

Fussing with his short soft blue hair for a moment the Succubun resisted the urge to tug at one of his equally pale blue rabbit ears. He'd - stupidly - allowed a coworker to sign him up for a dating website and assign him to a blind date for Matentines. It wasn't something he *normally* did and (if he was honest) it probably wouldn't be something he'd do again.

But he'd agreed, so here he was. Sitting in a small cafe tucked off into a corner while he did his best to not just get up and leave.

It wasn't that Mika didn't *want* to date, just that he didn't currently have time to date. Not with his current batch of Loafkis that he was raising. They took up all his time and attention - even Blueberry was being uncharacteristically needy lately and he'd never been that kind of an Impup.

(That and his coworker had picked the completely wrong gender for him to be interested in as his blind date.)

Heaving a sigh he allowed his baby-blue eyes to rove around the sickly pink, white, and red decorations with hearts and arrows scattered around everywhere. He always found it extremely tacky this time of year, and once again he was reminded of why.

Glancing down at his phone he frowned. He knew he was early, but he didn't think that his... date? Would be running late. Not that she was late, but it was getting to be close to the time of their "date" and his own dislike of running late was bleeding over into her not yet here, still possibly running on time, which was going to cause him some anxiety.

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Aurora slowly dragged herself to the cafe, sleep still lingering in her eyes as she scanned the room through the window. A few protests and grumbles behind her snapped her back into the situation at hand and with a deep breath, she stepped in the door and off to the side to let the others pass, not to mention give her a moment to pause and look around. This was her sister's idea, and she was supposed to be here too with her own date, but she was nowhere to be found. *Did they leave already?* She wondered to herself, a little rude considering this was her idea.

Shrugging the thoughts of her sister off, she took the moment to look and see if she could find her placement. Her eyes couldn't help but sparkle in adoration at the gaudy decorations. They were cheesy, pink, and absolutely adorable. It was only through this gaze over did she notice who she thought was just the Bun she was looking for. She looked down at her clothes, smoothing out the wrinkles that could not actually be tamed no matter how hard she tried, and then walk the path towards them.

She was in no way a shy Succubun, but she wasn't the best at socializing, which made the walk there all the more difficult as the nerves started to settle in. Where was she supposed to even start? Upon approach, she held herself up high before leaning in slowly with her arms behind her back.

"Excuse me. Do you mind if I join you?" Her smile was genuine, but her voice cracked as she tried to raise its tone, knowing she was still half asleep from staying up too late with her studies.

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Mika blinked a little when a shadow fell over his table and he glanced up at Succubun standing before him. She was pretty - just like she'd been in her profile picture - and he quickly nodded his head, getting up to pull a chair out of her in a tangle of nervous limbs. (He didn't even know *why* he was so nervous. To begin with, she wasn't even his type and he *would* have to let her down gently at the end of all this but it had excited his coworker and he hadn't had the heart to tell them that he was gay.)

"Miss Aurora?"

The Succubun smiled sweetly at her once they'd both gotten settled again and he casually pulled out the small bouquet of flowers that he'd set aside on the table and offered them out to her with a mild flourish.

"You're even prettier in person than you are in that single teaser photo the app gives us. Thank you so much for coming. I am - indeed - Mika."

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"That's me!" She gave a short curtsy to try and hide the fact that she almost stumbled over as she moved towards the chair that he pulled out for her. "Please, just call me Aurora though."

The flowers threw her thoughts off for a moment, she definitely wasn't expecting such a gesture. She was very quick to accept them either way, they were wonderful and definitely enough to keep the awkward smile that formed on her face.

Taking the seat, she smoothed her dress under her as she sat down in the chair that he had offered her, gently moving the decorations on the table to the side so they could see each other.

"Thank you, Mika. This is so very sweet." She tried very hard to be careful with the bouquet as she held them up close before setting them near her. "I hope I didn't make you wait too long, my imp protested me leaving by running off with my hair bow.." A small laugh cutting her words off as she trailed off with slight embarrassment. She promised herself that she wasn't going to immediately blab about her imps, and here it was, one of the first things she brought up.

She took her brief moment of silence to look the other Succubun over. He was pretty cute himself, but something struck her differently.

"So...."

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His face brightened ever so slightly at the mention of "imp" and he couldn't help himself from asking the next question (even if it was a little out of place for what they *should* be talking about on a "date.")

"What kind of Imp do you have? Do you have any photos of them?"

Mika paused, having the decency to look sheepish for a moment at his question before deciding to plow onwards regardless.

"I mostly own Loafkis. I'm a bit of a breeder of them, actually. I acquire them and then raise and train them myself before finding them new homes."

The Succubun bit his lip before he could babble any farther, flashing her an embarrassed smile at his slight rambling.

"A-anyways, sorry. I didn't mean to go off like that."

Aurora felt her tail perk up slightly as he lit up, smiling wide and giggling to herself as she almost as eagerly pulled out her phone to show him the photos she had that filled her gallery.

"That sounds so cool! Don't be sorry, I almost did it too actually. I have a little baby Phloof named Bijou and I was ever so lucky to get just the sweetest of Stellarams from Quince when she first set up her little shop that I named Layla."

