

# Passionate Kisses

by  
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### Characters

VIRGINIA	Young conservative woman, company representative, all business
ADAM	Young man, looking for employment, overly confident
CORI	Young, good looking man with mad kissing skills

### Setting

Stage is set as a job fair. There are several "booths" which could be long folding tables with literature, a laptop, pens, clipboard and forms, and a company name sign hanging above each table. One booth has a company name sign above it, reading "Passionate Kisses". The other booths are recognizable companies and could have a person or two behind each table and occasionally people visiting booths.

### Time

Current day, afternoon

Act I  
Scene 1

Setting: A job fair with several tables and chairs, company name signs hang on or above each table including one that reads "Passionate Kisses".

At Rise: Virginia sits behind table with "Passionate Kisses" sign. ADAM is at next door table picking up literature which he adds to his large pile. Unemployed and overwhelmed, he is not reading the signs but just picking all literature up. He moves to the Passionate Kisses booth and starts picking up literature.

VIRGINIA

Hi there! So...you're out looking, are you? Lots of representation here at the job fair today. Find anything you're interested in yet?

ADAM (distracted)

Umm...Yeah. Maybe.

VIRGINIA

Well, we're so glad you stopped by. My name is Virginia. And you are?

ADAM

Adam. Adam Williams.

VIRGINIA

Nice to meet you Adam. Here...let me give you one of our pamphlets. Passionate Kisses is a diverse group always looking for young, exciting, up-and-coming talent. I think you'll find...

ADAM

I'm sorry...what?

(Flips pamphlet over looking for company name.)

Wait. What is this?

(Backs up, looking up at sign, reads aloud.)

Passionate Kisses.

VIRGINIA (reverently)

Ahhh, Yes. Passionate Kisses. You've heard of us then?

ADAM (uncomfortable)

No. Can't say as I have. Um...I think I'm in the wrong place.

VIRGINIA

Oh, yes. Well I totally understand. Passionate kissing is not for everyone.

ADAM

Not saying that. But this is a job fair and I'm looking for...

VIRGINIA

Certainly nothing to be ashamed of. We can't expect everyone to kiss passionately, now can we?

ADAM

Ashamed? I'll have you know, I'm plenty passionate and-

VIRGINIA

There are several Hospitality Management booths there at the end...

ADAM

I don't mean to brag, but I've been told I'm a pretty good kisser.

VIRGINIA (chuckling)

Yes, well, you know...from time to time we girls tell you guys that...just so we don't hurt your feelings. You understand.

ADAM

No...not me. I have it from several independent, reliable sources.

VIRGINIA (perking up)

Independent sources you say?

ADAM (proudly)

Sure! Just this past weekend there were these two beautiful girls...roommates! Does that count?

VIRGINIA (disappointed)

Roommates! Well, you're just a regular Don Juan, aren't you?

ADAM

Don who?

VIRGINIA

Hmmm...Well, I'm sure you'll have better luck with...computer programming perhaps? There are several booths at the back of the hall.

ADAM

What? You don't that I'm a good kisser?

VIRGINIA

I'm sure you're kissing skills are quite...adequate.

ADAM (offended)

Adequate?!?

VIRGINIA

There is a difference between good and passionate you know. It takes quite a bit of experience...

ADAM

That's what I mean! I'm probably the most experienced kisser you're ever likely to meet. So much experience!

VIRGINIA

(Picks up clipboard and writes, on and off, during dialogue.)

Really? Ok, so, you've been kissing for how long now?

ADAM

Oh gosh...probably 10 years now.

VIRGINIA (skeptical)

And you're how old?

ADAM

Uh...I...um...started young?

VIRGINIA

Hmmm...And when would you say you moved from just kissing to passionate kissing?

ADAM

Let's see...I've probably been kissing passionately for six or seven years now. At least.

VIRGINIA

Married?

ADAM

No.

VIRGINIA

Oh. That's too bad.

ADAM

What do you mean by that?

VIRGINIA

Oh nothing. It's just...if you're kissing is so advanced, why haven't you attracted a mate yet?

ADAM

Oh, I've attracted them. I just haven't found the right woman yet.

