

Chapter 1

Sometimes I think it is hard being me, I'm one of those awkward girls that doesn't fit in anywhere, I love all the unpopular things within my school, anime and manga for example. I never really clicked with anyone, I was too quiet and shy. It was such a hassle. Not popular enough to fit in, not enough of a voice to get bullied. I was essentially a nobody in high school. My parents brought me and my sister over to the states 14 years ago, to the day actually, I know that because I spent my 4th birthday on a plane. You don't forget something like that when you are a kid. My name is Lucy, and I am a short, shy nobody who is just headed to college. Today as a matter of fact, I have a habit of moving during my birthdays apparently.

My sister, Kim, was helping me move thankfully. She was two years older than me and way cooler. She fit in; she was the drop dead gorgeous slim Asian girl of people's dreams. Meanwhile I was that invisible nerd nobody paid any attention to. Unlike the tall, slim, black haired bob cut beauty I was short, 5"1. Thin and formless, the only thing I've got in my favour is my hair, thankfully something like hair is nice and easy to change. My long flowing hair goes down to just above my butt, I've got a hime cut, typical anime cut I know, but I like it. Reminds me of Yumeko Jabami from Kakegurui – Compulsive Gambler.

"Hey, Lucy, I'm doing you a favour here, least you can do is answer me." Kim says with annoyance in her voice.

"O-m-g, I'm so sorry sis. I was spacing out, what did you say?"

"Are you excited?"

"Oh yeah! I am very excited; I can't wait to live on my own. Sure, it will be a bit scary, but I know I must do this!" I say heroically.

Kim laughs, bringing me back to earth. "Just make sure you eat good and if you are struggling at all, come home, you know Mum will have you back."

"I know, but I feel like this is something I have to do." I proudly proclaim.

"You'll get over it." Kim cynically says. "What was the room number again?"

We are both carrying boxes walking down the corridor looking out for my room. "28" I reply, "Even rooms are on the right." I take note of the room numbers.

22, 24, 26

"Here we are!" I giddily say, jumping on my heels. I awkwardly balance the box on my hips as I fumble for the key to the door. "1 sec Kim, I'll get... us..."

Crash

The contents of my box crash and spill out onto the floor. Holding the key in my hand, I turn to Kim who is suppressing a laugh. "Found... it..."

I'm such a klutz

I open the door and let Kim in, she gets first eyes on the place whilst I clean up the mess. I quickly throw my stuff back into its box and I quickly scamper into the room.

"Kim! Where are you! Wow this place looks amazing."

The entrance leads into a communal open plan area. The first section has a sofa and a TV on the wall, deeper into the room is a breakfast bar that backs onto the small kitchen. On the back wall next to the kitchen is a small hallway that leads to a toilet and from the photos online I remember the other door in the hallway leads to the shower. On the left-hand side of the room, I see two more doors which must be the bedrooms. I start to walk towards the doors.

Hopefully I got here first! Maybe I can get first dibs.

I hear Kim's voice.

Is she talking to herself?

I hear a reply.

MY ROOMMATE!

Excitedly, I rush to the door, ready to meet her and make a good first impression.

Maybe we will become good friends.

The prospect makes me hop between my heels, like an excited puppy.

"Hello, I'm Lucy, nice to mee-" I pause suddenly after seeing this stranger's body. She is gorgeous. She has that "Girl next door" look. Her blonde hair is in a ponytail, showing off her beautiful face even more. She is wearing a low-cut white top and she has some cleavage on show.

Clearly proud of her assets.

Standing next to my 5"8 sister she is about an inch shorter or so. Her narrow waist flares out into a curvy set of hips.

She looks like a stereotypically hot chick they get for movies.

My roommate breaks the awkward silence I created by my abrupt pause.

"Nice to meet you too, I'm Jess. Guess we are roomies." She smiles.

Not controlling my emotions, I bound over to her and take her into a tight embrace. She lets out a shocked gasp but then embraces me.

“Sorry about my sister Lucy, she is quite excitable, like a puppy.” Kim says, patting my head mockingly.

I break the hug and swipe her hand away, my cheeks a rosy red.

“Sorry Jess, I just got excited, you seem so lovely, I was nervous I’d get some angsty shut in that I would never see but you seem so nice and beautiful-“ My face burning a bright red.

Why am I so awkward...?

I look at my feet.

“Hey, it’s alright Lucy, there are a lot of emotions here, meeting new people is exciting and Kim said you don’t have a lot of friends-“

“KIM!” I angrily look at my sister smirking back at me.

“It’s ok, you can at least say you’ve got another one now.” Jess smiles.

My anger melts away and I stare at Jess. “See! Kind!” I wrap my arms around her again.

Kim helps me make a few more trips to the car to get the rest of my stuff, Jess already claimed a room, but that was fine with me. After helping Kim gives me a hug.

“Have a good time. Jess will take care of you, I know it. If you want anything from me or mum just ask, we are only an hour away. Love you Sis.”

Tears forming in my eyes, I can only tightly squeeze her, lest I speak and start to ugly cry.

Kim leaves and I feel a bit sad.

I won’t see her now until the semester is over...

“It is bittersweet huh?” Jess says, comforting me by putting her arm around my shoulder. I turn into her and hug her, due to the height difference, I get a face full of boob. Too upset to feel embarrassment I just focus on suppressing tears.

“It’s ok Lucy, we will have fun here and you’ll see them in no time, it’s going to be great. C’mon, let’s order food and get to know each other.”

After ordering some Chinese food we sit on the sofa share stories from each other’s past, getting to know each other.

Jess grew up a state over and she is very American in her ways and views. She seemed to be a popular person from her high school from what I can tell, she certainly had a few boyfriends in that time. She is very confident and doesn’t mind to “flaunt what her momma gave her” as she said.

The complete opposite to me.

I tell her about my social life... or lack of one rather and share with her my interests.

Never heard of Death Note! INSANE!

Food arrives, we scoff it down and still sat on the sofa we continue to talk into the early hours of the morning before we both went to bed.

The first week flies by, we spend a lot of time together of course as we live together. She introduces me to a whole bunch of reality TV shows, and I manage to show her some anime. We get along nicely as we take it in turns doing chores. Keeping it fair, civilised, we work together to keep everything clean and tidy. Mostly because I am a bit of a clean freak. The first week on campus there are no classes.

Friday night rolls around and Jess comes back from shopping and excitedly hands me a flyer. "We should go! It'll be so fun!"

I read the flyer, it's for a beach party, a meet and greet for the new arrivals. I nervously look at Jess and she can see that I've tensed up.

"It'll be fun! Think of all the people we can meet and I'm sure there will boys there." She nudges me with her arm.

I don't know...

"I'll keep you company, so you don't have anything to worry about. I think it'd be a good opportunity to make new friends. If you are nervous, just think, you didn't know me until Monday."

She really wants to go... I shouldn't let her down...

"Fine. You are right, I'm just... a bit nervous about meeting so many people..."

"You'll be fine, we can go get a bikini tomorrow." She beams.

"B-b-bikini?" I stammer.

"Yeah, you've got to show off what you've got, especially to get attention from the boys."

Oh...

"S-s-sure..." still stammering I look down.

"It's going to be so much fun; I can't wait." Jess says as she practically skips to the kitchen to make a start on food.

"Yeah..." I trail off.