



## If Love Were All, Bitter Sweet

*Diamant*

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## **If Love Were All, Bitter Sweet** Diamant

In the latest collection, Diamant pulls together from their unreleased archives, their online only material, and newly written works, to create this journey through the many facets of love.

Love of family, and love of friends, love lost, love gained, and love sustained.

'If Love Were All, Bitter Sweet' is sectioned into three parts; Bitter, Sweet, and Bittersweet. Each section is dedicated to chronicling the respective relationships triumphs and failures of characters appearing in the Night Boys series.

Beginning in 1954 with 'Angel of The North' telling the story of Francis Tenn's parents, ending with a 2015 interview with Simon Thorsby, 'If Love Were All, Bitter Sweet' covers the breadth of the series from the many perspectives of its characters.

Foreword by Andrea Staum

Bitter:

Angel of the North:

Father Francis Hadrian has found himself at a crossroads. He has a lover expecting a child, but a duty to his church although he feels an utter fraud. How can a priest, questioning his faith, and having broken his vows lead his congregation? Does he even want to anymore? The biggest question, however, is whether the Church will let him go.

Two Imaginary Boys:

In 1974, Malachy is living a hand to mouth existence with his boyfriend Mekos. They're both runaways, trying to make their way in the world. Malachy has to choose between making a better life for himself or staying with Mekos in love and poverty.

Bet She's Not Your Girlfriend:

Francis Tenn writes a eulogy for Danni, one of his former girlfriends, as he tries to understand the demons that drove her.

Disappointed:

A man in the future watches his greatest mistake in his past play out on a YouTube video.

Sweet:

Soul Love:

Francis Tenn and Simon Thorsby have a special night of romance ahead of them. Will everything go as planned?

Take a Chance:

From the pages of the journal of Styles Peterson, Styles tells of the night he fell in love.

**The Survivors:**

When Francis Tenn's childhood friend, Martin Claddic passes away, he finds himself thinking of the past and how without Martin, Francis would never have become friends with Simon.

**Forever in Love (An Open Letter to the Love of My Life on His 57th Birthday):**

Blake 'DJ Confusion' Hannigan-Sixsmithe writes a love letter to Kitto Sixsmithe, his lover and his best friend, on his birthday.

**Let Me Kiss You:**

Malachy and Mekos reunite in this story set 34 years after Two Imaginary Boys. Will their reunion be long lasting?

**Be My Wife:**

Simon's birthday is not going as well as he would like. The only bright spot is his granddaughter Simone and a marriage proposal from his partner O. This brings on memories of another time when Simon proposed marriage to his best friend, Miranda Saunders.

**Bittersweet:**

**Some Distant Memory:**

Told in his comfortable Scouse dialect, Kitto recounts a night of pain, and fear, which ends in his salvation in the arms of his lover Rosolio.

**The Nightfall of Rage:**

Malachy is going away, but before he does he pays a visit to a very important man, Ronnie Kray, in Broadmoor Hospital.

**Thursday:**

Christmas is on Thursday but neither Francis nor Christy is quite prepared for the drama happening all around them.

Francis is happily single and playing around. His new lover Lee has other plans however. But can Lee truly love Francis if he knew the truth?

Christy is spending Christmas in the home of his younger sister, Sherry Shaughn-Cooper. Usually, these visits are quality time with loved ones and no trouble. Today he and Sherry face a problem neither can fix easy, and it is breaking their hearts.

**Wishful Beginnings:**

In an interview from late December, Simon Thorsby talks about how his life is now, and where he stands on his love of Francis, his love of David Bowie, and why he made the choices he had in the past.

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#### Chester Walters:

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#### Louise Denison:

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