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Crossing Paths

Episode One

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EPISODE ONE

PANEL 1

Close up panel of ALLIE's hands as she slamming shut a book, the cover showing harts with the title 'How to Love' indicating the book is a self-help book regarding relationships.

SFX
(book slamming shut)

ALLIE
(unseen)
(sighing)
What a waste of time.

PANEL 2

ALLIE is looking down at the back cover of the book with a raised eyebrow and an expression of regret over having read it. She is sitting in a train, the window to her side showing the slight view of the subway tunnels moving by.

ALLIE
(internal)
"Every being is destined to be with another. A combination of human physiology and other synchronicities make it so every person has a tie to someone else."

(pause)
(internal)
Yeah, right. And I'm just supposed to believe it's even possible to meet my soulmate, if they exist.

PANEL 3

ALLIE is looking over to the window, her eyes half-lidded as she is thinking deeply about something as she is looking at the outside of the subway.

PANEL 4

ALLIE is in the same position, now her lips are scrunched up as though she were biting them as her right hand is pressed lightly over her chest.

ALLIE
(to herself)
A destined connection...

PANEL 5

FLASHBACK PANEL. ALLIE is sitting in a doctor's office, sitting in a nervous position, her hands curled at her lap as she is facing the doctor who is smiling at her kindly.

DOCTOR
Allison, your financial status indicates we are ready to proceed with your surgery.

ALLIE
When will it be?

DOCTOR
The sooner we can put you under, the better. I understand it can be nerve-wrecking going into surgery, so don't feel too rushed.

PANEL 6

FLASHBACK PANEL. Close up of ALLIE's hands at her lap that are curled together tightly as she is nervously fiddling with her fingers.

ALLIE
(face unseen)
What are the chances of the surgery being successful?

PANEL 7

FLASHBACK PANEL. ALLIE is looking down at her lap with her lip slightly quivering with nervousness, her eyes are heavy lidded as though she hadn't been sleeping for several nights.

ALLIE
What are the chances that I could die?

PANEL 8

FLASHBACK PANEL. DOCTOR is looking in ALLIE's direction with a look of pity, clearly aware of her fear.

DOCTOR

Allison-

PANEL 9

ALLIE is sighing heavily with her eyes closed as the train is announcing the next train stop.

SFX

(train audio)

Coming stop is ninth street New York.

ALLIE

(sighs)

That book was a terrible decision on my part.

PANEL 10

ALLIE is putting the book into her bag as she looks at her bag with a saddened expression.

ALLIE

(internal)

Love is unlikely in my future and there certainly is no soulmate waiting to meet me.

PANEL 11

ALLIE is rushing through with a swarm of others from the subway train, holding her bag tightly to her chest to keep it from getting tossed out of her hands in the crowd.

ALLIE

And I'm running late. Of course.

PANEL 12

ALLIE is rushing out the subway entrance, holding her bag tightly to her side as she has her cell phone in her other hand that she is holding to her ear. The bag should show the book she was reading, peeking out so much it looks as though it will fall out at any moment. Over the cell phone is a small bubble showing JAMIE who is speaking to her on the phone.

ALLIE

(to JAMIE on phone)

I'm sorry, I'm running late! I just got off the subway and will there in ten.

JAMIE

(phone)

I was wondering where you were at the start of our shift. You're usually never late.

ALLIE

I missed my first stop and got delayed, but I'll be there soon.

PANEL 13

ALLIE is walking as she is shoving her phone into her bag, clearly not paying attention to where she is walking as she is beginning to walk straight towards a man in a hat and sunglasses who also hasn't noticed her.

PANEL 14

ALLIE crashed into the chest of the man, her expression showing she was not expecting to come into sudden contact with anyone.

SFX

(ALLIE grunts)

PANEL 15

ALLIE is pressing her hand to her nose as she had hurt it from the impact. She is blushing in embarrassment but already beginning to move around the man, barely looking at him as she is clearly in a rush to get to work.

ALLIE

I'm so sorry! I didn't see you walking and I - sorry!

PANEL 16

Close up of the floor showing that ALLIE had dropped the book from her bag and the man's hand is reaching down to pick it up silently.

PANEL 17

AIDEN is holding up the book over his head as he is trying to call after ALLIE who is too far for her to hear him. People are walking around AIDEN who has stopped in the middle of walking traffic to yell after the oblivious ALLIE.

AIDEN
Miss, you dropped your book!

PANEL 18

AIDEN is lowering the book with a heavy sigh, looking slightly irritated as he is left standing there with a book in his hand as he blocks moving people that are forced to walk around him.

AIDEN
And she can't here. Great.

PANEL 19

AIDEN has a raised eyebrow behind his sunglasses as he notices the title of the book, his expression showing he is slightly amused by it.

PANEL 20

AIDEN is holding the book so that it is showing the back cover where there is a label showing the book belongs to the New York Public Library.

AIDEN
That's not too far from here.

PANEL 21

ALLIE is scanning books that are stacked on the front counter of the library, her expression serious as she is working, JAMIE looking at her from over her shoulder.

ALLIE
Sorry again about being late. And especially on a day as busy as today.

JAMIE
Don't worry about it, you're never late, so no one is going to hold it against you for happening once. Besides, it's been pretty fun watching

these lovey-dovey library dates people planned today.