VIRGINIA

Hmmmm...

ADAM

Really...I could have gotten married plenty of times. Lots of willing partners, but I was waiting for the right one...the right fit. You know?

VIRGINIA

Right. Well...Let's move on. How many kissing partners have you had? You can estimate.

ADAM

Ummm...maybe forty?

VIRGINIA

Forty! And you haven't found the right one? I wonder if she's even out there.

ADAM

Well...perhaps I over estimated. I was thinking four per year. You know...some one-night stands, a couple of dates, and a couple of short term relationships per year. So, forty. That sounds about right after all. You'll have to admit. That's a bunch of passionate kissing.

VIRGINIA

No long-term relationships?

ADAM

What defines long term?

VIRGINIA

Exceeding three months.

ADAM

Oh sure. There was Alice. We were on and off for the better part of...

VIRGINIA

Consecutive months.

ADAM

Oh. Then um...I guess not. Nothing that long term.

VIRGINIA

Alrightie.

(Looks under table, pulls out a large colorful graph.)

Just let me use my handy dandy Passionate Kisses conversion chart to estimate your total kisses based on the information you've given me. Yes...OK. Carry the one...Divided by...and there we have it. An estimate of five hundred and eighty-two kisses.

ADAM

See? That's a lot of experience!

VIRGINIA

Hmm...and you're sure all of those were passionate kisses?

(VIRGINIA pulls out a large binder and starts flipping pages.)

ADAM

Oh yes. I'm sure they were.

VIRGINIA

Ah...here we go. Are you aware that studies show most men are unable to deliver a truly passionate kiss while under the influence of alcohol? How many of these...

(Consults notes.)

...forty partners would you say involved sober kisses?

ADAM

I'm sure at least half were sober!

VIRGINIA

That leaves twenty which brings your total down to...let's see. Yes. Two hundred and ninety-one.

ADAM

Oh...well...still that's a lot, don't you think?

VIRGINIA

Of these twenty, how many were one-night stands as you referenced earlier?

ADAM

I'm pretty sure that most of the one-night stands were already eliminated in the drunk category.

VIRGINIA

Duly noted. Now let's see...Were any of the remaining twenty kissing partners of a casual nature? You know...first dates. Mack down at the bar. That kind of thing?

ADAM

Um...I'm not really sure. Why do you ask?

VIRGINIA

Well, according to the guide-

(Consults the binder "The Guide to Passionate Kisses", flipping pages.)

ADAM

Oh no. The guide again.

VIRGINIA

Yes...here it is. Results from a ten year double blind study conducted by the Lufglow group determined that a truly passionate kiss can only be shared by a couple with intimate emotional history. So, again, how many of these remaining twenty would you say were casual? We'll need to eliminate those to get an accurate estimate.

ADAM

Half?

VIRGINIA

OK...so you had in the neighborhood of ten short-term, but passionate relationships?

ADAM

Oh yes...at least ten.

VIRGINIA

Great.

(Opens laptop and types on and off during rest of dialogue.)

Now, can you give me the first and last names of each of those ten partners? And don't worry, your information is completely confidential and used for statistical purposes only.

ADAM

Oh, um...OK. Well...there was Jennifer Walings. That's with one L. And there was Alexis Foley. Also, one L. Um... Oh yes! Sandra...Sandra Brittmore! That's it! Then there was Molly...Molly...Molly Ssss. Something with an S. Her last name was tricky.

VIRGINIA

You had an emotionally intimate relationship with Molly and can't remember her last name because it was...tricky?

ADAM

Yes?

VIRGINIA

Hmmm...And the others?

ADAM

(Stretches to see what she's typing.)

How many do I have left?

VIRGINIA

Seven.

ADAM

Seven?!? OK. Let me think. (pause) Oh wait! There was that girl...what was her name? She always wore black. Had her tongue pierced. Listen to weird music. (pause) What was her name? Gosh. I can't remember. (pause) Oh...but there was this girl who worked at my bank. She was really sexy. Why did we stop dating? Oh yea...she was soooo needy. I think I must have mentally blocked her name.

