

BLUE

That's only in the United States.

ALPACA

You don't have the global numbers memorized too?

BLUE

Not for salmonella. But other causes of death like leprosy, malaria, or vending machines - which kills more people every year than you'd think.

ALPACA

Two. Question mark?

BLUE

Then it's exactly what you'd think.

ALPACA

I don't see any vending machines here. Imagine if there were. Both you and I could be this year's victims.

BLUE

If I had to be crushed by a vending machine alongside anyone, I'd want it to be you.

ALPACA

That's weirdly sweet. Smiling face with hearts.

START HERE

BLUE

I don't know what our guild would do without us.

ALPACA

They'd be fine. Mage Gambit pretty much does his own thing anyways.

Daniel types.

BLUE

Mage Gambit is kind of a dick.

He's just about to hit send and then thinks better of it.

Backspace. Backspace. Backspace.

He types again.

BLUE (CONT'D)

Yeah, Mage Gambit can be a little difficult to work with sometimes.

ALPACA

He can be a real dick.

Daniel is relieved.

BLUE

I'm so glad you think that too!

ALPACA

You sound surprised.

BLUE

I am. To be honest, between the two of us, I thought he'd be the one you would have asked to be here tonight.

ALPACA

Please. Vomit Face.

BLUE

It's just - you're always including him in our quests.

ALPACA

Just because I fight alongside someone to prevent the Goblin horde from taking over the kingdom does not mean I want to spend time with them outside of that.

BLUE

Okay.

ALPACA

Okay, what?

BLUE

Just okay.

ALPACA

I've known you for years. I don't have to see you to know when you are not saying something you want to say.

BLUE

Why did you ask me on this date?

ALPACA

Because I wanted to. Grinning Cat Face.

BLUE

But why? You are so cool and funny and awesome, you could literally be on this date with anyone on our server. Yet you pick the weird guy who is arguably the third best Knight in our Guild. Fourth if Excali-Bernie shows up.

ALPACA

I told you. I like weird. Weird is fun. Weird is honest. We are sitting in silence, type-talking to each other, yet it's way less awkward than the forced conversation a normal first date has. Deep down, I think everyone is weird. Normal is just the word for the people who are afraid to show it.

END HERE

Daniel and Gemma lock eyes and smile.

BLUE

Remember the time you found the Mythical Orb of Olympus and you took me and Mage Gambit to the Uncharted Caverns so that we could acquire it too, but then Mage Gambit didn't listen to you and messed up our entire quest.

ALPACA

He never does. Angry face.

BLUE

You gave me your Mythical Orb of Olympus, and that took you twenty-seven game hours to acquire.

ALPACA

You needed it if you were to have a shot at beating the Harbor Troll, silly.

BLUE

I know, but it was so amazing of you.

ALPACA

We're a team. We look out for each other.

After a beat.

BLUE

I got you something.

Daniel reaches into his bag and pulls out a colorful bouncy ball and hands it to Gemma.

ALPACA

O-M-G! This looks just like the Mythical Orb of Olympus.