

A SAD MAN  
by  
Chelsea Alice

Chelsea Alice  
971.599.1931  
chelsea.a.alice@icloud.com

EXT. INCHEON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - DAY

ELIAS, 29, haggard, with a slash-scar across the side of his head, exits the Kakao. He pulls out his phone.

ELIAS

Peter? I'm here. Yeah, I'm just cutting it close. The funeral is in a couple days and I have to be on-time.

Elias pulls a bottle of pills out. The label reads: THC  
Take one every 24 hours as needed. He puts it away.

INT. ODD'S ROOM - RECORDING - DAY

ODD, 22, a messy fringe covering his forehead, laughs.

ODD

Hei! Eli! I'm pissing myself imagining your faces. I bet you're both seething.

MARI, 29, her long fishtail braid falling apart, enters.

MARI

Odd! Why are you hiding up here? Come on!

ODD

I'm recording a heartfelt video for Elias, you Kjerring! Say hello!

Mari leans over Odd and looks into the camera.

MARI

Eli, stay in Seoul! I'm leaving for Marseille. Odd is pretending to forget shit again! Like my fucking name. Faen!

Odd snickers. Mari face pushes Odd.

MARI (CONT'D)

You are both fucking idiots!

Mari exits.

Odd looks down. He looks up into the camera, with a small shrug. His eyes tear. He looks away.

INT. INCHEON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - DAY

POSTED SIGN: (In Korean) We are temporarily banning travel with any form of THC due to a surge in noncompliance issues. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Elias places a call.

ELIAS

I can't travel with my meds so I just have to forfeit them. I'll hop on your flight. Are you here? Yeah, I want to, but Mari would kill me.

Elias pulls the bottle out. He walks to the trash.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

Okay, I'll just buy a ticket and meet you at the gate. Already there? The 4:00?

Elias hangs up. He extends the bottle over the bin. He pulls it back and opens it. He empties the four pills into his hand. He pushes the pills around his palm.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

Faen.

Elias swallows the four pills.

INT. ODD'S ROOM - RECORDING - DAY

ODD

You probably won't laugh, but that's what makes it funny, y'know? Because I'm Odd. You probably won't even cry. I bet you'll just get pissed and be cool.

INT. INCHEON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - TICKET COUNTER - DAY

Elias shakes his head. He approaches the ticket counter. He stumbles and catches himself.

ELIAS

(Korean)

Hi. I need to get to Saint Petersburg as quickly as possible. There's a 4:00?

TICKET MAN

(Korean)

Yes, sir. I can put you on the 4:00 to Saint Petersburg.

Elias heaves and drags his hand down his face.

ELIAS

(Korean)

It's a direct flight to Saint Petersburg? That's actually better. Thank you.

TICKET MAN  
 (Korean) (muffled)  
 Of course, sir. Boarding has begun, so  
 please proceed immediately.

INT. ODD'S ROOM - RECORDING - DAY

ODD  
 Death is terrible, but still more  
 terrible is the feeling that you might  
 live forever and never die.

Odd laughs.

INT. PLANE - DAY

Elias steps onto the plane and squints. Passengers fill  
 the majority of the seats.

Text Message from Peter: Where are you??

The flight attendant gestures for Elias to sit.

Elias nods and looks around the plane once more. He texts  
 Peter: Last one on. Where are you sitting?

RONAN, 33, a low fade and beard, smiles.

RONAN  
 Elias! I can't believe it.

ELIAS  
 Ronan Osei! How are you?

RONAN  
 Well! I'm well! And you?

ELIAS  
 Ah, I'm fine.

Elias drags his hand across his scar.

RONAN  
 Business in Seoul and Saint Petersburg.

ELIAS  
 Same for me, except my business in Saint  
 Petersburg is my brother's funeral.

RONAN  
 Jesus Christ. I'm so sorry.

Elias nods.

RONAN (CONT'D)  
(muffled)  
Did he--did he have what your mum had?

Elias sighs.

RONAN (CONT'D)  
(muffled)  
Eli? You okay?

The plane pulls away from the gate.

ELIAS  
He was a funny kid. Always laughing.

RONAN  
Opposite of you then? How is Jen?

Elias scoffs and rubs his eyes.

ELIAS  
I put her out of my misery.

RONAN  
She was annoying. Why Saint Petersburg?

