Metro

By

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INT. METRO STATION PLATFORM. DAY

KATYA JAMES is sitting on a bench waiting for a train. Her four year old daughter GRACE is sitting beside her.

Katya is completely absorbed by a text on her phone. Grace gets off the bench and starts running around. She almost reaches the edge of the platform when Katya looks up

KATYA
Grace, come here right now.

Grace runs over to her mother. Katya grabs her two arms gently

KATYA
What did Mommy say about playing near the tracks. It’s too dangerous, OK?

Grace nods

GRACE
Sorry Momma

The train rushes in.

KATYA
Come on, let’s go

She picks Grace up and they hurry onto the metro.

INT. METRO. NIGHT

Katya is sitting in a crowded carriage. Grace is sitting on her lap. It’s dark outside.

Grace stares at the man sitting across from her. He is dressed in rags and is carrying a shoulder of whiskey in a brown paper bag. He smiles at Grace, revealing missing teeth. Grace turns away and buries herself in her mother’s chest.

EXT. STREET. DAY

Katya and Grace are walking towards the metro station. Grace sees a doll in a store window and runs over to it.

Katya runs after her. She takes her by the hand and pulls her away.
CONTINUED:

GRACE
But I want it

KATYA
Not today sweetie. We have to go, come on.

She drags Grace along as she rushes through the busy crowd.

INT.METRO.DAY

Katya is testing on her phone. Grace is jumping up and down on the seat beside her. Without looking up from her phone Katya tugs on Grace’s arm

KATYA
Get down

Grace sits down. She then turns and looks up at her mother

GRACE
Are you still taking me to the park tomorrow?

KATYA
I’m sorry sweetie. I can’t.

GRACE
But you promised.

KATYA
I know honey but Mommy has to work tomorrow.

Grace hangs her head and folds her arms. Katya sighs and lifts her onto her lap.

KATYA
Look I promise we’ll go to the park next weekend OK?

GRACE
Pinky promise?

Katya holds up her pinky. Grace wraps her own pinky around it.

KATYA
Pinky promise

Katya kisses the top of her daughters head. She leans back in her chair and looks out the window, her face pained with guilt.
INT.TRAIN STATION-ENTRANCE.DAY

Katya and Grace are standing in the entrance hall of Union Train Station.

Grace squeals excitedly and points to a man walking towards them.

    GRACE
    Look Mommy, it’s Daddy

Katya places a small pink backpack on Grace’s shoulders. She kneels down to zip up her coat.

    KATYA
    I want you to be a good girl for your Dad OK?

    GRACE
    OK Mommy

    KATYA
    I’ll call you tonight and I’ll see you on Sunday alright?

Grace nods. Katya gives her a hug and kisses her on the cheek

    KATYA
    I love you so much.

    GRACE
    I love you too Mommy

Katya gets up as ALLEN, Grace’s dad approaches. Grace runs over to him and he lifts her up. He nods to Katya who forces a smile back at him.

Grace waves goodbye as the two head off in the direction of the train platform. Katya waves back, tears welling up in her eyes.

INT.METRO.NIGHT

Katya steps onto the metro and hurries to find a seat. She sits beside a YOUNG WOMAN and her LITTLE GIRL. The woman is reading her daughter a story as she sits on her lap. The woman makes funny sounds as she reads and her daughter laughs with delight.

(CONTINUED)
Unable to look any more, Katya turns away and turns her attention to the people sitting opposite her. A MIDDLE AGE WOMAN is trying to make conversation with her moody TEENAGE DAUGHTER. The daughter is on her phone, completely ignoring her mother.

MIDDLE AGE WOMAN
Can you put that thing away for 5 seconds and actually talk to me?

The teenager rolls her eyes.

TEENAGE DAUGHTER
Why are you always lecturing me mom. It’s so annoying.

MIDDLE AGE WOMAN
Why must you always give me attitude. I didn’t raise you to be like this.

TEENAGE DAUGHTER
You didn’t really raise me mom. Our Nanny did.

Katya looks away once more and stares down at the ground, thinking about her own relationship with Grace.

The metro stops and a YOUNG MAN dressed in a black hoody gets on. Seeing no vacant seats he opts to stand, clutching onto a pole.

A well dressed BUSINESSMAN is accidentally shoved into him by the moving train. The young man shoves him back.

YOUNG MAN
Yo man, get the fuck out of my face

The businessman pushes him back.

BUSINESSMAN
Calm down alright, it was an accident. Why don’t you go back to where you came from bro.

YOUNG MAN
What did you fucking say to me bitch?

The businessman laughs at him

(CONTINUED)
BUSINESSMAN
I said go back to where you came from asshole.

The young man reaches into his pocket and pulls out a gun. He shoots the businessman in the stomach.

The other passengers begin to scream. The young man holds the gun up and shoots it at the ceiling.

YOUNG MAN
Everybody shut up. Nobody fucking move.

He walks down the carriage pointing the gun at everyone. When he reaches Katya she tries her best to keep still, clutching onto the seat to steady her trembling hands.

YOUNG MAN
Now here’s what’s gonna happen. I’m gonna get off at the next stop. And nobody is going to move until I’m gone.

The metro pulls up to it’s next stop. The young man puts the gun in his pocket and runs onto the platform. Two policemen chase after him.

The train stops and everybody is told to get off. Katya finds a bench and sits down to compose herself. She takes a deep breath to try and calm her nerves as she waits for the next train home.

INT.METRO PLATFORM.DAY

Katya is standing on the platform waiting for the train. Grace is standing beside her.

The train pulls up. Katya scoops Grace up and they hurry onto the metro.

INT.METRO.DAY

Grace races to sit beside the window. Katya sits down beside her. Grace cuddles up to her mother as the train leaves the station.

GRACE
Mommy, are we really going to the park today?
KATYA
Of course we are sweetie. Mommy just needs to stop by her office first.

Katya reaches into her back and pulls out a letter. It reads "LETTER OF RESIGNATION". She considers it for a moment before smiling to herself and putting it back in her bag.

She then pulls Grace onto her knee and wraps her arms around her.

KATYA
Do you know where else we're going today?

GRACE
Where?

KATYA
The zoo

GRACE
Really?

KATYA
Really

GRACE
Yaaaaay.

Katya smiles and kisses Graces forehead. The two look out the window as another train passes by.

FADE OUT.