

A U-Haul for Christmas:
The Supermarket

by

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INT. BLAIR'S CAR - NIGHT

The soft LED lights reflect off of the leather seats in the car. A large display takes up the face of the dashboard.

Regina plops into the driver's seat and is overcome with features. Her teeth CHATTER from the cold.

She turns on the radio, voice command, and hazards before she finally finds the thermostat in the car's many controls.

She lowers her seat all the way back. She raises it all the way forward. After much fiddling she finds what is just right.

She gazes into the rearview mirror to apply lipstick.

REGINA
(to the mirror)
Oh, hey, Sophia. Didn't see you there.

She pouts her lips.

REGINA (CONT'D)
(to the mirror)
Oh these?

She gestures to boxes in the backseat.

REGINA (CONT'D)
(to the mirror)
I'm just like a really good kid. I respect my mommy a ton-- wait, no.

She tucks her hair behind her ear.

REGINA (CONT'D)
(to the mirror)
I definitely don't have mommy issues. You've met my mom, she's very respectable and still hot at her age. You know, that's what I'm going to look like in 31 years--

Regina shakes her head clear of her imaginary conversation.

REGINA (CONT'D)
(to herself)
Oh my god what am I doing? Just drive, Regina!

She searches for the ignition, checking to the right of the wheel, under the wheel, and in the center console.

REGINA (CONT'D)
Car, how do you start?

CAR ROBOT VOICE
Car starting.

The CAR REVS to life.

Regina is taken aback.

REGINA
Thank you, Car. I value your
service. Please spare me in the
inevitable war between the robots
and humans.

She pulls out of the driveway.

EXT. SUPERMARKET - LATER

The parking lot is hustling and bustling.

A FAMILY picks out a tree in front of the building. A CHILD melts down while being dragged from the store. A MAN pushes a cart filled to the brim with frozen hams to his car.

Blair's car pulls into a spot.

REGINA
Car, park. Park.

The car pulls through a spot, bumping a shopping cart.

REGINA (CONT'D)
PARK!

The car stops, turns off, and unlocks the doors.

CAR ROBOT VOICE
You have arrived.

Regina flings herself out of the car.

REGINA
(to the car)
Oh, no way, I couldn't tell.

The car BEEPS.

Regina eyes it and skedaddles into the store.

INT. SUPERMARKET - CONTINUOUS

A long aisle is stacked tall with bright colors. Included are snacks, toppings, and dips to match.

Both of Regina's arms carry giant bags of chips. She reads "*Cheddar Candy Cane Popcorn*" on a high shelf.

REGINA
(to herself)
Gross.

She stands on her tip toes, reaching for it with her full arms.

Her hands graze it when the bag and its neighbors avalanche to the floor.

REGINA (CONT'D)
Oh god, oh no.

She sets the snacks she was holding down.

She bends over to pick up a bag when a well-manicured hand reaches the bag first.

Regina gazes upon her savior only to grimace upon discovering who they are.

She squints.

REGINA (CONT'D)
You're not going to throw that at me, are you?

Alana's mouth thins.

ALANA
No, I won't throw it at you.

REGINA
How charitable of you.

Regina shoves a bag back onto the shelf.

Alana helps.

ALANA
Listen, about earlier--

REGINA
Your gay pranks weren't cute in high school and now it's just pathetic.

Alana cracks a small smile.

ALANA

A gay prank show would be really cool.

REGINA

As soon as I said it, I heard it and wholeheartedly agree.

Regina pauses stacking to look at Alana.

REGINA (CONT'D)

Why were you The Worst earlier? I thought we shared a... moment.

Alana blushes.

She clears her throat.

ALANA

We did. I meant everything I said last night. I'm just... not out to anyone here.

Regina knocks over more bags.

REGINA

What?!

Alana pauses stacking.

ALANA

I know it's not fair to lie to everyone when, like, every teenager is queer now, but I'm afraid of people's impressions of me changing.

REGINA

Yeah because appearing to be gay is sooo terrible. I, personally, would hate that.

ALANA

That's not what I meant.

