

FALAFELTINE'S DAY

Maddy Casale

INT RESTAURANT - NIGHT

ANYA nervously enters a mediterranean restaurant and is immediately greeted by overly-eager employee JIMBO.

JIMBO

Hi there, welcome to Hummus Palace! And happy Valentine's Day!

ANYA

Ah, yeah, thanks. You too.

JIMBO

And will there be anyone else joining your party? A lover, perhaps?

ANYA

(mortified)

...No... I'm... alone.

JIMBO

Excellent!

ANYA

Are you mocking me?

JIMBO

What, no, of course not! I'm thrilled for you...

ANYA

Anya.

JIMBO

Anya. I'm thrilled. Overjoyed. Tickled, even. Because today is a very special day-

ANYA

-Valentine's Day, yes, I already know that.

JIMBO

But on Valentine's Day, us at Hummus Palace offer a very special deal for solo diners -- self-lovers, if you will.

ANYA  
Yuck.

JIMBO  
Here, right this way.

Jimbo grins as he leads Anya to an immaculately set and way too large table for one.

ANYA  
Oh... wow. This is a lot.

JIMBO  
Ha ha, yes! Enjoy it, Anya. I'm Jimbo and I'll be your server and spirit guide for tonight's meal. Just holler at me if you need anything, anything at all.

ANYA  
Actually, can you tell me more about that "very special deal" you mentioned-

Jimbo has already turned to leave and is speed-walking away. Anya sinks down in her chair/throne with a sigh. Beat as she takes in her surroundings and reads through the extensive menu.

ANYA  
(to herself)  
Maybe some red sangria would be good to start, especially with the 2-for-1 happy hour deal-

Jimbo has stealthily snuck up behind Anya. He leans down by her head, grinning like the Chesire cat. He is holding a bowl full of falafel.

JIMBO  
HELLO SINGLE GIRL!

ANYA  
JESUS!

JIMBO  
Sorry to spook you, Anya. My mama always *did* say I was a stealthy lil snake.

ANYA

I beg your pardon?

JIMBO

The very special lonely heart's club Valentine's Day deal has commenced.

ANYA

What are you even-

He thrusts the bowl of falafel into her face. Beat. She accepts.

ANYA

Oh... thank you.

JIMBO

My pleasure! Here at Hummus Palace we treat our little loners with respect, dignity, and great affection. So we will be offering you falafels on the house every few minutes! No need to thank me, this is what I live for!

(too happily, seems forced)

For real! Without this day at this job, I would die. What would be the point?

ANYA

Jesus, Jimbo, your eyes are bleeding.

JIMBO

Again? Hahaha!

ANYA

I don't need a bowl of falafel every minute.

JIMBO

Noted. I'll be right back.

ANYA

Great, thank you-

He's already sprinting away.

ANYA

I wonder if it's too light to just get out of here? There's not even anyone else here, this is sketchy as hell.

Jimbo sprints back in carrying two heaping bowls of falafel. He is drenched in liquid and looks terrified, although he still wears a large, strained smile on his face. When he gets close to Anya, she recoils.

ANYA

Good lord, Jimbo, are you alright?

JIMBO

I am incredible, stupendous, enlightened, Madame Anya, I have never been better! For you!

ANYA

I don't want this, man! I haven't even eaten the falafel you originally brought me. This is way too much.

JIMBO

(intense)

But you have to eat it, Anya. You. Have. To.

She shivers.

ANYA

Okay, okay. Fine.

JIMBO

Now.

Anya nervously starts to eat falafel.

JIMBO

Fantastic. Now they'll let me live. Thank you Anya. Happy Valentine's Day, you lost soul, you. Eat all the falafel until your stomach becomes round and ripe with a fafel baby. Like the Virgin Mary and Jesus. But with falafel. Just as it was written. Just as it was supposed to be.

Jimbo is shaking and foaming at the mouth as Anya shovels falafel into her mouth while sobbing.

JIMBO

THIS IS LOVE! THIS IS LOVE! BEST V-DAY EVER!!!!

He has a seizure and dies.

Blackout.