

Chrysanthemum & Esperanza

Written by

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Seventh Draft

1 **EXT. NEW YORK CITY - 42ND STREET - DAY**

1

On-Screen Text: New York City

2005

New York City B-Roll Footage

Establishing shot of the New York Public Library.

2 **INT. NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY - DAY**

2

CHRYSANTHEMUM leads ESPERANZA through an aisle of bookshelves, searching through the spines for a title.

 ESPERANZA

So what's this book your looking for called?

 CHRYSANTHEMUM

It's called "Riemann's Zeta Function". By Harold Edwards.

 ESPERANZA

"Riemann's Zeta Function".

Chrysanthemum takes out a book from the shelf.

 CHRYSANTHEMUM

Look at this.

Chrysanthemum shows Esperanza the cover.

 CHRYSANTHEMUM (cont'd)

I don't know if you remember we used study this in high school.

 ESPERANZA

I cannot remember what books we were reading.

 CHRYSANTHEMUM

This one has a special place in my heart.

 ESPERANZA

Is that what you wanted to show me?

 CHRYSANTHEMUM

No, it's not this, but it should be around here.

ESPERANZA

What times does your train leave again?

CHRYSANTHEMUM

(checks watch)

In about... fifteen minutes.

ESPERANZA

You sure you don't want to go to the station right now?

CHRYSANTHEMUM

We have time.

Chrysanthemum takes out a book.

CHRYSANTHEMUM (cont'd)

Okay, here it is!

Chrysanthemum shows Esperanza the book.

CHRYSANTHEMUM (cont'd)

Let's go sit down.

3 INT. LIBRARY - TABLE - DAY

3

Chrysanthemum flips through the book with Esperanza sitting beside.

CHRYSANTHEMUM

Okay, so I started reading this back in like 2001; and over time I noticed I was the only one checking this book out, so I started just writing in my own notes.

Chrysanthemum shows Esperanza a page with notes on mathematics.

ESPERANZA

Wow. You're gonna get fined for this.

CHRYSANTHEMUM

It gets worse because then I started to just mess around and I wrote whatever I wanted in here; whatever I was thinking about. So now it's become like a diary of my life from 2001, 2002.

Chrysanthemum flips to a page in the book.

CHRYSANTHEMUM (cont'd)
 So you can read here this is when we
 graduated.

Chrysanthemum hands the book to Esperanza.

Esperanza reads in their mind.

ESPERANZA
 I remember this day.

Esperanza flips through the pages.

CHRYSANTHEMUM
 You can read it, I'm not going to. I
 don't remember exactly what I wrote
 down.

ESPERANZA
 Hmmm, let me see if there's anything
 with my name in it... "Today I helped
Esperanza film a music video with
 Victor, we went to Times Square but
 Esperanza got distracted at Toys 'R'
 Us".

CHRYSANTHEMUM
 You don't have to read it out loud.

ESPERANZA
 "I got Esperanza the new Strokes
 CD...", "Esperanza performed at her
 cousin's wedding", "I listened to
 Esperanza's new demo and it's not
 good but I don't know how to tell her
 about it." ??? Wow, rude.

CHRYSANTHEMUM
 I did tell you about the demo though.
 And the point is; there's a lot of
 memories of us in there.

ESPERANZA
 This is an interesting project you
 have here.

CHRYSANTHEMUM
 I'm surprised the book is still here.

Esperanza continues turning the pages until a paragraph
 catches their attention.

ESPERANZA

"It was a year ago today that I met Esperanza. We're lucky to have met, but I don't have enough room in this margin to write how much she means to me."

Beat.

CHRYSANTHEMUM

It's still lucky we met.

ESPERANZA

Yeah.

CHRYSANTHEMUM

It's only been four years but I feel like we've known each other longer.

ESPERANZA

Well we kinda did 'cause we went to the same schools for years.

CHRYSANTHEMUM

Yeah but we didn't talk to each other. Like if Ms. Ferris didn't assign our seats together in calculus, we might've not said anything at all.

ESPERANZA

I love Ms. Ferris.

CHRYSANTHEMUM

Right? I wonder what she's doing right now.

ESPERANZA

Probably getting ready for the school year.

CHRYSANTHEMUM

Yeah probably.

Esperanza looks at Chrysanthemum.

ESPERANZA

What are you gonna do when you get to Boston?

