

IT COULD BE WORSE

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EXT. RESTAURANT PATIO - DAY

Best friends LILLY (20s) and VANESSA (20s) sit at a table wrapping up lunch. Lilly is SOBBING into a tissue while Vanessa consoles her by rubbing her shoulder.

VANESSA

Let it out, sweetie.

A WAITER (30s) approaches and sets their check on the table.

WAITER

Whenever you're ready.

VANESSA

(mouthing)

Thank you.

The waiter walks off as Lilly starts to HYPERVENTILATE.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

Lilly, take some deep breaths.

Lilly does.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

It's gonna be okay. You're just going through a rough patch.

LILLY

(exhaling)

I know, I know. You're right.

(another deep breath)

There's just too much happening all at once. My mom is slowly withering away, and Scott isn't any help, even though she's his mother, too. My dad is off doing god knows what with his new wife, who, I'd like to point out, is four years younger than me. I get laid off a month after I start my dream job. My cat gets out of the house and runs away on the same day I have to put my dog down because of kidney cancer. I find out Jake is cheating on me, with a guy, and two days later I get audited by the IRS, and my car gets stolen. It's just not fair. I mean, a person can only take so much, you know?

Again, Lilly BURSTS into tears.

VANESSA

I know, sweetheart. And those things are terrible. And you're right, it's not fair that all of this has come down on you at the same time. But I promise you, a year from now, hell, six months from now you're going to be able to look back at this time and say, "That sucked. But I was strong, and I survived it."

LILLY

I hope so.

VANESSA

I know it's cliché, and it's easy for me to say right now, but it could always be worse. Trust me, this isn't the end of the world.

Suddenly, a large shadow envelopes everything around them.

PASSERS-BY stop dead in their tracks. DRIVERS stop their cars in the middle of the street and exit their vehicles. Vanessa and Lilly, and other CUSTOMERS seated around them, stand. Everyone stares up into the sky.

Blocking out the sun, hurtling toward everyone, is a *giant fucking meteor of Earth-destroying proportions.*

Panic takes over as everyone but Vanessa and Lilly take off running and SCREAMING in all directions.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

Oh, fuck. I'm sorry.

LILLY

(shaking head)

It figures.

THE END