REGINA

Why is appearing to be gay so bad to you?

Alana looks at her feet.

Then, she looks to the ceiling.

Finally, she looks at Regina.

ALANA

Because my entire life has been planned out since I was born. Get good grades, go to college, become a dentist, take over the family business.

Alana squeezes the snack in her hands.

ALANA (CONT'D)

Don't forget to meet someone, get married, and push out a couple kids to pass along said business.

The snack bag explodes.

Alana takes stock the mess she has made.

She SIGHS.

ALANA (CONT'D)

Being queer comes with baggage. I don't want to have to field hateful politics, fight to get gay married, figure out how to have a baby, and educate every idiot who still doesn't understand it's the same, if not better, than any other relationship.

Regina flings multiple bags onto the shelf.

REGINA

You were the captain of the debate team, field hockey, and lead in the musical all while being one of the few people of color in our class. There is no greater force in Whistleberry, Connecticut than you.

Alana tosses her hair back.

Regina's phone BUZZES. She slides it from her back pocket and checks it.

SAM (TEXT)

What's your ETA?

She looks from her phone, to Alana, and back to her phone.

She locks it and sheathes it back into her pocket.

REGINA
Have you dated anyone since that
one guy in high school?

ALANA
Not officially. But I went to a
different college from my friends,
so I had plenty of space to...
Explore.

REGINA
Explore...

ALANA
I kind of had a girlfriend.

REGINA
Did your parents ever meet her?

ALANA
Yes, but only ever as my roommate.

Regina halts stacking.

REGINA
Wait, are you telling me your
first girlfriend was, to everyone
else, your best friend *and*
roommate?

Alana cringes.

ALANA
Yeah.

Regina shakes her head and EXHALES.

Alana stacks the last bag. She claps her hands to clean
them off.

REGINA
Do you want to hang out again?

ALANA
Really?

Regina hands Alana her phone.

REGINA
Here, give me your number for real
this time.

ALANA
Why would you want to do that?
Wasn't this whole conversation a
giant red flag?

Alana inputs her number.

REGINA
It seems like you need a friend
you can be real with.

ALANA
I think you're right.

Alana returns the phone.

They stroll out of the aisle together.

REGINA
And besides, I wouldn't be gay if
I didn't hang out with the pretty
girl anyway, despite it being an
objectively bad idea.

Alana smirks.

EXT. GALLERY - LATER

The gallery has a minimal facade made up of mostly windows.

Blair's car is parked out front. Regina steps out of the
car.

Sam pops his head over the car.

SAM
This is, objectively, a bad idea.

Regina rolls her eyes and walks around the back of the car.

SAM (CONT'D)
Regina.

She opens the trunk.

SAM (CONT'D)
Regina, don't go on a date with
our oppressor.

She lugs the boxes out of the car and hands Sam one.

SAM (CONT'D)
Don't kiss the girl who cursed you
with the nickname 'Reggy The
Lezzy.'

She SIGHS, shuts the trunk, and carries a box to the
entrance.

Sam follows.

SAM (CONT'D)
Don't you remember when she
implied I transitioned only so I
could finally get cast in a
musical?

Regina keeps walking.

SAM (CONT'D)
I know you're into enemies-to-
lovers romance novels, but this is
our real life where the person who
made you cry on the regular is
only going to do it again ten
years later.

Regina turns on her heels to face Sam.

REGINA
I want to help her come out.

Sam's mouth thins.

REGINA (CONT'D)
She masks her fear as a mean girl.
Wouldn't the world be a better
place if her reign of terror ended
because she finally allowed
herself to live instead of lie?

Sam drops the box and grabs both of her arms.

SAM
She is an adult, a doctor, who is
capable of going to therapy.

REGINA
Sure, but consider this: she is
very pretty.

Sam abandons his hold.

SAM
Dammit, Regina!

Regina gestures to the door. Sam opens it.

REGINA

I love you and appreciate your
advice. I think she is capable of
change, she just needs some
encouragement.

Regina lugs the boxes inside.

Sam HUFFS.

SAM

(to no one)
Lesbians!

He picks up his box and follows.