

Love Locked

By

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FADE IN:

EXT. BRIDGE - NIGHT

SUPER: Friday, May 2nd.

Gnarled male hands attach a padlock to the railings of a bridge.

The padlock has initials and a heart painted on it in red.

PC (HEART) KS

The padlock sways gently before coming to rest.

EXT. NEAR BRIDGE - MORNING

SUPER: Saturday, May 3rd.

SAM, late teens, all hair, piercings and macho attitude, walks over the bridge with SUSIE, same age, more hair but less attitude.

SUSIE

C'mon, it'll be great!

SAM

Un huh, don't think so, bound to be lamer than, er, anything.

SUSIE

Sam, don't you find disliking everything a bit dull?

SAM

Nah, makes me look enigmatic.

SUSIE

Nope, makes you look like a moody teenager - cos you are!

SAM

Oh, way too hurtful, pain's unbearable.

Sam feigns being wracked by pain.

SUSIE

God, why am I with you?

SAM

You know why.

Sam pulls Susie towards him, leans in and kisses her passionately.

SUSIE
That's so cheating!

Sam makes a W sign with his hands.

SAM
Winner!

They continue to walk, arms round each other's waists, up the slope of the bridge.

A solitary padlock glints in the sun.

SUSIE
Hey, what's that?

Susie points towards the bridge.

SAM
The bridge!

SUSIE
Idiot, that padlock.

Susie breaks away from Sam and goes for a closer look.

She squats and looks at it, gently tugs on the clasp.

Locked.

SUSIE
Who'd you think put it here?

SAM
Dunno, who cares?

SUSIE
I do, it's beautiful.

SAM
Really?!

SUSIE
Of course, it's a declaration of undying love.

SAM
Not just a padlock then?

SUSIE

God, you so have no soul.

Susie holds the padlock and angles it better so she can read the initials.

SUSIE

See, PC loves KS, and they left it here so the world knows.

SAM

Bit shit though, isn't it?

Susie gets up, moves to join Sam.

SUSIE

No, it isn't, I think it's **really** romantic.

SAM

Whatever, can we go now?

Sam moves off.

Susie glares after him, then follows him over the arch of the bridge and down the other side.

Soon they are out of sight.

INT. SMALL WORKSHOP - DAY

SUPER: Friday, May 9th.

A new padlock, assorted tools and a pot sit on a small workbench.

Hands take up a very small paint brush and dip it into a pot of dark liquid.

They paint onto the padlock.

PC (HEART) CF

EXT. BRIDGE - AFTERNOON

SUPER: Saturday, May 10th.

People move back and forward over the bridge.

Susie pulls Sam along by the arm.

SUSIE
See!

SAM
What?

SUSIE
Another one.

SAM
Oh, is that all?

SUSIE
Yeah, but that's two now, it's like
a thing!

SAM
Two don't make anything a thing.

SUSIE
Whatever, but there's something
weird.

SAM
How so?

SUSIE
Wanna know?

SAM
(smiling)
Not really.

SUSIE
Well, I'm gonna tell you anyway.

SAM
Guessed that.

SUSIE
One of the initials is the same.

Susie reaches down and shows Sam the new padlock.

SAM
So, coincidence, people do have the
same initials.

SUSIE
Same writing, same colour paint
though.

SAM
So new romance for PC, same tacky
gesture - not even original now.

Susie slams the padlock back, setting both to swaying
violently.

SUSIE
God you're such an asshole at
times!

SAM
Whoa, what did I do?

SUSIE
Nothing, nothing at all, once
again.

SAM
Nope, don't get ya.

SUSIE
(quietly)
That's becoming clear.

Susie stalks off over the bridge.

Sam glances at the padlocks, shakes his head and then
follows.

INT. SMALL WORKSHOP - DAY

SUPER: Friday, May 16th.

Hands put down a hammer.

Hands pick up the paint brush and paint onto a new padlock.

PC (HEART) WA

EXT. NEAR BRIDGE - MORNING

SUPER: Saturday, May 17th.

Susie and Sam stand on the bridge.

SAM
Yeah, I get it, PC has done it
again, so?

SUSIE
So, that's three in as many weeks.

SAM
So, girls fall in and out of love
with the tides.

SUSIE
Girls?

SAM
C'mon, gotta be.

SUSIE
Just cos you ain't romantic doesn't
mean other men aren't. I think PC
is a guy.

SAM
Maybe, a lame one if he is.

SUSIE
He's just not met the right girl
yet! I'd so love to find out if I'm
right.

SAM
Forget PC for a minute, I've got
something romantic for ya.

SUSIE
(optimistically)
Really?

Sam looks down and grabs the sizable bulge in his crotch.

SUSIE
Yeah, that's it, bring it down to
your level again!

SAM
God, who prodded you with the sulky
stick?

SUSIE
You did, as always.

Sam moves to put an arm round her in conciliatory fashion.

Susie shrugs him off.

SUSIE
Sam, why don't you just get lost!

Susie turns and runs out of sight.

Sam aims a violent kick at the three padlocks, connects but hurts his foot on them.

He calls out in pain and hobbles after Susie.

EXT. BRIDGE - NIGHT

SUPER: Friday, May 23rd.

Susie stands to the side of the bridge txtng.

SUSIE MESSAGE: No, it's over, uv no romnce, you just wanna fck me.

SAM MESSAGE: Jeez, this about dat stpd padlock?

SUSIE MESSAGE: More warmth in it thn ur capabl of.

SAM MESSAGE: Look Suze, I'm sry - really, give me anothr chance?

SUSIE MESSAGE: Sorry Sam, no, I need more, desrve more.

Susie puts her phone away and turns her attention to the bridge.

SUSIE
(under breath)
C'mon PC, it's bloody cold.

She pulls her arms round her chest for warmth.

FAST FORWARD

Time passes as the steady stream of people slows, becomes a trickle, then stops, leaving the bridge empty.

Susie is still in position, hidden partially in the shadows but still watching.

END FAST FORWARD

SUSIE
Screw this and screw you PC.

She turns and stalks off.

EXT. BRIDGE - NIGHT (SAME TIME)

FAST FORWARD

POV:

Susie txts on her phone.

Time passes and people stop crossing the bridge.

Susie hides in the shadows, waits.

Eventually Susie breaks cover.

END FAST FORWARD

Walks closer.

Closer.

EXT. BRIDGE - NIGHT

Susie hurries forward, hugging herself in the cold.

A figure detaches from the shadows right in front of her.

Susie calls out.

Hammer descends in a vicious arc.

SUSIE
(cut off abruptly)
Nooooo...

EXT. BRIDGE - NIGHT

POV:

Hammer descends.

Susie's face is limned in light like a halo.

Hammer connects.

EXT. BRIDGE - NIGHT

Dark figure drags Susie from sight.

INT. SMALL WORKSHOP - DAY

SUPER: Friday, May 30th.

POV:

Susie is naked, bruised and battered and sprawled unconscious in a steel cage.

There is a padlock on the cage.

Hands unlock the padlock and take it over to a workbench.

A small paint brush paints.

PC (HEART) SM

SOUND OF MOVEMENT O.S.

The brush pauses mid stroke.

Hands swap brush for the hammer.

SUSIE SCREAMS.

EXT. BRIDGE - MORNING

SUPER: Friday, May 31st.

Four padlocks, the top one shows PC (HEART) SM.

A young couple add their padlock, different to the rest.

LE (HEART) RA

They walk off giggling.

MONTAGE:

Padlocks added to the bridge.

Occasionally lingering on a PC padlock.

Occasionally lingering on Sam, lingering on the padlocks.

FADE OUT:

THE END