

SOUTHBOUND YONGE

written by:

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FADE IN:

INT. 1ST SUBWAY PLATFORM

CARD: TUESDAY 5:38 P.M.

A busker plays as a crowd waits for the train. Everyone in winter coats. We see KATE. She's in her early 30s. Not drop-dead-gorgeous, but she's got something about her. She leans against the wall of the station.

INT. 2ND SUBWAY PLATFORM

CARD: TUESDAY 5:39 P.M.

Another station. Another busker playing... Another crowd waits for the train. We see JACK. He's mid 30s. No slouch himself, but not a matinee idol. Dressed casually. He looks beat. Train pulls in. He waits beside the door as people get off before finding a seat by the window. He pulls out a magazine. We hear the following conversations of the people who are near him:

INT. 2ND SUBWAY CAR

TRANSIT EMPLOYEE 1

I called in three times and control never picked up!

TRANSIT EMPLOYEE 2

Are you sure?

TRANSIT EMPLOYEE 1

I'm supposed to wait for Stan at Union so that he can give me the paperwork.

WOMAN 1

It's the absolute best experience. It's expensive but worth it...

WOMAN 2

How expensive?

WOMAN 1

250 dollars for a body wrap - but all the good spas are at least that much.

INT. 1ST SUBWAY PLATFORM

CARD: TUESDAY 5:41 P.M.

Train pulls in. We still hear the busker in the background. Kate waits beside the door as people get off the train. Politely lets older woman get onto the train before her.

INT. 1ST SUBWAY CAR

Kate finds herself a seat by the window. Pulls out a quirky book and begins to read. As she reads, we hear the conversations of those standing nearby:

GIRL 1

You couldn't take that kind of heat.

GIRL 2

What are you telling me? I can't eat it?

GIRL 1

I'm saying that you'd have to spit it out is what I'm saying. It'd be too hot for you.

GIRL 2

I can eat a Scotch Bonnet!

BOY 1

(speaking to another boy) No way man - she's not into you. When they're into you they tell you to call...

MOTHER 1

Sit down Brian!

CHILD 1

I'm just looking.

MOTHER 1

Sit down! You'll fall!

CHILD 1

I'm not going to fall...

CUT BACK TO:

Focus on Kate. Train pulls into the station. People get on, people get off. Kate shifts over slightly as a woman sits next to her. She looks out the window.

INT. 2ND SUBWAY CAR

CARD: TUESDAY 5:44 P.M.

Jack's train pulls into station. People get on, people get off. Jack stands to let a pregnant woman sit down. We see her mouth "thank you" to him. He looks out the window and sees Kate.

INT. 1ST SUBWAY CAR

Kate sees Jack. Long beat as they look at each other.

INT. 2ND SUBWAY CAR

Jack continues to look at Kate. Long beat.

INT. 1ST SUBWAY CAR

Kate looks at Jack. We hear the BING-BONG-BING of the doors closing and the train begins to move off. She keeps looking back at Jack as the train moves.

INT. 2ND SUBWAY CAR

CARD: TUESDAY 5:45 P.M.

Jack watches the other train leave. He tries to clear his head. He looks out the window in the direction of the other train again before opening his magazine once more. He looks up one last time out the window in the direction of the other train.

INT. 1ST SUBWAY CAR

Kate stares straight ahead, looking a bit shell-shocked. She ignores the book on her lap. We hear the following conversation of those around her:

GIRL 3

I don't even know why Mrs. Buccini assigns this stuff.

GIRL 4

I've got like 3 hours of homework tonight and I'm half way through this season of (name current hip show).

GIRL 3

There's no way my Mom'll let me. She's so anal about homework.

GIRL 4

So just lie and say you don't have
any and then you can get up early
tomorrow morning and do it..

EXT. SUBWAY STATION - NIGHT

CARD: TUESDAY 5:52 PM

Camera follows Kate as she heads home. She stops at the foot of
a townhouse to call to a cat (BUSTER) on a snowy stoop.

KATE

Hey Buster. (Cat comes to her and she
scratches his ears) It's cold for you
to be out tonight. Go back up and
remind them you're out here. See ya
later bud.

Kate walks down the block to her townhouse. Enters her apartment
where a small calico cat (CLEO) is waiting for her.

KATE

Hi baby. How are you? Did you have a
good day? What did you do?

Kate takes her coat off as Cleo winds around her legs. Kate
picks the cat up.

