Dear Diary,

It’s been a fucking week.

Yesterday was definitely a lot to take in.

It started with dad calling me and letting me know about all of the shit that’s going down with Hernando and Movii. I was initially so excited that I probably acted a bit rashly and dangerously.

I made a long written post on the random channel for the INFO slack and I didn’t fact check anything I was saying.

Fast forward about 2 hours, I got a call from Linda saying I got rejected from the GoDaddy internship. It makes sense - Jason wants someone who is graduating soon so he doesn’t lose them. I know I wouldn’t stay at GoDaddy anyway.

It does hurt though. Especially since they use my face on a giant poster board to recruit other interns. But, there’s probably a reason I didn’t get this internship, it means that the universe has something else in store for me this upcoming summer. We’ll see what that is.

Anyways, so then I was gearing up to do my next teach a ta section, when Shiva approaches me in the TLC building looking very worried. She asks if I can sit in as a witness for a student she has to talk to who has been plagiarizing. I said yes.

I ended up sitting in and getting drawn into that drama. It was good to experience though, I should understand how these things work.

Then Shiva and I talked for a while about the department in general and all of the drama. The fact that international students don’t feel like they fit in, the fact the Himan is just a hot spot for arguments and anger and how I am trying to break through to him, and just small qualms / dramatic things. I felt a little bit uneasy that we were talking about these things in the TLC building… because the *last* thing I would ever want to do is to be known as a gossiper in the department here.

Either way, I’m glad I learned about these things. I think I have the potential to really make a big impact here. I feel like in a way I already am.

So then, after defending Himan, I got a bunch of messages from him basically calling me out for saying invalid stuff about Colombia on my slack post. It turns out he was right. And I’m grateful for that, it reminded me that this stuff is important and I shouldn’t just blindly trust who I want to trust. I need to fact check every side equally.

It did make me feel like he was assuming that I don’t know what I’m talking about though. It also made me worry about the information that I share and how quickly I jump to publicly post things without thinking them through.

When Aaron messaged me today asking about how the Movii drama has anything to do with China censorship (something that I typed), I realized I needed to just delete the original post. It’s too risky with everything going on with the gag order, and also I was overthinking everyone’s interpretation of it far too much.

Then I got really in my head, wondering if I’m being too active on slack in general, and if I’m bragging unintentionally, or coming across as a bitchy overachiever in the department.

I know that this isn’t true of course… but it’s easy to think it is true.

Some amazing things happened this week, but because I was already in a weird headspace from all of this, I was worried about gloating or not being humble.

For example, my students in 1201 are INCREDIBLE. They literally wrote songs for me, serenaded me, wrote poems for me, made pins with my face on them, drew me beautiful story books.. And no one else’s students did these things. My students also yelled out “We love you Jess!” when I gave a 1 min intro to Nasim’s interview study at the beginning of lecture the other day… which made Jason say a ‘joke’ that was something along the lines of “jeez, I’m sorry to whoever doesn’t have Jess as their TA”.. *with all the other TAs in the room*.

That morning I was already feeling stressed about this idea of showing off as a TA because just an hour earlier in our TA meeting, I mentioned that my students have been participating so much more, and everyone said it’s because I’m a good teacher and that I inspire them.. And that their students apparently love me when I substitute for their classes.

I don’t know… it’s like half of me is so proud of myself and so happy that the students love me and that the other TAs and Jason love this, and half of me wonders if they think I am pretentious and they are mad at me in some way… which is probably totally all in my head.

So anyways, I’ve just been up in my head a bit this week. It doesn’t help that I’m pretty sleep deprived because I’ve overcommitted myself to a million things again - as per usual.

Right now I am putting so much effort into the GRFP proposal, classes, Código, now this Movii stuff, keeping up to date with friends, TA obligations, trying to be social with people in the department, finishing my fairness tutorial, spending time with Paris+climbing friends, taking this spanish class, doing yoga + self-care…

**It’s a fuck-ton of work**. I work all day, every day. And now I’m not even prioritizing sleep. I hope that is just because the GRFP deadline is coming up.

Something I did want to mention randomly that I forgot… on my birthday, when I was meditating to the full moon. Right as I asked the moon to give me the guidance I need to let go of the things that don’t serve me in order to create space to open up to whatever is to come… a shooting stars oared through the sky right next to the moon. It was magical.

So magical that I’ve been really feeling motivated to be healthy this week in terms of eating and not smoking. It’s been great. Even with all of this drama and sleep deprivation and being in a weird headspace and second guessing myself… I’ve still wanted to stay healthy to my body as much as I can.

Speaking of that.. I’m currently at Laughing Goat, it’s 9:53 pm, I’ve been here for hours doing work, and I haven’t eaten dinner… this live music is so relaxing that I feel like I could fall asleep. I think I should head out to get some food and get to bed, tomorrow is a long day that will probably be full of adderall and finishing my GRFP proposal.

It’ll be so nice to take care of Tungsten (Natalie’s dog) this weekend.

Also Comscicon will be really interesting to attend, even if it makes my schedule that crazier.

Okay, the time has come.

I’ll process all this more later, for now I just wanted to get some thoughts down.

More soon,

~ Jess

23