CHRYSANTHEMUM

I'm gonna unpack, get my room sorted.
I actually met someone online who
goes to Harvard and she's gonna show
me around.

ESPERANZA

You met someone already?

CHRYSANTHEMUM

Yeah we've been chatting all summer
about school. They're working to get
their PhD, like me.

ESPERANZA

That's good. That you met someone.

CHRYSANTHEMUM

Yeah, it's crazy. I haven't even
arrived there yet and I already made
a friend.

ESPERANZA

What's their name?

CHRYSANTHEMUM

Taina.

Beat

CHRYSANTHEMUM (cont'd)

You should sign up on MySpace. That
way you can see what I'm up to at
Harvard.

ESPERANZA

I don't know. Maybe.

CHRYSANTHEMUM

You can also upload your music and
share it with people. That way you
don't have to carry your CDs
everywhere.

Chrysanthemum looks at Esperanza's back pack, stuffed with
CDs and other music junk.

CHRYSANTHEMUM (cont'd)

And you can meet new friends.

Esperanza doesn't respond.

Chrysanthemum looks at Esperanza.

CHRYSANTHEMUM (cont'd)
I wish I could stay here. I don't
want us to separate.

Esperanza doesn't say anything.

CHRYSANTHEMUM (cont'd)
You can say what's on your mind you
know.

Beat.

Esperanza looks at Chrysanthemum.

ESPERANZA
Alright. I was gonna give this to you
at the station but I don't know if we
have time.

Esperanza takes out a wrapped present from their backpack
and hands it to Chrysanthemum.

CHRYSANTHEMUM
A gift?

ESPERANZA
Yeah.

Chrysanthemum looks at the present.

CHRYSANTHEMUM
You got me a CD. You know I have an
iPod now.

ESPERANZA
How do you know it's a CD?

CHRYSANTHEMUM
It's shaped like a CD case there's
not much else this could be.

Chrysanthemum unwraps the present and sees a CD with the
title "Chrysanthemum" written in colored calligraphy.

ESPERANZA
It's what you always wanted. A song
named after you.

Chrysanthemum looks at the CD.

CHRYSANTHEMUM
You wrote a song for me?

ESPERANZA

Yeah, this is what I've been working on these past few months. Hopefully it meets your expectations for a song called "Chrysanthemum".

CHRYSANTHEMUM

This the best gift I could ever receive. Thank you.

ESPERANZA

Your welcome.

CHRYSANTHEMUM

Matter of fact I want to listen to this on the train. Let me sync this to my iPod real quick.

Chrysanthemum takes out their iBook and inserts the CD into the disc drive. Then connects their iPod to the iBook.

ESPERANZA

You're gonna miss your train!

CHRYSANTHEMUM

I'll be quick.

Chrysanthemum starts the ripping process.

ESPERANZA

When does your train leave?

CHRYSANTHEMUM

(checks time)

About ten minutes. We might have to run.

ESPERANZA

I am not running again.

Chrysanthemum types on the keyboard.

CHRYSANTHEMUM

Okay I just have to add the metadata...

Chrysanthemum checks their iPod.

CHRYSANTHEMUM (cont'd)

Okay, finished!

Chrysanthemum packs up quickly.

CHRYSANTHEMUM (cont'd)
Let's get to the station quick!

Chrysanthemum and Esperanza exit frame.

4 **EXT. GRAND CENTRAL TERMINAL - DAY** 4

Chrysanthemum and Esperanza enter.

5 **INT. GRAND CENTRAL TERMINAL - DAY** 5

Chrysanthemum and Esperanza hug and wave farewell.
Chrysanthemum walks down the platform as Esperanza stays in
the hall. The distance between the two grows until they're
out of view of each other.

Esperanza exits.

6 **INT. TRAIN - DAY** 6

Chrysanthemum looks out the window. She takes out her iPod
and puts on the earbuds. Cycling through their list of songs
they select "Chrysanthemum".

7 **EXT. NEW YORK CITY - DAY** 7

Esperanza walks a lonely road, carrying the book "Riemann's
Zeta Function" in hand. She slowly starts to sing to herself
the lyrics of "Chrysanthemum"'s song.

8 **INT. TRAIN - DAY** 8

Music Cue: "Chrysanthemum" by Esperanza

Chrysanthemum listens to the song and taps their finger to
the rhythm.

The End