Rough. Got disowned for a few months.

MYA
I'm sorry.

JOSS
Don't be. Now I get really nice Christmas presents.

Mya picks up a card.

MYA
Do you live by yourself?

They both throw a chip in the pot.

JOSS
Me too!

Joss picks up a card.

JOSS
Do you have any pets?

They both throw a chip in the pot.

MYA
Cat. You?

JOSS
Dog.

MYA
Guess we'll cross that bridge when we get there.

JOSS
If we get there.

MONTAGE

Joss and Mya go through the card deck. They enjoy each other's responses, end up with an even amount of chips.

INT. DINING TABLE - NIGHT

Joss stares at Mya for a beat, pleased.

JOSS

I'm ready to take this game to the next level.

She takes out another deck of cards. They look vintage, dark, mysterious. From a distance, we hear thunder and lightning. A storm is brewing outside.

Mya smiles. She knows where this is going, and she likes it.

MYA

Try me.

Joss turns over the first card.

JOSS

Have you taken any souls?

Joss and Mya each throw a chip in the pot.

JOSS (CONT'D)

How many souls have you taken?

Mya lifts an eyebrow.

MYA

Now that's personal.

JOSS

I can go first.

MYA

Go ahead.

JOSS

Two. But one of those was an accident.

MYA

Great. We have a saint.

JOSS

I can explain. But first you answer the question.

MYA

352.

JOSS

That's impressive! How'd you do it?

Mya shrugs.

MYA

I used to have a rule. I'd only take someone's soul if they bought one of my spells and had bad intentions behind it. One woman wanted a potion to bring a lover back from the dead, but her lover was an evil doctor. Turns out there are a lot more bad people out there than good.

Joss is enamored.

MYA (CONT'D)

How do you accidentally take someone's soul?

JOSS

Easy. When you kill them and you literally bite off more than you can chew.

MYA

And you did a version where you did it intentionally?

JOSS

I wanted to make sure that's how I did it the first time.

Mya nods, fascinated. She picks up a card from the pile.

MYA

My turn.

She takes a moment to read it, unsure of how Joss will react.

MYA (CONT'D)

Do you have any powers?

Joss and Mya each throw in a chip.

JOSS

You show me yours if I show you mine?

Mya nods.

Joss stands. She transforms into a giant creature, causes a dark shadow to fall on Mya's face. Mya looks up at Joss.

On the wall— we see a shadow of a monster – a woman with giant bat wings, lizard-like tongue, long claws.

Mya is smitten.

MYA

Whoa.

Joss transforms back to human, very casual.

JOSS

Your turn.

Mya, nervous, stands. We hear clothes rip, then see the silhouette of a wolf-like creature standing on its hind legs.

Mya makes a low growl.

Joss is smitten.

JOSS (CONT'D)

That's so hot.

Mya transforms back into a human.

MYA

I can do other ones too.

JOSS

Maybe on date 3 or something.

MYA

So I passed?

JOSS

You passed.

EXT. FRONT DOOR – NIGHT

Joss escorts Mya outside.

JOSS

I had a really nice time.

MYA

Me too. See you on Friday!

Mya disappears into the shadows. Joss watches, her eyes glow yellow. It's the best time either one of them have had in awhile.

FADE TO BLACK.