

## Chapter Two: Burnt Rubber and Deehee

After Lucy's *technical* victory over her brother, it was time for festivities. Each sibling took on a different role.

Henry whipped up each sibling's favorite dish, Oscar chose the perfect playlist, Victor set the scene, and Lucy made sure to annoy each and every one of them along the way.

And just like any other night the Lovebeats put on the performance of a lifetime, belting out joyous cries, hearty laughs, and well-meant insults. Both Lucy's and Henry's bodies ached, but they wouldn't let that get in the way of their fun. However, a ray of sunlight bursting through their kitchen's curtain let them know that they'd partied a little too hard. The Lovebeats only had so much time to deliver their person package.

**THUMPI CRASHI BONKI** With the boys impatiently waiting in their trusty black SUV, the sounds of Lucy feverishly getting ready echoed from within their home.

“You ever make up with your girl, Hen?” Oscar asked. The sorrowful expression on his brother's face said, just about a thousand words.

Victor poked his head in from the back seat “Bro forget her, all the teachers at school still ask me about you, you low-key ruining my game bro.”

“Oh yeah!” Oscar lit up. “What was that woman's name from the career day? Virginia? Charlotte? Dakota?... Her name was like a place or something. She had some nice eyes.”

“And a nice rack!” Victor shouted, twirling his dreads.

“My brother the gentleman.”

“Shit what can I say, men are visual creatures, I cannot help what my chemicals attract me to.” **DOOMI** Lucy eventually came bursting through the front door.

“YOU GOT YOUR BADGE?” Henry yelled.

“Fuck!” **THUMPI CRASHI BONKI**

“I don't know guys...” Henry finally spoke up. “I think I want someone who respects my work and time, working hours and hours on cases is hard enough, but then having someone who wanted my attention twenty-four seven. I barely had time for myself or you guys. I mean if anything It's probably for the better that our relationship went south.”

“I feel you, I heard some guy on the internet say that your partner should complement your lifestyle.” Victor stopped to think for a moment. “Maybe like a woman in law enforcement? She could ya know... *arrest* ya?” **PUARI THUMPI**

“Gahlee Victor, It's like six in the morning, we gotta get this guy fuckin' neutered.” Lucy blasted off their porch and slid in through the car's sunroof, duffle bag in tow.

**SSSSKKKKKKRRRRRRRTTTTTTTTT** Henry slammed his foot on the pedal and took off. With Moomenville very much asleep he was free to, ya know, fudge the speed limit. “We'll deal with my love life later, we've got some precious cargo.”

“Wait huuuhhhh this is my last day and I still gotta sit in the back! Oscar buzz off!” Lucy wrapped her arm around Oscar’s neck. “Suffocate or at least lemme get the aux, your life is in your hands.”

Oscar snapped back “If death means I don’t have to hear that damn song again, man so be it!”

**“/ / / / / S S S S M M Y Y Y Y P E E R R R F F E C C T T T T T**  
**D A A A A Y Y Y Y Y Y A W A Y / / /”**

Lucy screamed.

But her attention was caught by last night’s battleground speeding by. Hanging halfway out of the window she yelled. “DON’T GO EXTINCT WHILE I’M GONE! I’LL STEGO-SEE YA LATER!” Tears flying away in the wind Lucy watched as the Dino Dungeon became nothing more than a memory.

**“B O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O / / /”**

Through the rearview mirror, Henry’s eyes narrowed “I can spin around if you wanna try again.”

Voice oozing disappointment, Victor said, “We raised you so much better than that.”

Taking off his headphones, Oscar chimed in, “That was your best material?”

Lucy spat back, “Deehee heck no it wasn’t that bad.”

*(Various groans from brothers.)*

Henry once again spoke up. “Not this deehee stuff again, it didn’t catch on in America and it won’t in Decalore.” Victor and Oscar nodded in agreement.

Pointing at Henry, Lucy erupted “All I’m saying is when one of your clients,” adjusting her finger to aim at Oscar, “or someone at your show,” Lucy’s finger finished its tour, ending locked onto Victor “or the kids you teach says deehee, y’all just better keep this same energy!”

*(Everyone starts bickering.)*

Upon Lucy’s bold declaration every other Lovebeat began to yell, creating a beautifully uncoordinated orchestra of voices. Needless to say, the drive to the train station was just as lively as anything that involved this rambunctious family.