

50 KISSES COMPETITION

Always and Forever

Written by

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FADE IN.

INT. CHURCH - AFTERNOON

Sunshine streams through stained glass windows. Red roses decorate pews.

To left of alter HARPIST plucks strings, fills church with haunting melody. To right of alter large red rose arrangement adorned with glittering red valentine hearts.

IESTYN BOWEN (24), suit, tie, impeccably groomed stares at arrangement lost in thought.

DAN STEPHENS (24) suit, tie, also well groomed places hand on Iestyn's shoulder.

DAN
Right, mate?

Iestyn looks at him, nods.

DAN
Won't be long now.

Iestyn draws deep breath, returns attention to roses. A single ray of sunshine hits one of the hearts.

Soft female laughter, that only Iestyn hears. He smiles.

Dan nudges Iestyn.

DAN
Linette's parents.

Iestyn looks up, acknowledges MR and MRS MILLS (50s), smartly dressed; they take their seats.

Another deep breath. Iestyn looks down, a smudge on his shoe. He crouches, rubs shoe with jacket cuff. Satisfied, stands up.

Dan smiles at him.

DAN
Looks fine.

Iestyn nods, glances at Mrs Mills. She smiles, looks away.

Iestyn exhales, shrugs shoulders, checks rose bud pinned to lapel. He lifts rose bud to nose, sniffs, closes eyes.

The harpist changes melody.

Iestyn glances at Dan. He coyly looks over shoulder along aisle, people have filled the pews.

The large wooden doors open.

Iestyn returns eyes front, stares straight ahead.

The music changes. Iestyn hears congregation get to feet.

He breathes in deeply - out; glances at Dan, who nods reassuringly.

Footsteps.

He wants to turn, he wants to look, fights to keep composure.

The MINISTER walks past him, nods.

Breathing shallow, Iestyn rocks unsteadily, Dan clasps his elbow, mutters reassurance.

Four COFFIN BEARERS place gleaming white coffin covered in red roses and hearts on table.

Coffin Bearer places large framed wedding photograph of Linette and Iestyn on coffin.

Iestyn's eyes brim with tears. The Minister's words are lost in a fog of grief.

MINISTER

Our gathering here, this
afternoon...

Iestyn stares at photo, his memory takes him back to that day.

EXT: FLASHBACK - CHURCH DOORWAY - AFTERNOON

Iestyn and Linette newly married kiss in doorway, FRIENDS and FAMILY cheer, throw confetti. Flash - the photograph taken.

INT. CHURCH - AFTERNOON

Iestyn approaches coffin, places hand on surface. Minister looks at him.

MINISTER

Death leaves a heartache no one can
heal, love leaves a memory no one
can steal.

Iestyn closes eyes, kisses coffin, whispers.

Iestyn

Goodbye Lettie, I love you...

FADE OUT.