

Jess

Hi. Sorry. Hi.

Benji

Good morning. I didn't want to wake you - I just couldn't sleep

J

Don't worry, I don't want to talk or anything. I just -

B

No. No - I -

J

What?

B

Sorry, I interrupted you

J

I don't mean to hold you up, I just wanted to exchange contact info or whatever. Not for - I get it, I'm not delusional. Just you know incase

B

Incase?

J

I'm not trying to date you - I know this isn't how dating begins. I'm not a total lunatic despite what you may think -

B

No - whoa

J

I don't even need your number maybe just an email. I almost definitely won't use it. Just -

B

What?

J

In case something goes wrong

B

We were careful

J

I'm always careful. I'm also very unlucky. I'm not trying to freak you out - I'm sure everything's going to be fine

B

You said you were on the pill?

J. Totally

B

And we used a condom

J

I happen to be a very fertile person, which unfortunately in the past I've had to discover. Obviously the likelihood is that I'll never use your email -but if it's that much of a problem, I'm not going to force you

B

Actually I -

J

And there's also, you know...STDs

B

I just took a physical, so I took a whole battery of tests

J

Ok, that's great. I mean "me too"

B

You think I'm lying?

J

I don't know you

B

We used a condom

J

Which doesn't protect against several diseases

B

Which ones?

J
Herpes, HPV, which like everyone has anyways

B
Everyone?

J
Well like 70% of the sexually active population

B
I don't have it

J
How do you know?

B
I didn't test positive for it

J
(Laughs)

B
What?

J
Men don't ever test positive for it. The test for men sucks - so all these men go around claiming they don't have it - but meanwhile like every sexually active women does so it's coming from somewhere

B
I honestly don't think I have it

J
Well, ya do now

B
Great

J
Oh relax, there are no symptoms for men

B
Which is the one that gives you genital warts?

J

Well, that's HPV but it's different HPV. The one I have gives you cervical cancer. If you get cervical cancer I'll owe you a big apology

B

You didn't think about telling me this last night?

J

Everyone has it. You already had it

B

I've only ever slept with one other women in my life

J

You might not have it

B

Yeah

J

One other women?

B

I was in a long relationship

J

Oh. Oops. Sorry

Well it's technically a virus so it never fully goes away but usually your immune system kicks it in two to three years

B

That's good news I guess

J

But in the meantime you'll probably just get infected with a different strain. There's over thirty different types of HPV

B

And how many different kinds did you just give me?

J

I honestly don't know. Wait. Was that a joke?

B
Yes

J
It was funny

B
Thanks

J
Look I legitimately feel shitty about this. I didn't know you had only slept with one...I mean...I couldn't tell from -

B
Thank you?

Cervical cancer, huh?

J
Yeah

B
But you don't?

J
Have cervical cancer? No. My last Pap smear was a little weird so I had to have a colposcopy but that came back totally normal

B
Good

J
Yeah

B
Are you Jewish?

J
What?

B
Are you -

J

No. I heard you, I just - no, I'm not, but anyway I'm pretty sure that's not contagious

B

No! I'm mean, if it were, I already have it, so. Got that from my mom

J

Huh. Why?

B

Because it's the 25th and you don't have a tree and we're talking about pap shmears

J

Smears

B

What?

J

Pap smears, not shmears

B

Right, shmears would be like bagels. Like, I'd like a scallion Pap shmear - I'd like mine with lox

(he cringes at how bad his joke was)

J

Yeah. Anyways - I wasn't really raised religious but we do celebrate Christmas, so I'll head to Connecticut in a few hours

B

I though Christmas morning was like a thing?

J

Yeah, it is - can we not talk about it?

B

Sure. I don't really know what I'm talking about. We always do movies and Chinese food for Christmas, which is sort of a Jewish cliché, but my parents recently moved to Florida, which is also a cliché incidentally, so... I guess there's no reason why I can't see a movie by myself. It's only because my culture is so fucking Christian - centric that I feel bad about myself if I spend Christmas alone. I mean what is Christmas to me? It's not Christ. It's not Mass. So if on any other day I'd feel perfectly fine about going to the movies by myself, I shouldn't let Christmas

stop me, right?

J

A movie sounds great. I wish I could go see a movie

B

Not looking forward to seeing the fam?

J

I didn't mean to do this, you know

B

What?

J

Lure you into conversation, I was just -

B

You don't have to -

J

Gonna get your email and not use it. I get this was a one night stand. I get it

B

You do that a lot

J

What?

B

I get it. I'm not delusional. I'm not a lunatic.

J

Oh

B

But I'm the amateur here, you don't have to justify yourself to me

J

I know

B

I'd like to hear about Christmas in Connecticut. Really

J

Well, for the past 3 years I've spent Christmas morning in New Jersey with my boyfriend's family, well ex-boyfriend. Cause they are really religious. Catholic. And then we would drive to Connecticut for an early dinner. But I haven't exactly told my family that he's not coming

B

When did you break up?

J

Like last Christmas

B

Oh

J

So I'm relatively new to HPV too, to bring it, you know, full circle

B

You haven't told your family you broke up?

J

Not with words. They liked him.

B

He was really Catholic?

J

Not him, his family. But him too actually, in a weird way, yeah

B

And you're really fertile?

J

What are you, Nancy Drew?

B

I'm sorry - I

J

Look, if you have a huge aversion in giving me your email, it's just something I like to do to make myself feel more responsible - but forgot it. It was nice meeting you. Merry Christmas

B

Hey, listen

J

You don't have to do that. You're really nice, you're not an asshole. Go see a Jewish movie

B

You wanna come?

J

I have to get moving, pick up a zip car, brave the holiday traffic

B

Okay

J

I don't mean to be rude

B

Sure

J

Sorry about the HPV

B. Me too

J

Condoms usually do reduce the risk of transmission, so you might be fine. But don't believe the tests they're bullshit

B

Got it

J

I saw Lars and the Real Girl. It was good

B

Yeah?

J

No not really, I don't know why I said that, it was really bad. Ok...Bye

B

Bye. Umm...good luck with everything

J

Yeah, you too

(He turns around)

B

You're going to find the note I left on you dresser. Which will seem pretty embarrassing after this conversation. But all my info is on there.