She leaned into the table as she spoke up, almost pressing the table forward in her display of interest towards the idea. A loafki breeder? She definitely didn't pin him as someone to do that, but that just made it all the more exciting.

"What are they like? I've only ever met the one that I helped Hutch with when I went to ask about getting Bijou and I have the plush that I won at the little carnival fair thing this summer. They just look so soft and cute."

Mika eagerly leaned forward as well to peer over at her screen, blue eyes fixed onto the small fluffy form of the Phloof that Aurora owned.

"Phloofs are pretty cute, and I've never seen a Stellaram before. Bijou and Layla? They both look really soft."

He pulled out his own phone to flick through photos of his current group of Loafki to show her.

"I have Blueberry my Impup who - while not a Loafki - was my first Imp and he helps me train them. This one is Creampuff."

Mika paused a moment on the photo of the Frostbitten Loafki he was currently raising, the round white figure happily munching on a fruit that he'd stolen from the Succubun moments prior. (Or, "munching" since there was no sign of *how* the Imp was eating, just that part of the fruit was suddenly gone.)

"And then this one is Mousse."

The Succubun showed off a photo of a round, brown dessert Loafki who was snoozing upside down in the pet bed that they had claimed.

"Overall... Loafki are pretty calm, though they're nervous around strangers. They like to sleep a lot and just lounge around. Honestly they're pretty low maintenance."

The more photos he showed her, the more visibly excited she got. There wasn't much that got her excited most days, only her topic of study and imps could make her like this, and now she just really wanted to get a new imp.

"Honestly, they sound just like me. They are so cute though! Talk about looking soft, they're so round." She couldn't help but laugh out loud, she was a lazy sort overall, school, a small amount of crafts, and her imps were the most she did most days. "I wonder how my sister would feel if I brought home a new imp... we already have so many now that we live in a bigger home."

She couldn't help but think of how well it would fit in with her two, just a pile of laziness loafing around the house. It would drive Coralia even more insane.

"Stellarams are supposed to be very similar I guess, they're just soft, sleepy little friends. Layla flies and sleeps, it amazes me to no end. Sometimes I have to catch her before she hurts herself"

Lifting her arms up, she showed a few spots where she may have hit Layla's horns on her arms recently and shrugged, she was pretty sure hers was a little dumber than most.

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He couldn't help but laugh a little at the image Aurora painted of her Stelleram. Somehow he didn't doubt that the Imp would sleep while floating; Getting hurt was definitely a concern.

"Looks a little painful though."

Mika peered at the spots that were bruised, face sympathetic to her plight.

"Hopefully that doesn't happen too often though. Still, anything to keep your Imps saf-"

The Succubun frowned as his phone went off. He was going to ignore it - honestly - but the number on the screen gave him pause. It was from his boss (never a good sign) and the flashing text that accompanied the ringing made him wince.

"Ah... Well that's..."

Mika rubbed the back of his neck, looking at Aurora sheepishly and with some regret. He was beginning to think he'd actually enjoy this "date" (even if he hadn't had a chance to tell her that he was gay yet) but it was about to be cut very short.

"That's my boss. It seems that two people called in sick and he needs me to cover."

He sighed, flicking away the text message notification.

"I hate to leave just as soon as you got here but... My boss isn't the most patient person."

Slowly Mika began to gather up his belongings, pausing for a moment as he did so.

"Here, give me your phone and I'll add my number to it so we don't have to rely on that stupid app to talk. If you're up for it, I'd love to hang out again sometime. Maybe... at an Imp Park?"

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“Not any worse than our own horns, although I guess that doesn’t make it any better.” She made a silly face and shrugged, lowering her arms back down and staring at them. She had never really thought about it before actually. “The payment of love, she has the best cuddles for nap time.”

The thought of a nap almost made her yawn, holding it back, taking a deep breath and holding it for a second. The shift in his mood in response to his phone made her tilt her head to the side as she tried not to peak and be nosey.

“Well poo on him.” She gave a soft, but understanding frown. “Don’t people know that imps are important?” her words twisted her frown into a grin as she placed her hand on her hips for only a moment.

She opened her phone back up and and opened up the app to add a new contact and slid the phone towards him without caring too much of what happened. Watching it as it stopped right in front of him.

“That... actually does sound like fun. I suppose I need to get out of the house more often.. and I haven’t been to an imp park in quite awhile. We’ll definitely have to meet up! I can introduce you to Layla.”

She stood up shortly after him to collect her own and put the table back together. She wished more dates were like this. Short, all about imps, and less... touchy. Although, she had a feeling she shouldn’t go home quite yet after this, which only made her sigh heavily. At least she had something to look forward to now.

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Typing his number in quickly he added himself to Aurora’s contacts before passing the phone back to her with a tiny, but sad, smile. He really had been enjoying himself. He’d have to grumble to his coworkers later about his boss and the interruption to this... date... thing.

“Then we’ll absolutely visit an Imp Park together. I can’t wait to meet Layla.”

Mika gathered up his things, sighing slightly.

“Going to work today was *not* in my cards. I’m so sorry Aurora. But... I had fun during what little chance we had to talk. Thank you for actually showing up.”

Here he flashed her a teasing grin before tossing the other Succubun a small wave and walking out. (Though not without paying a tip to their server, food ordered or not.)