I like to think of myself as a considerate person. I pay attention to people when they talk, I’ll keep in mind our conversations and ask people about X or Y – to the point where I’ve had people wonder how I still remember some throwaway comment from a year ago about hadn’t had a churro in a year or whatever.

It’s not like it comes naturally to me. I am this way because I actively try – and that means listening to people’s stories, even if they’re saying whatever about their whatever again for the twentieth time. The boredom that comes forth from that would never have me risk missing out on something relevant or important about or for someone else.

But holy fuck, Rebecca, can you talk about something other than your dumb-ass boyfriend for once.

“Isn’t that amazing?” she asks.

Smile and nod.

“Hey, come to think of it – you and Josh broke up a while ago, right?”

“Yeah,” I respond, thinking back on the guy. “We grew apart.”

We met at a party a friend threw. I got a bit too overzealous, and in the end was too drunk to think about whether it was okay to let a guy I barely knew escort me home.

Luckily, he wasn’t a bad person. I reached out to apologize about bothering him and we hit it off.

Went on a few dates, caught feelings, ended up dating for a little over a year. Over time, it became clearer and clearer that we wanted different things from life – only partly related to the fact that I had very little interest in backpacking through mainland Europe and Asia in every long holiday.

“Brayden was just saying he knew a nice guy – why don’t we go on a double date sometimes?”

Frankly, it doesn’t seem like a bad proposition. It’ll sate Rebecca’s clear need to introduce me to her new boytoy/object of incredible adoration, and will give me a relatively safe way of meeting someone – I can just keep all 4 of us together and not split into twos if he’s a douche – without having to go through the effort of looking for them first.

It's not a bad idea.

Besides, I’m a good friend – I’ll keep my ✨Bestie✨ happy.

“Oh, I’d looove to~❤️” I say, in my best excited voice.