

BLOWING KISSES

by

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INT. RAILWAY STATION - NIGHT

Bustling platforms. A train has just arrived. Happy reunions, indifferent businessmen and tired passengers mingle together while others wait with vacant stares.

An elderly Jamaican CLEANER sweeps the platform meticulously. His railway employee's uniform is immaculate and his shoes are polished to a high shine.

TINA, mid twenties, sits huddled in her parka on a bench, a stuffed backpack by her side. Her eyes are red and moist as she fiddles with her ticket.

INT. PLATFORM 3 - NIGHT

SUSAN and MICK, a smartly dressed couple disembark from the train. He's a good bit older than she is. Both are tense. Susan carries a red rose and struggles to pull a suitcase from the carriage.

Mick glances at his watch and stomps ahead. Susan hurries after him.

She slows, hesitates. Mick notices she's not following.

MICK

Are you coming or not?

SUSAN

I... don't know.

MICK

(angry)

Why the hell now? You've had plenty of time to make your mind up. Stupid bitch.

He takes a deep calming breath. He kisses her roughly. Susan pulls away from him - shakes her head.

SUSAN

I can't do this. I'm sorry.

MICK

Fine, you've had your chance.

Mick grabs the rose from her hand, throws it to the ground and stomps off.

Susan looks at her hand. It's bleeding, torn by a thorn. She stares after Mick who is quickly lost in the crowd making their way out of the station. She sits on a bench and sobs quietly.

INT. RAILWAY STATION - NIGHT

The Cleaner stoops stiffly to pick up the discarded rose.

INT. RAILWAY STATION - NIGHT

Tina doesn't notice the Cleaner approach her bench. He smiles kindly at her and offers the rose.

CLEANER

A Valentine rose.

Tina frowns, trying to decide whether he's a perve.

CLEANER (CONT'D)

Everyone deserves a second chance.

She reaches out and accepts the rose.

TINA

Yeah. Maybe they do.

She slings her backpack over her shoulder and treads towards the exit. Her ticket lies crumpled on the now vacant bench.

She stares back at the Cleaner. He blows her a kiss. The smallest of smiles as she melts into the crowd.

The Cleaner picks up the discarded ticket, straightens it carefully.

INT. RAILWAY STATION - NIGHT

Susan looks up as the Cleaner steps up beside her - a flicker of disappointment.

He holds out the ticket.

CLEANER

Everyone makes mistakes.

She wipes her eyes on her sleeve. She cautiously takes the ticket.

A whistle sounds - Susan considers the ticket - jumps up and hurries to the departing train.

INT. PLATFORM 7 - NIGHT

The Cleaner blows a kiss to Susan as she easily pulls her suitcase onboard. She nods and smiles back.

INT. RAILWAY STATION - NIGHT

The Cleaner sweeps the floor with care as another train pulls in and passengers flow onto the platform.

THE END