I bet you spent the whole day in the
front window checking out the
tomcats. I saw your boyfriend Buster
tonight. He asked about you.

Kate walks into the kitchen with Cleo in her arms, sorting
through her mail. Sees the answering machine light on and hits
the button.

KATE'S MOM (VOICE OVER)

Katie. It's Mom. Call me as soon as
you get in. Not tomorrow, not
tomorrow night, but when you get
home - call me. Big news. BIG.

KATE

What do you think's so important
Cleo? Hmmm?

Kate starts opening her mail. Looks at a post card.

POV POST CARD

Hey Kate! Loving the sun - the men
are AMAZING!!Paulo!! - his name is
Paulo and I'll tell you all about him
when I get back - LOVE YOU!! Nan oxo

The phone rings.

KATE

Hello?

Split-screen with KATE'S MOM on the other side talking on her
phone tucked under her chin as she is preparing dinner in the
kitchen.

KATE'S MOM

Katie!

KATE

Hi Mom, I was just going to call you..

KATE'S MOM

When did you get home?

KATE

Mom, I just got in 2 minutes ago. I
swear to God. You can ask Cleo..

KATE'S MOM

Alright Katie. There's a woman in my
Mah Jong group who has a son..

KATE

Mom, I'm not ready..

KATE'S MOM

Katie - it's been 8 months honey. You
can't spend the rest of your life gun
shy because of that man..

KATE

Mom..

KATE'S MOM

Katie, you know that I'm right. That
man was a snake in Armani..

KATE

Mom...

KATE'S MOM

... and that he could make my baby so cynical... Katie I just don't want you to let one bad apple...

KATE

Mom...

KATE'S MOM

(singing)...spoil the whole bunch, girl...

KATE

(laughing) Mom...

KATE'S MOM

(singing) Oh, give it one more try before you give up on love...

KATE

(still laughing) Mom...

KATE'S MOM

(singing) You should be dancing... Yeah! You should be dancing!

KATE

Mom...

KATE'S MOM

You have to give it a chance again - what if this boy's it? He's a therapist...

KATE

A therapist? Mom...

KATE'S MOM

He works with kids Katie. He's a good guy. His Mom's a great woman - she plays Mah Jong like a pro...

KATE

Mom, I'll think about it...

KATE'S MOM

Really? (This is the first time Kate has said this) You'll think about it?

KATE

I'll think about it Mom.

KATE'S MOM

This is such a big step Katie.

KATE

Mom, I gotta get changed to meet the girls.

KATE'S MOM

Oh, Katie. I'm so proud of you...

KATE

Mom, I said that I'd think about it. Don't go picking out china...

KATE'S MOM

You won't be able to resist this one Katie - he's a prince...

KATE

Mom, I'm hanging up now...

KATE'S MOM

A prince...

KATE

Bye Mom.

EXT. SUBWAY STATION - NIGHT

CARD: TUESDAY 5:57 P.M.

Jack leaves the subway station - we follow as he heads home for the evening. Says hello to a couple of kids (SAM - young boy & CJ - 10 year old girl) playing street hockey.

SAM

Wanna play?

JACK

I can't tonight Sam.

CJ

Oh, come on Jack - we'll go easy...

SAM

Yeah - we'll give you 3 points!

JACK

Sorry guys, I got someplace I have to be tonight.

SAM

Tomorrow?

JACK

If you guys haven't gone in for dinner by the time I get home I'll play.

CJ

You promise?

JACK

I promise C.J. Now I gotta run.

SAM

You going out?

JACK

Something like that.

CJ

Well you'd better shower then 'cause you're looking kinda greasy.

JACK

You think so?

CJ

Mm-hmm. Girls like it when guys look good.

JACK

I'll keep that in mind.

CJ

And deodorant! Make sure you put
deodorant on!

JACK

I'm on it C.J.!

INT. MOVIE THEATRE

Kate has two popcorns in her hands. She makes her way into a row of seats with her friend NANCY (funky/alternative) following her, holding drinks. Already seated are GINA (new-agey/Bohemian) and SHARON (straight-laced). All three women are 30ish, attractive.

NANCY

I'm telling you - his arms were
sculpted from marble.

GINA

This was Paulo?

NANCY

This was he.

GINA

And did you...?

NANCY

Fuck?

SHARON

Nan! (embarrassed beyond belief)

NANCY

Yes, we fucked. We fucked and fucked
and fucked!

