

The Bear and the Antelope Kiss

Written by:

Garry Gallon

50 Kisses Competition

Contact

E: garry.gallon@gmail.com

EXT: COUNTRY HOUSE - NIGHT - PRESENT DAY

A quaint two story COTTAGE surrounded by stars and open country. An unseen owl HOOTS gently.

One large ground floor window is lit. Behind thin curtains the clearly defined SILHOUETTES of a young MUM and DAD, eating a candlelit meal. Their heads bowed, they eat silently. The gentle, muffled CLINK of cutlery drifts out.

The OWL surveys the scene lazily from a tree branch. A CLATTER from inside the house spooks it, sends it flying.

The silhouetted couple stand, face each other across the table, mouths yapping. Muffled SHOUTS seep out.

Another light appears in a window directly above the dining room. A pinkish, more muted light.

INT: KATRINA'S ROOM - NIGHT

KATRINA, 7, lies out sprawled on the floor, her ear pressed to the wooden floorboards. Her big, sad eyes fearfully react to the muffled shouting.

Behind her, the light source: a pink, elephant-shaped Night Light, hidden inside a den made out of sheets. She retreats into it, pulls the covers up around her.

As the duvet retreats, a collection of PLASTIC ANIMALS are revealed exposed against the under sheet.

Katrina notices them, takes hold of a BEAR figurine. Reaches forward again, grasps an ANTELOPE with her other hand.

KATRINA
They're at it again.

She brings the bear and antelope up to her eye level.

KATRINA
So you have to make this one count.

She looks between the toys, desperately.

KATRINA
All right?

The bear appears to nod its head.

Katrina rocks the antelope back and forward, makes it do the same. She frowns.

KATRINA
Get on with it then.

Katrina slowly brings the bear and antelope closer.
She presses their 'lips' together. The arguing continues.

KATRINA
It's not working. Harder!

White fingers grip the toys, hard. She squashes them together repeatedly, desperate.

KATRINA
(shouts)
You have to mean it!

The arguing stops. Katrina gasps. Holds her breath, listens. She looks at the two figurines, surprised, hopeful.

EXT: COUNTRY HOUSE - NIGHT

Close on the dining room window. The silhouettes of Katrina's parents look straight up towards the ceiling.

Dad lowers his head to look at his feet. Mum lowers hers to glare at him. Dad looks up and holds her gaze a moment. Mum turns, leaves the window. Dad collects plates, leaves too.

The dining room light switches off.

INT: KATRINA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Katrina lies on her back in bed, listens.

After a moment she rolls over to the side. Smiles, sleepy.

KATRINA
(whispers)
Good work.

On the pillow beside her lie the bear and antelope.

EXT: COUNTRY HOUSE - NIGHT

Katrina's pink light shuts off.

The house is left in darkness. The Owl HOOTS once more.

FADE OUT