

# Card review : Artem - Cozy

## Contentment



### **Notation (very subjective) out of 20 :**

- **Art : 4/5**
  - **Reason** : I like the retro vibes of the first illustration and I love the cozy vibes of the second one. Also, glasses.
- **Story plot (the idea of the story, how interesting/emotional and good it was) : 6/8**
- **Story writing (flow of sentences, of the story, translation, how it's written, how the characters behaved) : 5/7**
- **Special bonus point (for the card I especially liked) : 0/1**
  - **Reason for the bonus point** : /

**Total : 15/20**

**Lore card, Fluff card or both ?** : Fluff and lore I guess

### **Story Keywords :**

#Vinyl

#Travel

#Movie

#Dance

#Encounter

### **Act per act summary :**

#### **Act 1**

At Artem's residence, Rosa is lining up her nail polish on the table in the living room when Artem comes back from doing the groceries. She explains to him that she forgot about them until now and it was an impulsive buy she made. Artem suggests putting them somewhere safe if she ever wants to try and Rosa, knowing where she can use her nail polish, shows

him a film event called “Interpret your favorite movie like the Mockingbird”, which consists in acting out the scenes from the movie. Rosa says she is aiming for the third prize, which is a vinyl and asks Artem for his cooperation. He accepts but asks her why she wants this prize in particular. She points out his vinyl collection of movie music scores and says it's for him since he wants it. Flashback to a few days before, when they were sorting out what they were bringing to their new home. Rosa notices that one of the cases is empty, the one for the music from an old movie called Lurid Story. Artem tells her it's one of his earliest among his collection and seems very fond of it, despite him not telling her why. He tells her he might have stored the record in another box so they could search for it, but in the end they didn't find it. So Rosa thought about replacing it. Artem then understands she wants to recreate a scene from Lurid Story.

## **Act 2**

Rosa nods, talking about how the dance scene in the lounge is iconic, so she used the opportunity to try to see which nail polish would be the closest to the one in the movie. Artem suggests helping out by putting it on for her. Seeing how nervous he is to apply it, she starts to tease him, asking for “help” to relax, so Artem starts to hum the music from the movie. Rosa asks him how important the vinyl is for him so he explains that it's the first he ever owned. Then he asks her why she chose this scene from that movie since during the event, she'll have to explain its importance before everyone else. Rosa tells him that back in her freshman or sophomore year they went on a study trip abroad and went into a coffee shop which sold vinyl too. The shopkeeper told her she was free to request any song she wanted and she followed another customer recommendation and went with Something you never knew, the music from Lurid Story. Artem tells her that he finds her story interesting and he even tells her that he would maybe have opened a similar shop if he wasn't an attorney. To help her make the story more interesting, they start to imagine a parallel world where Artem would be the shopkeeper of the place she described. As the moment they imagine starts to take a romantic turn, Rosa stops, saying it's nothing like her experience, where something weird happened. The shopkeeper actually gave her the record for that song and she was hurried by another classmate to go back to the hotel so she actually left without paying anything. Wondering where she left that record, Rosa wants to call her old classmate but is stopped by Artem, who tells her the most important thing is to practice their scene and her story and it wasn't this important. Still feeling kind of weird about his attitude, she still ignores it.

## **Act 3**

After days of rehearsals, the event is here. Having aliases, they look at other competitors, trying to gauge their abilities before the competition starts. Artem tells her she has her chances. When it's their turn, Rosa recalls her own experience and follows up with an analysis of the movie. Since Artem stayed quiet, the organizer pushes him to speak a bit and he completes Rosa's analysis with his own thoughts. He starts to tell everyone a story about a university trip. Rosa remembers as he is talking how they imagined different scenarios while practicing but soon enough, the organizer interrupts them, saying it's time for a break and their story can pick-up after it. Rosa drags Artem in a restroom and as she mentions how he was a tease for sharing an imaginary story, he points out that it wasn't entirely imaginary. He straightens her outfit a bit before they return to the lounge where the event is happening.

