

QUAKE DATE

BY: J. GORDON

MAX

It's stuck.

RUBY

Does that mean we're trapped?

MAX

Everyone knows we're down here, so I
wouldn't worry.

RUBY

"Wouldn't worry"?! Were you just here
when the ground was violently shaking?

MAX

I'm just saying, we're gonna be okay.

RUBY

This never happens back in New York.

(OFF MAX'S LOOK) What?

MAX

Nothing. (BEAT) Must've been your
'back home' timer.

RUBY

My what?

MAX

People from the east coast are always
five minutes between mentions of how
great things were "back home in New
York".

RUBY

You got a problem with New York?

MAX

No, just the constant mentioning of
it.

RUBY

Well your stupid city just turned into
a giant bounce house.

MAX

I don't control the plates under the
Earth's crust!

RUBY

Well you chose to live here!

MAX

My parents did! I wasn't even born
yet!

THERE'S A TREMOR RUMBLING THE ROOM! RUBY PANICS!

RUBY

Oh my god! It's happening again!

MAX

It's just an aftershock.

RUBY

I want to go home.

MAX

Let me guess... to New York.

RUBY

Anywhere to get away from you.

MAX

What's your problem?

RUBY

I. Don't. Like. You. Is that clear?

MAX

Crystal.

BEAT.

RUBY

I heard what your friend Matt said and just so you know, it's never gonna happen.

MAX

What did Matt say?

RUBY

Don't act like you don't know?

MAX

I don't.

RUBY

That you wanted to hook up with me.

MAX

What?!

RUBY

Yeah, I know all about it.

MAX

That's hilarious; I don't want to hook up with you.

(MORE)

MAX (CONT'D)

Matt keeps messing with me about what a funny couple we'd make because I'm so chill and you're so....y'know... you.

RUBY

So you *don't* like me?

MAX

Nooooo. Absolutely not. Is that clear?

RUBY

Crystal.

LONGER BEAT.

RUBY (CONT'D)

Why?

MAX

'Why' what?

RUBY

Why don't you like me? I mean, I know I can seem super picky or stuck-up but you should know, that's just a wall I learned to put up. Once you've been hurt, it's just easier to assume every guy is a jerk.

MAX

I get that. People say that the reason I'm so chill is because I'm actually afraid of failure and this calm demeanor is just a guise I wear over my inability to take action.

RUBY

Who says that?

MAX

My mom.

RUBY SMILES.

MAX (CONT'D)

Matt thinks I like you because I chose you on my fantasy team. It's like a list we each made of girls in our grade we think are cute.

RUBY

Real mature.

MAX

Right. 'Cause girls don't talk about guys ever.

RUBY

Good point. (THEN) So I made your team?

SHE'S FLIRTING A LITTLE.

MAX

Yeah. Staring quarterback.

HE'S FLIRTING BACK.

RUBY

I'm assuming that's good? I don't
watch football or --

MAX

It's good.

THE CHEMISTRY BETWEEN THEM IS UNDENIABLE.

SFX: A BANG IN THE WALL!

FIREFIGHTER (O.S.)

(THROUGH WALL) Hello? Anyone alive in
there?

RUBY

Yes! We're here.

MAX

The door won't budge!

FIREFIGHTER (O.S.)

We're gonna get you out, okay? Just
sit tight.

RUBY

MAX

No rush.

Take your time.

THEY SHARE A LOOK. THEN, THEY MOVE CLOSER TOGETHER. THIS IS
IT. THEY'RE GOING TO HOOK UP WHEN...

FIREFIGHTER (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Are you sure you're okay in there
because --

MAX / RUBY

GO AWAY!!!

END SCENE