

SNAPSHOT

Written by

Corneliu Dragomirescu

corneliu_dragomirescu@yahoo.fr
+33(0)6 46 87 80 62

FADE IN:

INT. FIRST CLASS, FAST TRAIN FROM BRUSSELS TO PARIS - DAY

BOB, a middle aged man with fading looks (if he ever had some) and a promising spider belly, sits in a window seat. He has his laptop open and wears headphones.

On the computer screen, the video cam on Skype shows a BLOND MAN in his forties.

BOB
(whispering, American
accent)
Honeybear, it's not my fault. We'll
skype again from Paris after I'm
done with the conference. Now it's
not the time--
(listens)
OK, then next time I'll stuff you
with sedatives and take you on the
plane by force.

The Blond Man perks his lips as if to kiss.

BOB (CONT'D)
No, I won't kiss on Skype.
(sarcastically)
And a happy Valentine to you too.

Bob shuts the computer and slips it in the backpack under his seat. With some effort he extracts himself into the aisle.

INT. BAR CAR, FAST TRAIN FROM BRUSSELS TO PARIS - DAY

Bob pays the VENDOR at the bar and, with a coffee in one hand and a large beer in the other, walks to the comfortable seats at the end of the bar car and sits down in the window seat.

A handsome YOUNG MAN (29), all dressed in black, smiles politely, puts down a large duffel bag and sits next to Bob. He looks very tired and eats slowly some crackers.

In front of them sit a MAN IN A SUIT (40) who studies some paperwork and a BOY (7) who plays on a portable game console.

Bob looks towards the Young man who ignores him completely.

CUT TO:

Bob stares through the window at the RUSHING LANDSCAPE of grey plains and naked trees.

He has finished his drinks and motions heavily to get up.

Bob notices that the Young man is asleep, blocking his way. He hesitates and then decides to remain in his seat.

The Young man, in his sleep, slowly leans, resting his head on Bob's shoulder. Bob, confused and pleased, watches him and barely breathes.

The little Boy yawns and continues to play his game.

Bob quietly pulls out his cell phone from a jacket pocket and awkwardly takes several shots, framing himself and the Young man asleep.

The car windows reveal now the OUTSKIRTS OF A CITY as the train begins to slow down.

The Young man brusquely wakes up, realizes that he is leaning too much towards Bob and straightens up.

 YOUNG MAN
 (in French)
 Sorry.

The Young man quickly gets up, grabs his bag and exits.

The train stops. Bob looks out the window.

EXT. PLATFORM, LILLE TRAIN STATION - DAY

A few PASSENGERS get off and scatter on the platform.

The Young man walks briskly towards a PETITE BLONDE (25) in a light colored dress who looks at him. He throws down his duffel bag and they unite in a long, tight hug. They kiss.

Two scared PIDGEONS take off to the roofs.

INT. BAR CAR, FAST TRAIN FROM BRUSSELS TO PARIS - DAY

The train is moving again.

The Boy sleeps with his head in the lap of the Man in suit.

The seat next to Bob is now empty. Bob takes out his cell phone and looks at the photo of him and the Young man asleep. He zooms in on their two heads leaning against each other and then pans, framing only the Young man's face.

Bob fumbles with the phone and selects the "Send to" option, then "Honeybear" as receiver and presses the "Send" button.

Bob stares a while at the landscape that darkens in the dimming afternoon light. He sits up and slowly walks away through the train corridor.

FADE OUT.