

OTHER PEOPLE'S KISSES

Written by

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EXT. BUS SHELTER - NIGHT

Couples and young people huddle beneath and around the bus shelter from the cold. Smiles linger on the faces of those who are alone, some clutching bouquets and cards, whilst the couples snuggle together, kissing and giggling.

Marianne (50) approaches the bus shelter. Her clothes are old, dirty and tattered, and she staggers a little drunkenly. She edges her way past a particularly passionate couple (20s), looking disdainfully at them, before balancing herself on the bus shelter bench.

Next to Marianne, a Young Man (20) has his arm around a Young Woman (18). The Young Woman looks across at Marianne with compassion. The Young Man turns and looks at Marianne with disgust before turning back to the Young Woman and shuffling along the bench a few inches.

Marianne remains entirely unaware.

A bus pulls up, and people get on including the Young Man and Woman.

SOPHIE (28) sits near to Marianne. She rummages in her bag and finds a cigarette and a lighter. Wearing a pretty dress and impractical shoes and jacket, she's on her way home from a night out.

MARIANNE

Got a spare fag?

SOPHIE

No sorry - it's my last one.

Sophie puts the half-full fag packet back in her bag, and looks away from Marianne who has clocked Sophie's lie.

Marianne shrugs. Sophie hugs her arms around herself, shivering in the cold.

NICK (22) cock-sure and casually dressed, sits next to Sophie.

NICK

You look freezing! Want to borrow my coat?

SOPHIE

No thanks.

NICK

I don't mind. Here -

Nick starts to take his coat off.

SOPHIE

Really - I'm fine.

NICK
Rather I kept you warm?

Nick puts his arm around Sophie, and she tries unsuccessfully to shrug him off.

SOPHIE
Get off!

NICK
Aww - you're cute.

Nick puts his hands on Sophie's legs, as she continues to struggle.

Bystanders shift nervously away, or ignore the situation.

SOPHIE
Let me go.

NICK
Just one little kiss?

Sophie stops struggling, and looks at Nick with a mixture of fear and repulsion.

MARIANNE
Oi. You. Fuck off!

Marianne pushes Nick's shoulder. Nick stands and looms over Marianne threateningly. She shrugs casually.

MARIANNE (CONT'D)
Ah go ahead you prick!

Nick looks Marianne up and down with dismissive disgust, then down at Sophie, trembling on the bench.

NICK
Fucking whores.

Nick walks away, hailing a cab as he walks up the street.

SOPHIE
Wanna fag?

MARIANNE
That'd be grand. Ta.

Sophie hands Marianne a cigarette and lights it for her.

Marianne inhales a satisfied puff.