VIRGINIA

So, you can't remember any of their names?

ADAM

Um...Oh! There was that one girl with a really old-fashioned name...what was it? Elinor or Stella or something like that. Her Dad hated me. She played tennis. Mildred? Yes, I'm sure it was Mildred. Mildred (pause) Hawkins! That sounds right.

VIRGINIA

Mildred Hawkins. And that's it?

ADAM

Those are all the names I can put my finger on right now.

VIRGINIA

So that's five you remember which brings your total down to...

ADAM

Hey! Just because I don't remember their names doesn't mean...

VIRGINIA

(Flips pages of the "The Guide to Passionate Kisses".)

According to the guide to...

ADAM (annoyed)

OK! I got it! Studies show! So...what is my total now?

VIRGINIA

(Picks up the large colorful graph again.)

Let's see. Carry the seven...Divided by...and I'm afraid you're down to fourteen.

ADAM

Fourteen passionate kissing partners?

VIRGINIA

No. A possible fourteen total passionate kisses.

ADAM

Fourteen! No way!

VIRGINIA

Way. But those are still unconfirmed.

ADAM

Unconfirmed?

VIRGINIA

Don't worry. We're confirming now.

ADAM

Confirming?

(Computer dings. VIRGINIA looks at it.)

VIRGINIA

OK...here we go. (long pause) Oh my. That's a real shame.

ADAM

What?

VIRGINIA

I'm afraid that Alexis Foley says she doesn't remember you-

ADAM

How could she not...

VIRGINIA

-at all. Nothing. Nothing whatsoever.

ADAM

Well that makes no sense. She was crazy about me.

VIRGINIA

Perhaps your kisses were not passionate enough to create that binding memory.

ADAM

That can't be it.

(Computer dings. VIRGINIA looks at it.)

VIRGINIA

Oh no...

ADAM

What now?

VIRGINIA

Well...Jennifer Walings with one L says you kiss like a dog eating peanut butter.

ADAM

What?

(Computer dings. VIRGINIA looks at it.)

VIRGINIA

And Sandra Biltmore also used a dog reference, but I don't think I should repeat her comments.

ADAM

I don't believe this! I don't even like dogs! (pause) Who does that leave?

VIRGINIA

Umm....let's see. Mildred Hawkins. Unless you can remember Molly Ssssss's last name.

ADAM

No. And you might as well know... I couldn't remember, so I made the Mildred name up.

VIRGINIA

Oh my. I see. Well. I'm so sorry, but according to my calculations...it's highly unlikely that you've ever delivered even one passionate kiss. (long pause) Look. I don't normally do this, but you seem like a nice young man. Perhaps you'd be interested in our training program. It's a six-month intensive course. You can take it online from the comfort of your own home and it's only five ninety-nine.

ADAM (hopeful)

Five dollars and ninety-nine cents?

VIRGINIA (laughing)

Oh, heavens no! Dollars. Five hundred and ninety-nine dollars.

ADAM

For heaven's sake! I'm unemployed! I can't afford that!

VIRGINIA

I totally understand.

(Picks up a business card from the table and hands to ADAM.)

Here. Let me give you my card. Just in case you change your mind.

(CORI, handsome and confident, enters and walks toward booth.)

VIRGINIA (Cont.)

Oh! Here comes one of our graduates now! Why hello Cori! It's so great to see you! I heard you graduated! Congratulations!

(CORI grabs VIRGINIA hand passionately and pulls her into a standing position. While looking deeply into her eyes, he slowly removes her jacket and tosses on ADAM. Then he removes her glasses and tosses them on the table and takes her hair out of the bun, and tenderly holds her face in his hands. CORI kisses VIRGINIA deeply and passionately.)

VIRGINIA (breathless)

Oh my...Cori! It's no wonder you graduated with honors!

(Melts back into her chair, unbuttons her top blouse button, and fans herself through the end of the play.)

CORI

Thanks Virginia. I'll see you later!

(CORI exits as lights begin to fade during the following.)

ADAM

Where do I sign up? Do you have a payment plan? Do you take PayPal? How soon can I start?

END