

Life Stuck in Rewind

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Georgina, 20, wearing a black dress, enters a coffee shop. Behind her, a man in a tan jacket passes outside. She stands in a line at a coffee shop. There are about three people in front of her when her phone rings. She pulls it out and answers it.

GEORGINA

Hey Tammy.

TAMMY (V.O.)

Hey Georgina, we still getting lunch?

GEORGINA

Yeah, no changes today. One o'clock, Streetside Saigon.

TAMMY (V.O.)

C'mon, lets do something different!

GEORGINA

Nah.

TAMMY

Ugh, you're so boring! We have to branch out eventually y'know.

GEORGINA

I know, I know. Another day. I like my routine.

TAMMY (V.O.)

Speaking of routines, you try that new playlist I sent you?

GEORGINA

Sorry, not yet.

TAMMY (V.O.)

Try it! Today when you get that cappuccino you always get, try just one song. Later.

Georgina hangs up, and is surprised to see the three people in front of her have already ordered. She scurries up to the counter and smiles at the barista, BETHANY.

GEORGINA

Sorry about that Bethany, was a little distracted. Give me the usual, cappuccino with an extra shot.

She pays Bethany and takes a seat at a high table, swinging her legs a little. She stares out the window, getting a little lost in her thoughts. She picks up her cappuccino once it's ready and heads out the door.

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

She walks down the sidewalk to a nearby bus stop and puts in her headphones and plays a playlist titled "Georgina's Mix". The music is nothing remarkable.

She takes a seat, taking a sip of her cappuccino, looking around her. There are few other people there too, a man in a tan jacket, a woman with a baby. She sees it approach, and stands up and walks forward in preparation to board.

We hear TIRES SCREECH, and see her coffee go flying.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

BETHANY

Georgina? Are you ready to order?

Georgina looks up, frantic and confused. She's in the coffee shop, and hasn't ordered yet. She sighs, relieved.

GEORGINA

Yeah, sorry, just had a weird moment of...deja vu, I guess. Give me the usual, a cappuccino with an extra shot.

BETHANY

Sure thing, that'll be right out.

Georgina takes a seat at the sofa in the cafe, still looking a little frazzled. As she does so, the colors around her are suddenly brighter, the music more lively. She straightens her dress and looks down, puzzled. The once black dress she was wearing is now red.

GEORGINA

What the...

BETHANY

Here you are.

GEORGINA

Thanks Bethany.

Bethany looks at Georgina, concerned.

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BETHANY

Are you feeling alright? You look a little... lost.

GEORGINA

Yeah, I'm ok.

She grabs her cappuccino, and heads out the door.

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

She heads in the opposite direction of the bus stop, taking a sip of her cappuccino. She looks up, admiring the bright blue sky. She passes a man in a tan jacket. She puts her music on, same as before. She crosses the street, but her music is so loud that she doesn't hear the car's blaring horn. She looks, a moment too late, and as the car is making impact with her-

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

BETHANY

Georgina? Are you ready to order?

Georgina looks around, astounded she's still in the coffee shop.

GEORGINA

Shit, yeah, sorry. Can I get the usual? I'm having a weird day.

BETHANY

Sure thing.

Bethany pours hands her a cappuccino and Georgina hurriedly runs out the door.

MONTAGE

-Georgina plays her playlist, walks by the Wildflower, hit by a car.

-Georgina plays her playlist, stands on the corner of Some Burros and doesn't move, a car swerves up onto it and hits her.

-Georgina plays her playlist and flags down someone on a bike. The two take off, get hit by a car. We see a wheel from the bike roll by.

END MONTAGE

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

She heads down the sidewalk, along the shops. Still frazzled from all these events, she puts her headphones in and takes a seat outside Cultured. She opens up SoundCloud. Instead of clicking on "Georgina's Mix," she selects one titled "Tammy's Tunes." She hits shuffle, and a bright ELECTRO SWING song comes on. Everything becomes brighter than before, the jazzy tunes brightening the mood. She gets up, energized, and starts walking down the shops. She notices a bookstore and heads inside.

INT. BOOKSTORE - DAY

She browses along the isles of books, taking her time now, breathing deeper, trying to relax. She walks past rows of fantasy, autobiographical, cooking, psychological horror, mystery, until she comes to the large selection of science fantasy books and smiles, finally looking comfortable. She takes a swig of her drink and picks up a book with a purple spine and goes over to an empty chair and sits down, opening it up. Before she gets a chance to read it, the MAN IN THE TAN JACKET next to her speaks up. He's messing with a metal lighter as he speaks.

THE MAN IN THE TAN JACKET  
Are you familiar with his work?

Georgina looks up, surprised someone is talking to her.

GEORGINA  
Huh? Uh, I'm not sure.

She glances at the cover, the book she picked up is "TIME OUT OF JOINT."

GEORGINA  
I guess I haven't. Why, are you?

THE MAN IN THE TAN JACKET  
To some degree. This one is a fun read, a man is stuck repeating the same day until something changes. Neat, huh?

Georgina shifts uncomfortably in her seat, looking at the book.

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GEORGINA

Yeah, I guess.

She looks back up to find him oddly close to her.

GEORGINA

Can I help you?

He stares her in the face

THE MAN IN THE TAN JACKET

You've been stuck in a stress loop.  
You've gotta break the monotony,  
Georgie. Bad things can happen to a  
person stuck in a rut. Ruts are  
where dreams go to die.

Georgina gives him a skeptical look.

GEORGINA

How do you know my name? Who are  
you?

The man in the tan jacket points to her headphones in her  
pocket.

THE MAN IN THE TAN JACKET

Look how far you've come this time,  
with the couch, the dress, the  
music. You're so close! Jump the  
coffee ship and change your fate!

Georgina shakes her head, and rushes out of the bookshop.  
The man follows her out

EXT. BOOKSTORE - DAY

Georgina stands on the curb, and the man in the tan jacket  
stands in front of her. He pushes her into an oncoming car.  
(Authors note: POV shot for this?)

THE MAN IN THE TAN JACKET

Do it right this time, Georgie!

We see the book and the coffee go flying.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

BETHANY

Georgina? Can I help you?

Georgina looks incredibly stressed, panting a bit. She shakes her head and looks at Bethany, still a little breathless.

GEORGINA

Y'know what? I think I'm gonna skip the cappuccino today. I'm going to do something different today.

Bethany looks surprised, yet proud.

BETHANY

Look at you, being adventurous.

GEORGINA

Figured it's time for a change.

Georgina waves and exits the coffee shop.

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

She steps out of the coffee shop and takes a deep breath. She pulls out her phone and calls Tammy. She walks towards the bookshop again.

TAMMY (V.O.)

Hey Georgie, whats up?

GEORGINA

I've changed my mind about our plans. Meet me at that climbing gym downtown.

TAMMY (V.O.)

Wait, am I hearing you right? You don't even know how to rock climb, this is so unlike you.

GEORGINA

(laugh)

Yeah, I'm good. Gotta get out of that routine rut at some point, plus I've always wanted to give it a try.

She glances in the bookshop, where she sees the Man in the Tan Jacket sitting, reading. They make eye contact, and he winks at her. Georgina acknowledges the man and keeps walking down the street, a smile on her face. She pulls up Tammy's playlist and hits shuffle.