

FLATMATES BY ANDREA LOUISE WATSON

MORNING

INT: GALLEY KITCHEN OF A SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE. DINNER DISHES ARE IN AND AROUND THE SINK, THE CABINETS ARE OLD AND DATED BUT PRETTY SHABBY CHIC PICTURES ON THE WALLS SHOW A FEMINE TOUCH.

Sam, a 40-year-old unkempt disheveled man with scruffy beard wearing a dirty over sized tracksuit stands by the kitchen sink. His tracksuit bottoms are tucked into his socks and he is wearing the latest new trainers. Sam smokes a cigarette whilst looking out of the window A black bin bag splitting at the seams lies at his feet.

Alex, a 30-year-old woman dressed in a pretty pastel summer dress enters the kitchen, brushing her wet hair and is startled to see Sam.

ALEX

Morning Sam

Sam ignores Alex as he inhales deeply on his cigarette. Alex picks up the kettle and tries to get around Sam to fill it with water. He doesn't move or acknowledge her.

ALEX

Have you eaten?

SAM

(quietly and very polite) Yes! Thank you

There is an awkward silence as Alex fills the kettle, places it on the stand, and switches it on. Sam watches her every move and Alex, aware and grimacing does not look around to face him

ALEX

So, What time is James picking you up?

SAM REMAINS QUIET.

3 months quickly turned into a year didn't it?

SAM

I have no concept of time.

ALEX NODS AND HOLDS HER BREATH, STILL NOT WANTING TO TURN AROUND.

ALEX

So, you will sleep on James's sofa till you find a place?

SAM

That's the idea. He doesn't have much space but he is very kind man. A very kind and generous man. Not many people are as kind as him

THERE IS A CUTTING TONE TO SAM'S STATEMENT THAT HITS A NERVE. ALEX SIGHS DEEPLY AND REFRAINS FROM SPEAKING. SHE OPENS THE CUPBOARD AND TAKES OUT THE WEETABIX

SAM

A Very kind man. My friends are all kind. Well, most of them

ALEX TURNS AND THEIR EYES MEET. SAM'S STARE BORES INTO HER ALEX TURNS HER HEAD, PUTTING HER HAIR BEHIND HER EAR AND STARTS TO BUSY HERSELF MAKING BREAKFAST

ALEX

You are very lucky to have such loyal friends.

They do seem to support you and spend time with you. It will be quiet without you all here. Every night.

SAM

Very lucky ( he takes another long drag, his cigarette coming to an end) They are true believers. Hearts and faith of children. Truly special. They would do anything for me

SAM MAKES A SUDDEN LUNGE AT ALEX. SHE RECOILS IN FEAR. SAM SMILES.

SAM

They trust the energy. They know that friends are more important than material things

ALEX

(finding the courage to calmly fight back) Yet, you enjoyed the comfort of a free warm bed for over 6 months.

Sam sniffs and draws close to Alex.

SAM

Be careful Alex. He who see's all is watching and taking note. He see's who be worthy in joining us when the time comes.

Alex smiles through her fear. He puts the cigarette in the sink picks up his bin bag.

ALEX

Is that everything?

SAM

It's all I need

He walks out the room. We hear the front door open and shut. Alex breathes out in relief and a begins to cry.

Scene description

FADE OUT:

the end

© Andrea Louise Watson 2017