

IN SEARCH OF-J. MIHALIK 1-1 (CLASS USE ONLY)

SHE

I'd like to change my name to Inga.

HE

Why?

SHE

I dunna know... I like the way it sounds. It's so European and kind of exotic. Don't you think?

HE

I think it sounds stupid. Who's going to really believe that's your real name? Like you don't have an accent or anything. No one's going to believe you--they're just going to think you're living in a fantasy world. You're not going to fool anyone.

SHE

What, like I couldn't be second generation and my parents named me Inga?!

HE

No! People wouldn't name their kid Inga unless the kid was *born and lived* in Europe.

SHE

You think it's too much?

HE

Ya, a bit.

SHE

Well, there's a few other names I'd like to have. A few, actually.

IN SEARCH OF-J. MIHALIK 1-2

HE

Oh ya--like what?

SHE

Magnolia for one. It sounds like wet metal--it's so cool. Magnolia.

HE

Now *where* did you get that name? How many people do you *know* named Magnolia? Anyone?

SHE

Well no, not really. I know *of* a girl named Magnolia. She's beautiful.....and she has this perfect life with this perfect boyfriend and they live together perfectly. And she's so tiny--she's perfect.

HE

How do you know her life is perfect?

SHE

Well it just seems so perfect. I mean she looks so perfect--she could be a model.

HE

And you think that if you switched your name to her name that your life would be perfect?

SHE

Well it would be a start!

HE

So, what other names...do tell.

SHE

Buffy.

IN SEARCH OF-J. MIHALIK 1-3

HE

Okay, please, say it isn't so.

SHE

I know--that's what I thought too--until that first day in my new college course when the teacher was calling out names and he called out 'Buffy' and me, like an idiot piped up and said "Buffy?-Who would be named Buffy?!"-Well the girl in front of me turned around and smiled at me and said "I'm Buffy". And as she walked to the front of the class to get her project supplies every male jaw in the place dropped. She was stunning- but in a natural way -without trying. I really like the name Buffy.

HE

I think you really like the persona behind the name and not really the name itself. I think if you met a beautiful woman with the name- oh, I don't know--Henrietta or Gertrude you'd probably wanna change your name to one of those too. (pause) Please don't change your name to Buffy.

SHE

Well I'm running out of names. (pause) How about Eve?

HE

Oh please. Here, let me get you a big apple, a snake and a big fig leaf to cover up your peachka. Eve, dream on.....

SHE

What's a peachka?

HE

That's Slovakian for 'pussy'.

SHE

That would work!--my name's Inga and I have a peachka!