

27 Flavours of her Kiss

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a short play

By

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27 Flavours of her Kiss

Characters

ZANDER

KISSER 1

KISSER 2

27 Flavours of her Kiss

KISSER 1: Cardamom Avenue.

XANDER: That was my favourite.

KISSER 2: Cardamom Avenue.

XANDER: It tasted like –

KISSER 1: Rainbows –

XANDER: In my mouth. Two lips on two lips –

KISSER 2: Closed

KISSER 1: then open –

KISSER 2: Tongue on tongue –

XANDER: Passionate strong. Close mouth –

KISSER 1: two lips on

KISSER 2: top lip

KISSER 1: then bottom –

XANDER: slight twist –

KISSER 1: then two lips

KISSER 2: on two lips

XANDER: to finish.

KISSER 1: Sounds like hard work.

KISSER 2: Sounds like fun. (TO KISSER 1) I'm game.

BEAT. **KISSER 1** TURNS TO **KISSER 2**. THEY DO THE KISS.

XANDER: (DESCRIBING) Two lips on two lips – closed mouth then open. Tongue on tongue – passionate and strong. Close mouth – two lips on top lip, then bottom, slight twist. Then finally two lips on two lips.

KISSER 1: How was it for you ?

KISSER 2: Nice. And you ?

KISSER 1: Hard work.

XANDER: That was our first kiss.

KISSER 1: Seriously ?

KISSER 2: You remember your first kiss ?

XANDER: Every millisecond.

KISSER 1: You did all that on your first kiss ?

KISSER 2: Wow. How romantic.

KISSER 1: And impressive.

XANDER: Her name was Esmeralda.

KISSER 2: That wasn't her real name.

XANDER: Yes it was. Her parents christened her Esmerelda.

KISSER 1: Bit obvious.

KISSER 2: Over the top.

XANDER: I preferred Essie.

KISSER 2: How did you meet ?

XANDER: You don't want to hear that.

KISSER 2: Yes we do.

XANDER: It was at the library.

KISSER 1: The library ?

KISSER 2: You meet very nice girls at the library.

KISSER 1: Obviously you don't go there then.

XANDER: We met at the library. We were standing at the counter, waiting to borrow our books. Later, she told me we'd met before. I didn't remember that.

KISSER 1: That's not a good sign.

KISSER 2: How did you do it ? Did you just say hello ? Trot out some stupid line ?

KISSER 1: "Read here often."

XANDER: I just said hello.

KISSER 2: That's good. The direct approach.

XANDER: She was standing there, and she kept looking at me – at least I thought she kept looking at me. She told me later she was waiting for the lady behind the counter to come back.

KISSER 1: Embarrassing.

XANDER: So anyway we got talking. And we just ...

KISSER 2: Yeah ?

KISSER 1: Hit it off.

XANDER: Not in those words. There was something in her smile –

KISSER 2: And your smile.

XANDER: That said there's something here. I'm not sure what it was – but there's something here.

KISSER 1: And then – Cardamom Avenue.

KISSER 2: Not right away.

XANDER: No. We went out once, twice.

KISSER 1: Dinner, dancing ?

XANDER: Dinner. Then a play.

KISSER 1: A play ? What was that like ?

KISSER 2: Very romantic.

KISSER 1: I hope it wasn't "Romeo and Juliet."

XANDER: After the play we went for a walk along the pier. Warm, clear night. The sky full of stars.

KISSER 2: Moonlight on the water.

KISSER 1: Gentle summer breeze.

XANDER: We stopped and leant on the rail looking out to sea. And then I looked at her and she looked at me – and –

KISSER 1: Snog.

KISSER 2: Cardamom Avenue. No wonder you remember it.

KISSER 1: Why did you call it “Cardamom”? You have Indian for dinner ?

XANDER: I gave all our kisses names.

KISSER 2: Varieties ?

XANDER: Flavours. 27 Flavours of her kiss.

KISSER 1: 27 ?

XANDER: There was Honeysuckle Jasmine.

KISSER 2: Sounds delicious.

XANDER: Two lips on two lips – full and long

KISSER 1: Sounds pretty easy.

KISSER 2 AND KISSER 1 DEMONSTRATE.

KISSER 2: Nice. Simple, bold.

