50 KISSES: First/Last

by

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EXT. SHOPPING MALL CAR PARK. NIGHT.

Valentine's Night, the near future. Couples - all wearing surgical masks - mill about along the strip of restaurants and fast-food outlets.

There are governmental warning posters everywhere: one shows a man wearing a face mask with the heading KEEP IT COVERED, while another is called VIRUS X-B: SALIVA CAN KILL, showing the face of a dead woman, her face ravaged by a horrendous infection.

Maz and Scott's car is parked up, with cars either side.

INT. CAR. NIGHT.

MAZ sits in the driver's seat, SCOTT in the passenger seat, and they're separated by a hookable clear plastic screen from ceiling to floor. Surgical masks dangling around their necks, the early twentysomethings are eating fast food meals.

SCOTT

This is romantic.

Maz takes a bite out of her burger, eyes Scott.

MAZ

You know how to make it romantic.

Scott rolls his eyes, which irritates Maz.

MAZ

You were the one who promised we could have our first kiss on Valentine's Day -

SCOTT

I'd love to be able to kiss you -

MAZ

My last three month test was clear, you said yours was -

SCOTT

It was -

MAZ

So what's the problem Scott?

Scott, clearly uncomfortable, searches for an excuse.

SCOTT

The virus can incubate for ages before developing. People can carry the virus but be immune themselves. It's not clear cut. Maz sits back, thwarted.

MAZ

You're such a wuss.

Scott grimaces as he bites into his burger. He opens it, starts fishing for gherkins to remove.

SCOTT

I'd offer you my gherkins, but you know how it is...

Maz takes her chance; she releases the divide, leans across and before he can react, kisses Scott.

Scott panics, forcefully throws Maz off, sending her into the passenger door.

SCOTT

What have you done??? Maz...!

Maz stares at his horrified expression - and realises.

MAZ

Oh my god.

Scott stares at her, ashen-faced and heartbroken.

SCOTT

I'm a carrier -

Maz reacts.

SCOTT

My last test... I didn't know how to tell you...

Maz looks in the wing mirror, reacts as she sees the infection starts spreading across her face. She becomes hysterical, fumbles with the door handle.

EXT. SHOPPING MALL CAR PARK. NIGHT.

Maz's screams attract the attention of passers-by and the people in the adjacent cars, who react as they see the panicking, infected Maz.

There's panic - people run off in all directions and cars pull away haphazardly as the stricken Maz falls out of the car, sobbing and screaming as the infection consumes her.

MAZ

What have you done to me? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE??