

## LADY OLIVIA MONROE

I have done that plenty in my life time. And every time I've been burned. I'm cautious because I've experienced. Remember how just last week I was harassed just because I was buying groceries. You both can turn on the masculine energy to protect yourselves. I cannot. I get yelled at, harassed, even physically assaulted just for existing as a trans woman! You both can take off the drag and the makeup and the wigs and walk out of here and no one will think anything of you. I take the drag off and I'm still a monster to those people.

# CLAIRE VIEW

If we can't be welcoming and show love, who can? The rest of the world ostracizes us enough.

# LADY OLIVIA MONROE

But these are our spaces - queer spaces. We can't just let anyone walk up in here and disrespect and take ownership of that. Look at all the bachelorette parties that have been coming in lately. They treat us like we're oddities to be seen at a sideshow.

# DIANA SENSATION

I understand wanting to air on the side of caution, but I kind of side with Claire on this one.

## LADY OLIVIA MONROE

Of course the cis men are siding against the trans woman.

#### CLAIRE VIEW

Oh my god.

## DIANA SENSATION

You know that is not what's happening.

### LADY OLIVIA MONROE

Sure looks like it!

### DIANA SENSATION

Oh really? So our entire friendship was a lie? We were playing the long game to hurt you? Girl. Who was there every time you needed a sister to cry to? To help you? Who gave you a place to crash when you couldn't afford your apartment anymore? Who helped you get back on your feet? Who the hell was the one who jumped in front of you when that guy on the street was making threats to you? So don't sit here and reduce this to a cis verse trans issue because



you're acting out of pocket. Our friendship has gone through too much and for too long for it to reduce to that. Claire too! She welcomed you into the community when you didn't know anyone? When you needed help becoming a drag queen? When you wanted to begin your transition? We sat here, in this dressing room, and celebrated with you, cried with you, cheered you on throughout your process. I will always give you space to speak your mind and feel your feelings, but I will not let you disrespect the years of friendship Claire and I have given you.

(to BRANDI NEUX)

You're in the gig.

## LADY OLIVIA MONROE

You've got to be kidding? Really? She doesn't know what we've been through to be here. She has no respect. And you know what's she'll do once she reaps the benefits and ovations? She'll never do it again or leaving us in the dust and act like she did all this on her own. I'm tired of seeing this time and time again. And on today of all days. Pride! A time famously synonymous with birthing new queens because the twinks think it'll be fun and gaggy to post on their profiles for their friends to see. Click-bait. That's all we are to these people: click-bait and clout She even admitted that all her friends were coming. What she doesn't realize is that her inexperience will hurt all our reputations. Diana was right to be skeptical when she walked in. This kid doesn't know the difference between Stonewall and a brick wall. You can all masquerade thinking that you're excited for her, but I know you have all been thinking and hoping that this one'll work out. That she'll be different.

# (to BRANDI NEUX)

Why do you think we're all getting to kick off Pride? We worked for it. We spent hours, days, months, years, to earn our spots here. You think just because you come in here wearing a busted wig and sloppy makeup we'd just let you walk out on that stage. Girl, please. We are not on the same level. And since you want to be educated so bad, let me teach you a something: I'm sure you have had plenty of hardship in your life, but I am certain it does not equate to the obstacles I've faced. You were born into a world where you can go around being as flamboyant and extra and loud as you want with minimal aggression. You do not know what it was like to move through this life being glared at and hated and threatened solely for wanting to be our authentic selves. Life may seem all

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