XANDER: Then there was Rippleberry Almond.

KISSER 1: Where did you get these names ?

XANDER: I just thought of them. She made me think of them.

KISSER 2: How did that go – Rippleberry Almond ?

XANDER: Two lips on two lips – short and sweet.

KISSER 2: Delicious.

KISSER 1: Thank you.

KISSER 1 AND KISSER 2 DEMONSTRATE THE KISSES.

XANDER: Chocolate Waterfall. Two lips on two lips – not too long, not too short.
Candlewax Caramel. Two lips on one lip – bottom.
Daydream Apple-Blossom.

KISSER 2: That sounds heavenly.

XANDER: Two lips on one lip – top.

KISSER 1 AND KISSER 2 DEMONSTRATE.

KISSER 1: Tastes good too.

XANDER: Then there was – Lakeside Tangerine. Two lips on one lip – top - hold and run between lips for a little.

KISSER 2: Dreamy.

XANDER: Chili November.

KISSER 1: What's that ?

XANDER: Same but the bottom lip. With a tiny bite at the end.

KISSER 2: Ouch.

KISSER 1: Not bad. Next.

XANDER: Passion fruit somersault. Two lips on one lip – top – hold –

KISSER 2: Didn't we just do this ?

XANDER: And suck.

KISSER 1: I like this one.

XANDER: Orange glow explosion. Same but bottom lip.

KISSER 2: See how you like it.

THIS TIME KISSER 2 SUCKS KISSER 1's LIP.

KISSER 1: Hey. Not so hard.

KISSER 2: Oh, poor diddums.

XANDER: Aquamarine Lime.

KISSER 1: Is that a colour or a flavour ?

XANDER: Both. Two lips on right corner – very gently. Try it.

THEY DO.

KISSER 2: (SIGHS) Lovely.

XANDER: Then Mandarin Meringue. Same but the left corner.
Sunshine Cinnamon.

KISSER 2: Let's do that one.
XANDER: Two lips on fingertips.
KISSER 2: I'm getting tingles right up my arms.
XANDER: Shoulders.
KISSER 1: Which one ?
XANDER: Both. Then Crazy Pumpkin.
KISSER 2: What's that ?
XANDER: Toes.

THEY DEMONSTRATE.

KISSER 2: That tickles.
KISSER 1: You two sure kissed a lot.
XANDER: Sometimes we'd kiss for so long, afterwards we'd experience Phantom Kisses.
KISSER 2: What's that ?
XANDER: It's like that amazing feeling when you've been kissing
KISSER 1: And kissing
KISSER 2: And kissing
XANDER: And you suddenly stop and your lips keep kissing
KISSER 2: By themselves !
XANDER: Like you've been at sea and you're back on land but your legs keep thinking you're still at sea
KISSER 1: And the ground keeps moving
KISSER 2: It's like that ?
XANDER: But with kissing. Your lips are still kissing
KISSER 1: Although your lover is –
KISSER 2: no longer

XANDER: There.

BEAT.

KISSER 1: How many flavours are we up to ?

XANDER: Twelve.

KISSER 1: Then what are we waiting for ?

XANDER: Toffee tempter.

KISSER 1: Which is ?

XANDER: Neck. Neck. Neck.

THE **KISSERS** DEMONSTRATE AGAIN.

KISSER 1: Next.

XANDER: Okay, these all with mouth open.

KISSER 1: Now we're talking.

XANDER: Vanilla Sunshower. Two lips on two lips – no tongue.

KISSER 2: Hey. He said no tongue.

XANDER: Angel hair glide- Two lips on two lips, tongue flicking across bottom lip
Sungold Avalanche – Two lips again, tongue flicking across top lip
Rainbow Season - Tongue flicking teeth

KISSER 1: This is agony.

KISSER 2: The waiting makes it better.

XANDER: Deluxe Cappuccino. Tongue on tongue – touching.

KISSER 1: That sounds more like it.

XANDER: Butter Pecan Parade. Tongue on tongue – caressing
Cherry Rush - Tongue on tongue – exploring.
Strawberry Snowstorm – Tongue on tongue – wrestling.

THE **KISSERS** CARRY OUT A LONG AND ACROBATIC KISS.

THEY END UP HUFFING AND PUFFING AT THE END. BEAT.

