

A Kiss Between Friends

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INT. TRAIN – EVENING

A man sits in a compartment and stares straight ahead.

MAN

It's enough.

The man pulls out his phone and checks the calendar to see it reads Feb 14, 2012.

MAN

12 months. That's enough...it's a long time, relatively speaking.

The man puts his phone away and then pulls out a torn photograph.

MAN

I remember that day... the look of total disappointment when she realized Harley did not mean motorcycle.

The man looks up from the photo and stares out the window.

MAN

I should have seen it. Everyone else saw it. The little cracks in the surface. The telltale signs of imminent collapse.

The train enters a tunnel and the compartment goes dark.

MAN

Yeah. Just like that, it all went dark.

The train leaves the tunnel and the dim evening light returns. The man looks back at the photograph.

MAN

You know, anyone who doesn't like a gift...

The compartment door slides open and the conductor walks in.

CONDUCTOR

Fahrkarte bitte.

MAN

Oh,umm... Ja, aaa Ich habe, somewhere.

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The man digs through his backpack for his train ticket and finally finds it.

MAN

Voila!

The conductor gives him a disapproving frown, checks the ticket, stamps it, looks down at the man's feet, back at the man and smiles.

CONDUCTOR

Bitte schoen. Und gute Fahrt.

MAN

Aaa, Danke.

The conductor leaves closing the door behind him. The photograph now lies on the seat. It shows only a woman's arm holding a puppy. The man picks up the photo to put it away.

MAN

OK, coast is clear, come on.

The dog from the picture, now older, jumps up onto the seat next to the man.

MAN

You'll never leave me for some other guy, will you?

The dog affectionately wiggles up to the man.

MAN

Yeah that's right. Because you love me no matter what, isn't that right Harley girl. And you are going to love Germany. Yes you are. I heard they treat dogs like royalty here. That's what you deserve.

The dog gives the man a big lick on the face.

MAN

AWE! Big kiss. Ok, Happy Valentine's Day to you too girl.

The dog lies down on the man's lap. The man continues to pet the dog.

MAN

Man's best friend.