KATE

Nan!

NANCY

What? She asked.

KATE

Nan, you're going to give the older women behind us coronaries...

NANCY

Only if they can hear me...

SHARON

How can they help but hear you?

GINA

Be good!

NANCY

Alright, alright! (quieter) But I'm pretty proud to say that 10 was the magic number!

SHARON

10 times? You had sex ten times?

KATE

Aren't you sore?

NANCY

He was very gentle... when I wanted him to be.

GINA

Yeah, but 10 times?

NANCY

Truth be told - it still hurts a wee bit when I sit down. But every time it reminds me I had great sex!

KATE

So are you going to maintain a relationship with this Paulo of the great sex?

NANCY

Hah! This was just sex. We had fun. End of story.

GINA

It's because it was a long weekend
that it could be so great.

SHARON

What do you mean? If it wasn't a long
weekend, the sex wouldn't have been
good?

KATE

No, you can still have good sex. It's
just that long term purely sexual
relationships are hard to sustain.

NANCY

I beg to differ...

KATE

Nuh-unh Nan. Emotions happen. Even if
we go into it just for the sex. We
don't want to become emotionally
involved but eventually we do.

SHARON

How long?

KATE

Six weeks. Tops. Then... emotions.

GINA

I once went for 7 weeks...

NANCY

Well girls I'm the exception to the
rule because I had a purely sexual
relationship last year that lasted 12
weeks.

KATE

You did? With whom?

NANCY

Ted Armstrong.

KATE

You were sleeping with Ted Armstrong
for 12 weeks and you never told us?

NANCY

It wasn't a big deal...

KATE

What ended it?

NANCY

He proposed.

SHARON

You ended it because he proposed?

NANCY

Of course I did. He got overly
involved and I ended it.

GINA

And how did he react to the breakup?

NANCY

I don't know, I haven't spoken to him
since.

KATE

Nan - you've just confirmed it, you
have no soul.

NANCY

You would rather I played at being
friends with the guy? I couldn't do
that - it would be dishonest.

KATE

Well, I'm glad that you have your
standards...

Lights begin to dim for the beginning of the film. Watch the
women as they listen to:

V.O. FOR FILM TRAILER

In a world where love and honour are
inseparable, this man and woman must

play a duet of melancholy and passion. From the director of *Never call me Love* and the producer of *Damned are the Innocent* comes a tale of unrequited love unrivalled on modern screen. Allow yourself to move with the ebb and flow of the tides of destiny with: *Innocent are the Lovers...*

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Jack sits at a table with his friend ADAM - mid 30s - Investment Banker - and Adam's wife SARAH - mid 30s, pregnant, glowing. They watch as Jack's DINNER DATE departs for the bathroom.

ADAM

So...

JACK

So...

ADAM

What do you think?

JACK

She's nice.

SARAH

Didn't I tell you that she was nice?

JACK

Yes you told me she was nice.

SARAH

And she's smart...

ADAM

And attractive...

SARAH

And a great cook...

JACK

I'm sure she's that too.

SARAH

Why do I sense a 'but' here?

JACK

No but. She's nice and attractive and smart and probably a great cook...

ADAM

Which you'd be able to discover for yourself if you pursue this...

JACK

Adam...

SARAH

Jack, what's missing? What is she missing?

JACK

She's not missing anything Sarah. She's great.

SARAH

Jack, don't.

JACK

Don't what?

SARAH

Don't humour us.

JACK

I'm not...

SARAH

Jack, I know you. There wasn't a spark, that's what it was. You can tell us if there wasn't a spark.

JACK

I'm not saying there wasn't...

ADAM

Maybe it'll come later...

SARAH

Adam - you can't invent chemistry
that doesn't exist.

ADAM

Sure you can - who was that guy from
Sweden - who got the Nobel prize for
science like two years back... What was
his name? He invented this new
chemistry...

SARAH

No, he didn't. He recognized
chemistry that hadn't been discovered
before, but already existed...

ADAM

I'm still saying that you can
discover it later...

SARAH

Are you telling me that if there
hadn't been a spark between us that
we would have still gone through the
motions simply because we both were
single?

JACK (OVERLAPPING)

Do I need to be here for this
conversation?

ADAM (OVERLAPPING)

I'm saying that what if we hadn't
clicked right away? Would you be
pregnant with my baby or with the guy
that you clicked with the next date
because you thought we didn't have a
spark?