XANDER: Then there's my personal favourite. A combination kiss.

KISSER 1: Sounds tricky.

KISSER 2: You can handle it.

THEY DEMONSTRATE AS **XANDER** DESCRIBES.

XANDER: Two lips on top lip, hold and rub between lips then open, two lips on two lips, flick tongue across bottom lip – gently. Close mouth while still kissing.

KISSER 2: That was amazing. What's it called ?

XANDER: Peppermint Dynamite.

KISSER 1: Dyn-o-mite !

XANDER: Here's a funny one – Butterfly Catcher.

KISSER 2: What's that ?

XANDER: Tongue touch.

KISSER 1: Say that again ?

XANDER: Tongue touch. No lips.

KISSER 2: Is that a kiss ?

XANDER: Definitely. Try it.

KISSER 1: Do we have to ?

XANDER INDICATES FOR THEM TO DO IT.

KISSER 2 STICKS OUT HER TONGUE. **KISSER 1** HESITATES. THEN HE CLOSES HIS EYES AND STICKS OUT HIS TONGUE. THEY TOUCH.

KISSER 1: Gross.

KISSER 2: It's not very pleasureable

XANDER: It's not meant to be.

KISSER 1: A kiss that's not meant to be pleasureable ?

XANDER: It's meant to be fun.

KISSER 1: Fun ?

XANDER: Silly. A laugh.

KISSER 2: Like a Special Kiss.

KISSER 1: What's a special kiss ?

XANDER: It's different for each pair of kissers.

KISSER 2: It's a silly kiss.

XANDER: Fun kiss.

KISSER 2: A secret only they share.

XANDER: A common language

KISSER 2: Only they can understand. Have you ever noticed how lovers speak in really soft little voices to each other – like a whisper ? And you think – how can they understand that. It's like their ears have become attuned to the frequency in each other's voices so they don't have to speak at normal volume. The tiniest little murmur will be captured by their cherished ones specially tuned ears. It's beautiful.

KISSER 1: Can we get back to the Special Kiss ?

XANDER: Essie had her own special kiss. She would press her lips on my lips and then just move her lips the tiniest little bit. A tremble.

KISSER 2: Show me.

XANDER GOES TO KISSER 2. HE DEMONSTRATES THE SPECIAL KISS WITH HER.

XANDER: His lips aren't moving.

KISSER 2: Yes they are. I can feel it. A tiny little bit.

XANDER: I said it was a tremble.

KISSER 2: More like a quiver.

KISSER 1: I still say his lips aren't moving.

THEY FINISH THE SPECIAL KISS.

KISSER 1: (TO **KISSER 2**) Could you feel that ?

KISSER 2: Just.

KISSER 1: What did it feel like ?

KISSER 2: Like the tip of a feather, delicately tickling my lips.

XANDER: Or a butterfly.

KISSER 2: Sounds lovely.

KISSER 1: Sounds stupid. If I had a special kiss it would be something memorable. I'd grab my lover in my arms tilt them back and plant a passionate scorcher on their lips.

HE GRABS KISSER 2 AND DEMONSTRATES.

KISSER 1: How was that ?

KISSER 2: Did you have a kebab for lunch ?

KISSER 1: (TO XANDER) There's some you're leaving out.

XANDER: I haven't finished yet.

KISSER 1: I bet they're not even on your list.

XANDER: Try me.

KISSER 1: The Rooster.

XANDER: What's that ?

KISSER 1 DEMONSTRATES WITH KISSER 2.

KISSER 1: They begin to kiss you, then suddenly pull away . . . lean forward, pull away!
Then there's Roto Rooter.

XANDER: The what ?

KISSER 1: That's when their tongue goes so far down your throat that it actually begins to choke you.

KISSER 2 BEGINS TO CHOKE.

KISSER 1: The Swordfish. They use their tongue like a swordfish uses it's nose – they bash you and poke you into submission..
The Groper. Their ginormous lips completely engulf yours.
The Deep Sea Diver. They rarely come up for air.
The Lizard: Their tongue darts in and out of your mouth like a reptile.

KISSER 2: Stop it. That's creepy.

KISSER 1: Frozen in Time: You never change the position of your head. You just stay incredibly still. Like you've been cryogenically frozen.