PANEL 22

ALLIE is pausing her work to look over at JAMIE with a look of confusion, her eyebrows knitted over her eyes as she is holding a book up and the scanner in the other.

ALLIE
Dates?

PANEL 23

ALLIE is looking around, noticing the tables in the library have several couples that are clearly on dates, some tables holding teddy bears holding hearts or roses.

PANEL 24

ALLIE is looking over at JAMIE with wide eyes, her expression showing she had no clue about what was going on. JAMIE is smirking in amusement, partially surprised and finding it amusing how shocked ALLIE is.

ALLIE
(nearly yelling)
Is today Valentine's Day?

JAMIE
Did you really not notice?

ALLIE
No! I guess I forgot?

JAMIE
To be fair, it's not like any of us have any relationships to celebrate today.

PANEL 25

ALLIE is looking over at one of the nearest tables where a couple is sitting close to each other, the two clearly in love as they look at each other. ALLIE is looking at them with a thoughtful expression.

ALLIE
Yeah...that's true.

PANEL 26

FLASHBACK PANEL. ALLIE is sitting at the table with her ex-boyfriend, MATTHEW, the two looking as the couple ALLIE had presently seen appeared, sitting close to each other and looking at each other as though they were deeply in love.

PANEL 27

JAMIE is slapping a hand over ALLIE's back, snapping her back to reality. ALLIE is looking over at her friend with a smile of agreement, clearly appreciating her enthusiastic attitude.

JAMIE
Being single doesn't mean you can't give yourself some love this Valentine's Day.

ALLIE
You're a good friend, you know that? Speaking of treating yourself, have you gotten tickets to see Horizon? You've been talking about them for a while now.

JAMIE
Of course I am! And when you come out of surgery, I'll gladly be promoted to mega best friend and treat you to a nice dinner out. And my ticket has long been obtained, my dear friend, and it will be their greatest concert ye.

ALLIE
(sighs)
Jamie, even if this surgery is a success, things might not change.

JAMIE
That's just the nerves talking, and I'll happily say I told you so when it's done.

PANEL 28

Four hours later, JAMIE is leaving her shift for the day, waving over to ALLIE as she is getting her stuff and beginning to make her way out the entrance. ALLIE is smiling at her as she is leaving.

CAPTION

(top left)

Four hours later...

JAMIE

(waving)

Alright, time for me to be getting home. You alright finishing up here?

ALLIE

I'll be fine, you go on ahead.

JAMIE

See you tomorrow, then. And don't forget the Horizon concert.

ALLIE

I won't.

PANEL 29

Long scrolling panel showing the phone screen of ALLIE's phone as she is looking at an article's forum where people are commenting on the concept of soulmates.

PHONE

(text on screen)

I'm married to my soulmate! / If my soulmate would just present themselves, I'd be eternally grateful / Liar!

PANEL 30

Long scrolling panel cont. The screen shows that the forum is dragging on with commentary, the screen blurred to show ALLIE is just scrolling through without actually reading the content.

PANEL 31

ALLIE is at the front counter of the library, her elbow resting on the counter with her chin supported by her hand while her other hand is holding up her phone screen that she is engrossed with.

UNKNOWN

(unseen)

Uh, excuse me?

PANEL 32

ALLIE is looking up from her phone with a serious expression, seeming bored based on her expression as she speaks to the unseen person.

ALLIE

Can I help you?

PANEL 33

AIDEN is leaning down over the counter, his hand flat over the book he is returning, the title clearly showing from the panel perspective. AIDEN is smiling, his expression seeming playful (flirting).

AIDEN

Yes, I'm here to return this.

PANEL 34

ALLIE is looking at him in surprise, her eyebrows raised and her eyes wide. AIDEN is smiling at her.

ALLIE

Oh, it's you!

AIDEN

And here I thought you'd forgotten about me.

ALLIE

Did you need something I could-

PANEL 35

ALLIE is looking at the book, realizing he had brought it to return it.

PANEL 36

ALLIE is blushing as she is holding the book up, embarrassed that he'd seen the type of book it was as she is flustered and speaking frantically. AIDEN is still leaning on the counter,

looking at her with an amused expression, clearly not believing her as he has that flirtatious expression.

ALLIE
(speaking frantically)
Oh, this? I was borrowing it for a friend! She wanted some relationship advice and I came across this during work so I brought it to her.

AIDEN
Really, now?

ALLIE
Y-yup!

PANEL 37

AIDEN is leaning forward with a smile, looking cool and collected as he is obviously flirting with her. ALLIE is still embarrassed and doesn't seem to notice he is actually flirting as she looks more uncomfortable with his closeness.

AIDEN
And you don't believe in what that book is saying? About soulmates?

ALLIE
(discomfort)
What? Of course not! I'd be a fool to fall for something like that.

PANEL 38

AIDEN is now frowning, seeming to realize she appear uncomfortable as he is standing up straight now, slightly turned as though to leave.

AIDEN
I see.
(pause)
Well, I thought I'd stop by to return the book. I'll be going now.

PANEL 39

ALLIE is opening the front cover of the book as she is calling out in AIDEN's direction. The inside of the book has a post it

note that has the message "Do you believe in love at first sight, or should cupid send another arrow your way?"

ALLIE
Thank you, I really appreciate you
taking the time to-

PANEL 40

ALLIE is looking down at the book and message with a shocked expression on her face (think of the pikachu meme expression).

Eh?
ALLIE

