

Subway Sunday*e

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EXT. SUBWAY PLATFORM-AFTERNOON

Sundae (23, African American, bring bouncy curly coils, dressed in her Sunday best). She rushed through the card swiper, almost tripping as she juggled her purse and sweet potato pie.

She glances at her watch; it is 3:30. She huffs.

SUNDAE

Damn, I knew I should've picked my outfit yesterday.

Her phone buzzes. She reaches for it while running, not watching where she's going. In an instant, crash, she collides with a stranger. The pie slides across the floor. Sundae lands hard on the tiles.

Miles(25,african American, low temp fade, bushy eyebrows, wearing a tailored suit) looks down, frustrated.

MILES(STRANGER)

My phone! My fucking phone, bro!

SUNDAE

Damn, you couldn't watch where you were going!

He looks appalled. The nerve of her.

MILES (STRANGER)

You were the one sprinting. Done crashed into me, now I missed my train, and my phone is gone!

He points to the tracks,where a train is rolling by. Sundae stands to her feet, brushing off her bottom.

SUNDAE

I'm sorry. I can get you another. If, for what it's worth, my pie ruined, and I missed the train too.

Sundae stands awkwardly,feeling guilty.

MILES(STRANGER)

You good shawty. For what it's worth, I didn't have much use for it, anyway.

SUNDAE

No, I'm serious. I'll replace it.I'm
(MORE)

SUNDAE (CONT'D)

Sundae by the way.

She extends her hand. He takes it. A jolt of static shocks them both.

MILES(STRANGER)

Damn, you got some TV-static type hands, Ms.Sundae. I'm Miles.

They laugh.

MILES

So,where you headed in such a rush this Sunday?

SUNDAE

To my parents' house for Sunday dinner.Missed church tryna make my grandma's sweet potato pie, and find a good enough outfit to appease my parents.

MILES

Looks like they won't get to taste that pie.

SUNDAE

Ha,Ha,Ha. You got jokes.What about you? Where you headed?

His smile fades.He exhales slowly, posture stiffening.

MILES

Might wanna sit down.Next train ain't till another six minutes.

They take a seat on a nearby bench. Sundae slouches, Miles sits upright.

MILES (CONT'D)

What you sitting like a hood man with a cold 40. That ain't lady like.

Sundae cheeks turning a crimson red.She sits up straight.

SUNDAE

You sound like my mother. I asked where you heading.

MILES

You want the truth, or you want it
sugar-coated.

SUNDAE

I'll be damned if you lie on this holy
Sunday.

MILES

I was heading to the bridge.

SUNDAE

In a suit? What you joining a million
man march?

MILES

Nah. I was gonna jump off it.

Sundae hand flies to her chest. Silence.

MILES (CONT'D)

My mother passed of breast cancer. My
dad. He couldn't take it. So he took
his life last week. We had his funeral
today. Hopeful he's able to dance with
her in eternity.

Sundae eyes soften. She places a hand on his shoulder, then
pulls him into a warm embrace, rubbing gentle circles on his
back

SUNDAE

I dont have the right words..but you
matter, Miles. Even with pieces of you
gone, there's still more left worth
living for.

The subway roars in. Time slips. They don't move.

MILES

Based on how you bumped into me
earlier, I never would've thought you
had this much heart.

SUNDAE

Looks can be deceiving.

MILES

Yeah. They really can.

The hold each other's gaze longer. A Homeless woman

interrupts.

HOMELESS WOMAN
Y'all gonna hog my bench or what? I
need my nap.

They jump up, realizing the train's here.

SUNDAE
Come on, let's not miss another one.

They squeeze into the crowd. People push, separating them.
Sundae shoved forward into the car, Miles stuck behind. The
door closes between them.

Their eyes lock through the glass. Neither says a word as the
train pulls away.

INT. SUBWAY-MOVING-CONTINUOUS

SUNDAE
(Whisper-yelling)

Why did not you get his Instagram,
Dumb ass.

RANDOM RIDER
Who you calling a dumbass?

SUNDAE
Myself!

She stands impatiently waiting for her stop. The train stops.
She gets off, head down. Defeated.

THEN,

MILES(O.S.)
SUNDAE!

She turns. There he is, smiling, breathless.

MILES
I think.. I found something worth
living for.

FADE OUT

SUNDAE

Wants: to impress her parents to prove her life is together.

Strengths: Empathetic, warm-spirited.

Flaws/Weaknesses: Impulsive, easily distracted. Moves too fast sometimes without thinking.

Fears: Failing to live up to expectations. Being a failure to her parents.

Belives: Even in the madness, you can still find sweetness in the mess.

MILES

Wants: Wants to be relieved of his pain and a reason to stay. After losing both parents, he's searching for something.

Strengths: Honest, and values real emotion. Very forgiving and reflective of situations.

Flaws/Weaknesses: A little withdrawn and guarded. Carries his grief like luggage.

Fears: Being alone and he will never recover from loss.

Belives: That love can save you even when it comes from a stranger.