

1999

written by

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PROLOGUE

INT. SUBWAY STATION - NIGHT

Two female figures, Maya and Chelsea, stand on the platform of the subway in embrace. They hold each other tightly and delicately, with their foreheads touching each other. Neither character speaks as they both enjoy the moment in silence.

MAYA

Maya is a young, impressionable girl. She is quiet, but very observant, sensitive and somewhat shy. She's fairly conservative, traditional, proper.

CHELSEA

Chelsea is Maya's best friend. She is wild and spontaneous, always up for an adventure.

The train charges through the platform and blows each character's hair in the wind. The pair slowly look up into each other's eyes.

MATCH CUT TO:

ACT 1: VINTAGE SWEATER

Maya and Chelsea are best friends who grew up with each other. There for one another through all facets of adolescence: from the love for 2000s boybands to boys in their 20s. In spite of all the dramatic changes, they maintain a tradition of building pillow/blanket forts during their annual sleepover where they have their deepest conversations.

Act 1 focuses on establishing the strong relationship the two built during their process of growing up together – specifically the period between early teens and high school graduation – as shown through these annual sleepovers.

ACT 2: YESTERDAY

Maya and Chelsea have both just graduated high school and Maya's drives to college and settles in. She reminisces about her many road trips with Chelsea along the way.

Act 2 focuses on the transition from adolescence to adulthood

ACT 3: 1999

As Maya falls asleep, she dreams of going to prom with Chelsea.

Act 3 demonstrates an alternative reality where Maya and Chelsea, instead of being best friends, were a couple. It shows Maya indulging in her true feelings.

ACT 4: WHAT DID I DREAM?

Maya wakes up from her dream and realises that it could be a reality, if she took action. She gets out of bed and makes her way, urgently, to the subway station – having asked Chelsea to meet her there.

Act 4 visualises the vast array of emotions Maya experiences in this process of coming out.

Audition slide:

****MUSIC FADES INTO DIEGETIC SOUND****

INT. SUBWAY STATION - NIGHT

Chelsea waits for Maya by the platforms. Maya slowly walks up to Chelsea. She's nervous, petrified. As Maya approaches Chelsea, Chelsea turns to Maya, smiling.

MAYA

Hey.

Maya nervously fidgets with her hands and fixes her hair.

CHELSEA
 (Cheerful and clueless)
 Hey!

Chelsea leans in for a hug to greet Maya, but Maya refuses and holds onto Chelsea's hand. Maya doesn't make eye contact.

MAYA
 (stammering)
 There's... um... theres...

Maya struggles to finish her sentence. She looks around, making an effort to avoid eye-contact.

MAYA (CONT'D)
 There's been something I've been meaning to tell you.

Chelsea smiles and nods, letting Maya finish.

MAYA (CONT'D)
 (struggling to speak)
 I haven't exactly... been honest with you for a while.

Chelsea holds onto Maya's hand to comfort her.

CHELSEA
 What do you mean?

Maya looks into Chelsea's eyes, desperate to read her thoughts. Chelsea looks back cluelessly but affectionately. Maya finally musters up the courage to speak her thoughts.

MAYA
 (stammers)
 Chelsea, remember when we were little, when we promised each other we would travel across Asia with each other, go to Nirvana concerts at 60 going onto 70... build a house on some coast in Australia?

Chelsea nods, chuckling as she recalls those memories.

MAYA (CONT'D)
 I want that. I want that for us.

Chelsea laughs.

CHELSEA
 (chuckling)
 You made me come all the way downtown to tell me this?
 (MORE)

CHELSEA (CONT'D)
 Maya, of course we'll do all that.
 More! Even.

Maya nervously laughs.

MAYA
 No you don't understand, I want us
 to do all those things together.

Chelsea looks slightly confused, unsure if Maya's telling an absurd joke of some kind. Maya reads Chelsea's reaction

MAYA (CONT'D)
 Chelsea, I love you.

CHELSEA
 I love you too!

Maya grabs hold of Chelsea's hand.

MAYA
 (nervously laughs and rubs
 her temples)
 I don't think you understand
 (pauses)
 I think I'm in love with you.

Chelsea is speechless. She warmly smiles at Maya. Maya stares into Chelsea's eyes, desperate for any sort of reaction. The two fall silent.

MAYA (CONT'D)
 You don't have to say anything
 right no-

CHELSEA
 (interupts)
 Maya, I'm not sure if I feel the
 same way.

Maya stops to process. Chelsea leans forward and cups Maya's face in both her palms.

CHELSEA (CONT'D)
 I'm sorry. I don't know what to
 say. I...
 (struggles to find
 something to say)

Maya holds onto Chelsea's palms on her face. She gently strokes Chelsea's palms with her thumb, taking in every ounce of affection she could.

MAYA

Shh... it's okay. Sh...

Maya leans into Chelsea's embrace. They put their foreheads together and closes their eyes.

****Diegetic sound crossfades into song****