

Crush(ed)

By

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FADE IN:

INT. TERRACED HOUSE HALLWAY - DAY

A hanging mirror. A clock signals 3.30pm.

Keys jangle in the front door lock.

A breathless school-uniformed BOY (12) barges inside, charges excitedly up the stairs. He's short for his age.

INT. BOY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Football and female celebrity posters cover the walls.

Boy hurries into the room, slings his school-bag onto the bed. He heads straight for a piggy-bank on a shelf.

He frantically spills pound coins over the bed, sweeps up a handful.

INT. TERRACED HOUSE HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

MUM, 30's, cradles a basket of freshly-dried clothes.

Footsteps pound down the stairs.

MUM

Where you going?

Boy opens the front door, doesn't look back.

BOY

Shop. Two minutes.

And he's gone.

Bemused Mum simply shrugs.

INT. TERRACED HOUSE HALLWAY - NIGHT

The doorbell buzzes. The time: 7.40pm.

The living room door's closed.

Mum, in nurses work uniform, skips hastily down the stairs. Car keys swing from her fingers.

She answers the door, to reveal a tall punk TEENAGE GIRL (16), chewing gum.

MUM

Make sure he's in bed by ten.

Mum checks her own appearance in the mirror. Teenage Girl hovers on the doorstep, silent.

A glance at the clock -

MUM

God, I'm gonna be late. There's money in the kitchen for a pizza.

Mum brushes past Teenage Girl.

EXT. TERRACED HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Teenage Girl smiles, chomps on her gum.

Mum unlocks a parked car, seats herself. Departing waves. Mum drives away.

Teenage Girl scans the street. Waiting.

INT. TERRACED HOUSE LIVING ROOM - 5 MINUTES LATER.

The closed living-room door.

Front door slams shut.(OS)

The living-room door jitters open.

Teenage Girl framed in the doorway. She stops mid-chew. Eyes widen in surprise.

Brylcreemed Boy grins. Shirt and tie - he's made an effort. He holds his breath to stretch height. Hands clutch a Valentines card and an open of chocolates.

Sporty BOYFRIEND (16) appears in the doorway. Oblivious, he puckers lips, kisses Teenage Girl on the cheek.

Boyfriend spies Boy. Sniggers.

Teenage Girl digs a discouraging elbow into Boyfriend's ribs.

Boy frowns, deflates chest.

Chocolates spill onto the floor.

FADE OUT.