

The Best Things In Life

(Entry for 50 Kisses)

by

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INT. A SITTING ROOM - DAY

A young couple (17) are sat on the couch opening Valentines cards and presents, tickling each other, whispering, laughing (but not kissing!) - the epitome of young love.

They are being watched by ALISON (40) who is ironing. She is smiling but looks tired. The girl leaves and the boy (MARK) goes up to his mother.

MARK

Mum...?

ALISON

Yes, Mark.

MARK

Could I have some money please?
Just twenty quid.

ALISON

JUST twenty quid!

MARK looks at her pleadingly. ALISON reluctantly goes into her purse and hands him the money.

MARK

Thanks! What are you doing today?

ALISON points at the pile of clothes to be ironed.

MARK (CONT'D)

Well, have fun.

MARK gives her a hug and exits. ALISON stands in the silent house. Her gaze moves from the pile of clothes to the Valentines gifts on the couch to the telephone.

EXT. A PARK - DAY

ALISON is sat on a park bench. She has done her make-up and hair and is dressed smartly. She watches the young couples walking hand in hand and smiles but her eyes show her pain. Suddenly she is tapped on the shoulder - she turns round to see ANDREW (smartly dressed and handsome, mid-thirties).

ANDREW

Happy Valentines Day!

ALISON

Hi. How are you?

ANDREW

Good thanks. Busy.
(laughs, awkward pause)
I didn't think I'd see you again.

ALISON
I'm sorry about that, I, em, I'm
glad you came.

ANDREW
So, what would you like to do?

She points at a fun fair in the distance and raises her eyebrows. ANDREW smiles and they walk towards it.

EXT. A FUNFAIR - DAY

MONTAGE: ANDREW and ALISON going on rides, laughing, eating candy floss etc. All the cliched things. However:

At one point ALISON takes hold of his hand. ANDREW looks down uncomfortably and ALISON looks embarrassed. She takes her hand away. ANDREW smiles reassuringly and takes back her hand. She smiles nervously and they exit the funfair.

EXT. OUTSIDE A HOTEL - DAY

ANDREW and ALISON walk hand in hand and stop outside the hotel. ALISON gestures towards it.

ALISON
Shall we Andrew...

She is obviously aroused. She puts her arms around him and gives him a lingering kiss on the lips. ANDREW doesn't respond. He shakes his head with irritation.

ANDREW
I've told you, Alison - no
kissing. And I'll need the money
up front this time. We're not
going through that again.

Chastened, ALISON goes into her purse and hands ANDREW a wad of notes which he counts and pockets.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
Right, let's go. I've got another
one at seven.

ALISON nods and ANDREW walks business-like into the hotel.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

A pile of clothes on the floor. ANDREW picks his shirt off the pile and starts getting dressed. ALISON is lying in the bed in the background. She turns onto her side, her back away from us. THE END.