#### **Act 4**

Back there, Rosa is wondering what Artem meant but can't talk to him alone. They are getting ready and as she remembers both of their stories, she realizes that Artem might really have been that one customer. Flashback to that time, several years ago. Rosa, confused by the language the shopkeeper is speaking, is helped by Artem, who translates it for and and explains what the employee of the store told her, about the movie night, the song she can pick... The flashback ends at the same time as the dance, which is received with applause. Rosa uses the moment to ask Artem why he didn't tell her they met previously back at home and he says that he prefers to enjoy the present moment rather than the past and there's a specific moment to reveal everything. He adds that he wanted to relive this moment with her during the event. As they talk about the events once again, Rosa realizes the reason why Artem's record case is empty.

#### **Act 5**

She remembers the moment the true shop owner came back and gave the record to her without her being able to understand what he was talking about. The shopkeeper then went to Artem to talk to him and Rosa was dragged out by her other classmates. Back to the present, she wants to ask him what the owner said but they are interrupted by the result announcement. Artem tells her that they can skip the announcement since his case was



already empty. He continues and says that the owner told her to invite Artem for a dance and to talk with him. It is by coincidence that now their paths have converged once more. He explains much more, as well as the fact that the night they met in that shop he was writing movie reviews but never shared them before. But realizing it could make links between people, he started to post them online, which helped him make connections. Artem tells her that she was the one who created Mockingbird, making this event come to life.

## **Act 6**

Back at the new house, they unwrap the first prize they won, which is a record player in the shape of a suitcase. Rosa uses this moment to show him the record from the movie she got after making a deal with the organizer. She explains that she asked the lady where to find a place to buy that record and the organizer gave it to her in exchange for volunteering for the future events. Rosa says that they can now put it away but Artem stops her, suggesting to listen to it instead. In order to fully recreate the scene once more, Artem re-apply some nail polish on Rosa's fingers. While he is doing that, she asks him if he would have invited her to dance if she could have stayed a bit longer and Artem confirms. Once he finishes applying it, they get up and Artem extends a dance invitation to her. She accepts and they start dancing, accompanied by the music from that special movie for them.

## **Personal opinion**

General (made along my reading) :

I loved it until it became a past story 😞

I was like : I hope it's simply a story that helps for the movie and not a story that happened between them and they never knew it was each other until now... For my hopes to be shattered. I mean, sure I LOVE those kinds of stories BUUUUT I would have like more one which was like "I would have loved to meet you sooner and share those little moments with you" you know... But anyways, that's personal preferences, so I'm actually fine, no biggies.

But omg Rosa ? Istg, it was so obvious, even if Rosa wasn't the player and had a point of view like us, she should KNOW Artem would NOT lie in a competition and hence it was the TRUTH. And she FELT he was oddly weird around the topic... And the empty case, coincidentally being the of the record she got once one day... So. Obvious. At least it didn't

take long after Artem hinted it out to her for her to understand but wow... It's like the author were like : she wouldn't figure it out without a hint to let's give her a hint instead of making Rosa do wild supposition or thinking too much and getting it right.

Also the end with how Mockingbird, an identity specific to Artem, was linked to be the doing of Rosa. Tbh, I will not add on too much on why it made me sour, but it was a bit like something got robbed from Artem's identity and I do not like it...

I JUST want to point out how weird it is for the writers to, like, insist so much on their common past and their "red string of fated lover" moments when Artem says he prefers the present. Also, if THIS is the justification for the lack of Artem past, well it doesn't fly with me since EVEN in the present, some important stuff was skipped so...

I don't know. I didn't enjoy this card as much as I would have wanted to. Idk if I'm picky or not but I feel bad feeling that way...

What I liked (bullet points) :

- Artem with glasses
- Artem humming
- A card with one common theme throughout
- A card with the theme of movie

What I disliked (bullet points) :

- Another card about how they were "meant to be together"
- Rosa not thinking deeper about his attitude and trying to piece things together before getting a hint from him.
- How Artem hid the truth but especially the reason WHY he did it. It was supposed to be romantic but I just feel sour about it.
- How this whole card basically makes Mockingbird, something belonging to Artem, actually belong to Rosa.

Would I recommend getting this story ?

Honestly ? Not really, except if you're very into the art (which is beautiful) and Artem with glasses-