

PERFECT STRANGERS

written by

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Short Film

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INT. COMMUTER TRAIN - MORNING

A packed carriage races along the track with every seat occupied with COMMUTERS.

Caucasian LEONARDO 30's concentrates as he plays chess on his phone.

Opposite: Stunning Thai female MODI 20's stares at him as she taps out a message using her iPhone.

POP UP: Leonardo raises a brow as a pop up appears on his phone.

POP UP: *Hello, how are you?*

Without looking up he quickly replies.

LEONARDO

Who is this?

Modi smiles and raises a brow.

MODI

It's Modi. How are you doing?

LEONARDO

Who is Modi? I don't know you.

Modi tuts her annoyance and shakes her head in dismay as she responds.

MODI

I'm Nina's friend. Is this Nina's cousin from London?

LEONARDO

Nope. Who's Nina?

MODI

I talk about Nina Alum. I think she gave me wrong number.

LEONARDO

Yep, afraid so.

POP UP: EMOJI- Brown haired girl prays.

Leonardo grins at the emoji.

LEONARDO (CONT'D)

No problem.

He carries on playing chess on his phone.

Modi sighs and taps another message.

MODI

*Thanks for your kind response.
Glad you don't blame and rude to
me for wrong number.*

He closes his chess game and responds.

LEONARDO

*Sure. And thanks for being so
kind and polite also.*

MODI

*I'm really impressed, you humble
behaviour. Seems like you are not
British.*

He chuckles to himself.

LEONARDO

*Ha! Irish blood, English Heart
makes me very British.*

She smiles into her phone.

MODI

*Very nice. Thai blood, Swiss
culture I experiencing my life.
Hehehe.*

POP UP: EMOJI- Smiling face.

He smiles at the pop up.

LEONARDO

Very nice too. Are you in London?

MODI

*I often visit London. Have been
here two month and plan to leave
next month. I live in Zurich.
Have you been there before?*

LEONARDO

No, unfortunately. I'm planning a trip next month to Geneva on business actually.

MODI

Good choice in Geneva. Lots to do and see. If you have plan to visit Zurich I can guide you there. Are you also from London?

LEONARDO

Sounds great! I'm from London, but I live outside the city now.

MODI

I have been some interesting places, Wembley, Greenwich and Brixton. If you have some spare time I want to treat you a cup of coffee.

He grins at the message.

LEONARDO

Oh really? Just coffee?

She shows an embarrassed look as she glances around the carriage at other commuters who stare at her.

Leonardo concentrates on his phone.

MODI

Maybe you can show me around the city where you live? Btw, May I ask your name?

LEONARDO

Sure. My name is Leonardo. And yours?

She smiles in satisfaction.

MODI

It's Modi here remember?. Nice to meet you by wrong number in this new year.

LEONARDO

It's nice to meet you too, Modi.

MODI

How is your day going? Leonardo DiCaprio. You've got my favourite name.

He looks up then checks his watch.

LEONARDO

I'm afraid he is better looking than me.

MODI

Everyone have different experiences and skills. I am also ugly lol.

POP UP: EMOJI. Laughing tears.

He chuckles at the emoji.

LEONARDO

Ha! I didn't say I was ugly.

MODI

I just talk about mine.

LEONARDO

I'm sorry but I must go now. I'm on a train and arriving at my station soon. Maybe we can speak again sometime? Take care. Send me a pic of yourself if you like.

MODI

Me too. I'm sorry for disturbing you. Hope we can keep in touch if you have no problem. It's nice to talk with you.

TRAIN MESSAGE V.O

The next station is Tottenham Hale. Please mind the gap when exiting the train.

He ends the chat and climbs to his feet.

Modi picks up her shoulder bag and does the same.

As the train comes to a stop she stands directly behind him at the automatic doors.

POP UP: PHOTOGRAPH OF HERSELF.

He stares at the photo image and smiles at her unblemished beauty as he exits the train and walks towards the ticket barrier.

She walks behind him as she follows him off the train.

His phone slips from his grip and falls to the ground as she steps forward.

In unison they bend down to reach for the phone.

Their eyes meet and lock in.

LEONARDO
(embarrassed)

Sorry.

MODI

Oh.

She hands him his phone then walks off.

He receives another message

MODI (CONT'D)
Send me photo please.

He looks at the message and grins knowingly.

END.