SARAH

But we clicked. We had the spark. How
can we be dismissive of Jack's
feelings...

JACK (OVERLAPPING)

I'm pretty sure that I haven't even said anything here...

SARAH (OVERLAPPING)

...or lack thereof when we had that spark right away? (She takes ADAM'S hand.) Besides I knew from the moment I saw you...

JACK (OVERLAPPING)

Guys, really, it's not...

SARAH (OVERLAPPING)

I knew there would be no other man for me... (she kisses him)

ADAM

(somewhat slow to recover from the kiss) Alright, I can't dispute the importance of a spark. I surrender.

JACK

I had a spark today.

SARAH

I thought you just said...

JACK

There was this girl on a train next to mine for maybe a minute and we... I don't know. Maybe I went to high school with her or something - I could swear I know her from somewhere - we shared this moment... This really potent moment...

ADAM

A moment more potent than sitting next to an attractive woman for an entire dinner of scintillating conversation?

JACK

Okay, first off - you get points for using scintillating in a sentence in

2020, but secondly - yeah... this was a moment... a moment that... I don't know.

SARAH

Oh, Jack. You don't have to say any more...

ADAM

Apparently he doesn't even have to say anything...

INT. RESTAURANT- NIGHT

Camera follows Jack's dinner date back to the table.

INT. CAFÉ - NIGHT

Kate, Nancy, Gina and Sharon sit at a table post-movie.

GINA

You find romance in 'breeches'?

KATE

I find implied romance in breeches.

SHARON

What do you mean implied...?

KATE

I mean, you think breeches you think - costume drama, empire waistlines, heaving bosoms, Colin Firth...

SHARON

Oh... Colin Firth...

GINA (OVERLAPPING)

Even I can appreciate when he comes out of the pond...

SHARON (OVERLAPPING)

And he's so serious and moody...

KATE

Speaking of... I had this thing. Today on the subway. There was this guy on

the train going the opposite direction, and we shared a moment.

NANCY

Moment with a capital "M"?

KATE

Definitely. A complete stranger and it's the most exciting experience that I've had in months. My mom is right - I need to get out more.

SHARON

Kate we've been telling you that since the whole Richard fiasco...

NANCY

At least have sex - that's what I recommend...

KATE

That's what you recommend for everything Nan. Stress, the common cold...

NANCY

If it works for me...

KATE

It works for you. I've sown my oats. I want the real thing.

SHARON

It's what every woman really wants...

NANCY

So say you. But what if it doesn't exist? What if you actually meet that guy that you had the 'electric' moment with and he's a complete putz?

GINA

What if he's Prince Charming?

NANCY

What if he's the frog?

KATE

It's a moot point because I'll never know. Passing moments are passing moments.

GINA

What if it's fate telling you something?

NANCY

What would fate be telling her?

GINA

That she needs to take more chances...

SHARON

That she needs to start seeing people for who they are...

NANCY

Maybe it's telling her that she needs to get laid...

KATE

I don't need fate to tell me that, I've known that for a while. Whatever it was - he was... memorable...

SHARON

Is he the kind of guy who could wear breeches?

KATE

Yeah, maybe...

NANCY

Perfect! You can fantasize about him when you...

SHARON

Nan!

NANCY

What? I was just going to say masturbate. I'm telling you - there is greatness out there to be had and

you don't even have to lead up to it
- wham, bam -

KATE

Thank you Paulo?

NANCY

Exactly.

INT. JACK'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

CARD: TUESDAY 11:06 PM

Jack leans against the kitchen counter as he listens to his voice mail. Mixed breed mutt of a dog (MAX) lies at his feet.

JACK'S MOM (VOICE OVER)

Jack it's your Mother. Nothing urgent, but give me a call when you have a moment. I'll be up until 11:00 tonight. I hope that you were out having fun, but if you weren't... Well we can talk about it when you call, but just know that it's something good... Love you darling... I'll be up until 11:00.

Jack looks at his watch... He dials the phone. Split screen as Jack's Mom answers the phone in her kitchen.

JACK'S MOM

Hello?

JACK

Hey Mom. Is it too late to call?

JACK'S MOM

No, no, I was just doing up some last minute dishes...

JACK

Mom - you have a fully functioning dishwasher...

JACK'S MOM

You know I don't like to run the thing when it's not full and I hate having the dishes in the sink.