Willa + Jules 1

DO NOT REPRODUCE

start -

JULES looks at the card in her hand.

JULES

"PeteJenningsvideosforcats.wix.com"
He couldn't spring for the domain name?

WILLA

Lemme see.

She takes the card.

He was cute. In like a man kind of way.

JULES

Oh come on.

WILLA

You're out here all alone. You could make a friend.

JULES

I'm not interested in guys right now.

WILLA

Have you talked to Gabe?

JULES

Nope.

WILLA

Someday are you going to tell me what happened with you two?

JULES

It's not an interesting story.

WILLA

I'm not asking because I'm interested, I'm asking because I care about you.

JULES

It's too hard to explain.

JULES

This one time we were grocery shopping and I wanted to get some spreadable butter. Like for toast or whatever? And he was all like "That's a waste of money, we can just use regular butter." And I was like "It's worth the extra dollar fifty or whatever to not have to spread cold stick butter out of the fridge on my bread, like that is torture." And he was like "We're not getting it." And I was like, "Can't I just have this one thing? You don't have to eat it." And then he was like "You're not going to bully me into buying something I don't want." And I was like "Dude, I'll pay for it." And then he told me to *let it go*. And then there I was crying next to the dairy fridge holding this three-dollar butter canola oil blend and I was yelling at him—like actually yelling—like, "WHY CAN'T YOU LET ME HAVE THIS ONE THING?"

WILLA

And that's when you broke up with him?

JULES

No we dated for like three more years after that.

WILLA

Jesus Jules.

JULES

It actually was um...
When they postponed the Milan fellowship he was like, "Man I was really hoping you were gonna go to that."
And I was like "Yeah, me too."
And then there was a beat.

WILLA

A beat? Like a drum?

JULES

No like a pause.

WILLA

What?

JULES

A beat is like pause with *meaning*.

WILLA

And what did this pause mean?

JULES

He really hoped I was gonna go. <u>And I did too.</u>

WILLA

Shit.

JULES

So you see, I'm just really not ready to be back on the dating scene and like having my dairy products controlled by the patriarchy and living a loveless existence alongside someone who would prefer for me to be four thousand miles away and who on some level I want to be four thousand miles away from.

WILLA

That's very sad, Jules.
But that's not the dating scene. The dating scene is fun!

JULES

Spoken like a woman who married her college roommate. You were on the dating scene for two seconds.

End

WILLA
(tapping on her phone)

Jules. You need to get off this porch. You don't even have to shower, just vacuum the cat hair off your clothes.
Oh! He's the digital photography teacher at CCLC!

JULES

You're looking him up?

WILLA

Kai was thinking about taking that class.

JULES

Since when was she into digital photography?

WILLA

She wants to be ready for the baby. She's taking cooking and plumbing already. She's become like a doomsday prepper but for parenting. She was talking about trying canning last night. Anyway, the point is you and Hippie Pete have similar interests.

JULES

Digital photography?

WILLA

I don't think the girl painting a tiny fainting couch is in a position to be snobby. And I mean, the face? The tan? He's a step up from butter boy to say the least.