KISSER 1: (CONT) The Squid: They taste really awful. All you can think of is how to slip them a breath mint.

KISSER 2 BEGINS TO COUGH.

KISSER 1: The Wrecking Ball: They kiss like a battering ram.

KISSER 2: (GASPING) How many more ?

KISSER 1: Last one. Nick-o-Teen: Kissing them is like licking the contents of an ash tray.

KISSER 2: I didn't know you smoked.

KISSER 1: I don't.

KISSER 2: I preferred his flavours. How many left ?

XANDER: Just three – and these a little bit different. Blackberry Night. Two lips pressed against two lips. Hard, brittle, unyielding.

KISSER 1 AND KISSER 2 DEMONSTRATE

KISSER 2: That's not very nice. I don't feel good.

KISSER 1: What's happening ?

XANDER: Two more. Numb.

KISSER 2: Is that a flavour ?

XANDER: Numb.

KISSER 1: That's not a flavour. It has to be a flavour ?

XANDER: Numb.

KISSER 2: What does it taste like ?

XANDER: Two lips on two lips. Cold, hard.

KISSER 1: Dead ?

XANDER: Cold.

THEY DEMONSTRATE THE KISS.

KISSER 2: It tastes like –

KISSER 1: ... numb.

XANDER: But how do you mix up numb ? What ingredients does it take ? How do you make numb ? Then one final kiss. Yesterday's Smile.

KISSER 2: That sounds sad.

XANDER: We were kissing

KISSER 1: As usual

XANDER: Soft gentle kisses

KISSER 2: On the lips

XANDER: And then I tasted something

KISSER 1: Wet, salty

XANDER: And I realised

KISSER 2: They were tears.

XANDER: She was crying

KISSER 1: And all of a sudden

KISSER 2: It was -

XANDER: Clear

KISSER 1: In that –

KISSER 2: Moment

XANDER: I understood what the tears meant

KISSER 1: Hot

KISSER 2: Wet

XANDER: Stained with ... love ?

KISSER 1: Salt.

XANDER: On her cheek

KISSER 2: Her lips

XANDER: Tears of

KISSER 1: Happiness ?

KISSER 2: Sadness

KISSER 1: Joy ?

XANDER: Sadness

KISSER 1: Ecstasy !

KISSER 2: Goodbye.

KISSER 2 GOES TO XANDER. SHE KISSES HIM GENTLY ON THE LIPS AND EXITS.

KISSER 1: What happened ?

XANDER: I don't know. She changed. *I* changed. I didn't want it to end like that. I didn't want it to end.

KISSER 1: Nothing ends nicely.

XANDER: I should have just held her in my arms and told her everything would be alright.

KISSER 2: (RE-ENTERING) You should've kissed her.

XANDER: Not everything is solved by a kiss.

KISSER 2: You sure about that ?

XANDER: How did we go from Cardamom Avenue to Numb ? Now that's all I have left. The Flavours. 27 Flavours of her kiss.

KISSER 2: Cardamom Avenue.

KISSER 1: Honeysuckle Jasmine.

XANDER: Rippleberry Almond.

KISSER 1: Chocolate Waterfall.

KISSER 2: Candlewax Caramel.

XANDER: Daydream Apple-Blossom.

KISSER 1: Lakeside Tangerine.

XANDER: Chili November.

KISSER 2: Passion fruit somersault.

KISSER 1: Orange glow explosion.

KISSER 2: Aquamarine Lime.

XANDER: Mandarin Meringue.

KISSER 2: Sunshine Cinnamon.

XANDER: Crazy Pumpkin.

KISSER 1: Toffee tempter.

XANDER: Vanilla Sunshower.

KISSER 1: Angel hair glide.

KISSER 2: Sungold Avalanche

KISSER 1: Rainbow Season

XANDER: Deluxe Capuccino.

KISSER 2: Butter Pecan Parade.

XANDER: Cherry Rush

KISSER 1: Strawberry Snowstorm.

KISSER 2: Peppermint Dynamite.

XANDER: Butterfly Catcher.

KISSER 1: Blackberry Night.

XANDER: Yesterday's Smile.

KISSER 2: Numb.

BEAT.

KISSER 1: Hey. That's twenty-eight.

XANDER: I don't count the last one.

LIGHTS SLOWLY FADE.