ELIAS  
We all moved there for his work. He is a comedian now. Was.

RONAN  
(muffled)  
Seriously, Elias, are you okay?

ELIAS  
Yeah, sorry, my medication. It's hitting me a bit hard right now, I'm fine. Sorry.

Text from Peter: Didn't even see you get on. Thank god. See you at work.

ELIAS (CONT'D)  
I'm just eager to see Mari. We were both away. I'm worried she is taking it hard for not being there with him.

RONAN  
That isn't her fault.

ELIAS  
I know. I just worry she will think so.

RONAN  
(muffled)  
Not yours either. You know that, Elias?

INT. ODD'S ROOM - RECORDING - DAY

ODD  
You always do all the heavy lifting. I  
hoped this once, I could do it for you.

Odd smiles.

ODD (CONT'D)  
I don't want to go like Mum did. I don't  
want it to be left in your hands again,  
protecting me again. Because you're shite  
at it--look at your head. You almost died  
last time. Jævla idiot.

INT. PLANE - DAY

Elias drags his fingers across his scar.

ELIAS  
You seem happy. With life, I mean.

RONAN  
I am. Fulfilling job, good friends.

ELIAS  
People aren't usually happy. It's  
abnormal.

RONAN  
We have to create our own happiness.

ELIAS  
You make me sick.

RONAN  
(wryly)  
None taken.

ELIAS  
Odd would agree with you though.

RONAN  
Yeah?

ELIAS

He wanted his funeral at the beach so that everyone who takes themselves too seriously would be irate and everyone that didn't could have a laugh.

RONAN

(muffled)

So, you must be incensed.

Elias and Ronan laugh. Elias rubs his eyes.

ELIAS

Any time I called a vendor and mentioned Fort De Soto, they would hang up. Hassle.

RONAN

Where is Fort De Soto?

ELIAS

It's a beach in Saint Petersburg.

RONAN

Oh. Interesting. I've never heard of it. Will the service be in Russian?

ELIAS

Why the fuck would it be in Russian?

The unbuckle seatbelt sign lights up.

RONAN

I mean, it is in Russia.

ELIAS

No, Florida.

RONAN

(muffled)

Oh, fuck! Eli...

Elias stands up. He rubs his eyes and looks around. Ronan stands up and steadies Elias.

RONAN (CONT'D)

(muffled)

Eli?

ELIAS

Fucking Russia?

Elias stumbles, laughing. He falls and laughs.

INT. ODD'S ROOM - RECORDING - DAY

ODD

I want you to be here with me so I can say a proper goodbye, but I know you'd try to stop me. Not try. You would.

Odd shakes his head and leans back.

ODD (CONT'D)

But you'd probably fucking botch it and die yourself.

Odd bursts into laughter.

INT. PLANE - DAY

Elias looks at Mari, on her flight, through video chat.

MARI

How? How? How? Overmedicating? Again?

ELIAS

Jeg beklager, Mari. I'll get on the earliest flight I can.

MARI

How the fuck will that help if the funeral is over? Faen! I have to go!

ELIAS

Mari, I'm sorry.

MARI

Faen av!

Elias puts down the phone.

RONAN

I can't believe how well she took that.

ELIAS

Yeah, I expected much worse.

INT. ODD'S ROOM - RECORDING - DAY

ODD

(Norwegian)

The best way to not be drunk is to stay sober. Fuck Elias, sharpen up.



INT. PULKOVO AIRPORT - DAY

Elias and Ronan emerge. Elias hastens towards Departures.

MARI

(V.O.)

Her borte, idiot!

Ronan grabs Elias' arm. Elias looks around.

Mari, eyes puffy, stands with her arms crossed.

Elias approaches Mari.

ELIAS

Mari? How did you--

Elias drags his fingers across his scar.

MARI

I'd boarded but got off and changed flights.

ELIAS

But the funeral--

MARI

Odd's not there anyways. He's here.

Mari touches her chest with one hand.

MARI (CONT'D)

And here.

Mari touches Elias' chest with the other.

MARI (CONT'D)

So we have to be together to say goodbye.

Elias looks down.

MARI (CONT'D)

Plus, he, like you, is an idiot and would have found your idiocy hilarious.

Mari moves her hand upward and pushes Elias' chin.

Elias grabs her hand and pulls her into an embrace.

ELIAS

Let's go to the beach.