

Is A Kiss Just A Kiss?

Characters

CLOONEY

MALE STUDENT

FEMALE STUDENT

The scene is set in Prof Clooney's classroom in a college. There are a number of students in the classroom. PROF CLOONEY enters and stands behind his lectern. A soft spotlight is on him.

CLOONEY: Good morning class. Today's class is going to be rather special. We are going to discuss "The Kiss" . Not the sculpture by Rodin and not the movie by Edison, but the actual, physical kiss between a man and a woman. Please, before any of you bring it up, we will have to forgo a discussion on "same-sex" kissing because I have no experience in that area. However, I think most of what we will discuss can be transferred to that arena.

OK, now that the PC stuff is taken care of, let's get started.

I found an anonymous definition of the romantic kiss which I think is very good. "The kiss is the passionate desire of one soul to cling to another. At the break of each and every kiss the soul plants an eternal essence of that person deep within the memory of your heart. And you possess a tiny part of that person's soul forever".

A kiss is the simplest action we can bestow upon some one we like, or dislike in the case Michael Corleone and his famous Kiss of death.

A kiss is a peculiar proposition. Of no use to one, yet absolute bliss to two. The small boy gets it for nothing, the young man has to lie for it, and the old man has to buy it. It's the baby's right, the lover's privilege, and the hypocrite's mask.

To a young girl it's faith; to a married woman it's hope; and to an old maid it's charity....

There are kissing fish, kissing booths, a Butterfly Kiss, a French kiss, an Amish Kiss (both cows are locked in the barn), an Australian Kiss, the kiss of death, KISS the band, KISS the music stations....

You can kiss the girls and make them cry (of course now you will be branded as a sex offender and your life will be ruined), you can kiss and tell, you can kiss a boo boo, kiss my grits and kiss the cook...

You can kiss hello and kiss good-bye, and even kiss the Blarney Stone, you can kiss in the rain, and even in the shower, and kiss underneath the mistletoe

You can watch Kiss of the Spiderwoman, or Kiss Me, Kate...or you could just Hold Me, Thrill Me, Kiss Me!

Are all of you familiar with these kiss references?

One student raises a hand.

STUDENT: I've never heard of an Australian kiss. What is that?

CLOONEY: That is a kiss down under. Which is becoming more and more popular all of the time. But again, in some cases could get you branded as a sex offender. Any other questions?

There are none

But in today's class we are going to focus on the romantic kiss. And I am going need a couple of volunteers who don't mind being kissed (not by me of course), but by another student.

Before my wife and I got married, we created a little game that allowed us to not only enjoy kissing each other, but also allowed us to be able to tell one another what type of kiss we were in the mood for. And no, the Australian kiss was not one of those kisses.

We made up names for them as if they were ice cream flavors or a refreshing beverage. It made even the simplest of kisses exciting. . It also made both of us think a little more when we started kissing.

For example we had a kiss called: Raspberry Avenue. I loved it.

In my mouth. Two lips on two lips – Pretty much the missionary position of kisses. Lips closed, then opened, Tongue on tongue, passionate, strong, then close the mouth.

Two lips on Top lip, Then bottom, Slight twist – Then two lips On two lips to finish.

MALE STUDENT: Sounds like hard work.

FEMALE STUDENT: Sounds like fun. (TO MALE) I'm game.

CLOONEY: It looks like we've found our volunteers.

He has them stand in front of the lectern, facing each other and standing close to each other.

(As he is giving instruction, the follow what he is saying) 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.

They finish the kiss and then take a step backwards.

MALE: How was it for you?

FEMALE: Nice. And you?

MALE: Hard work.

CLOONEY: That was our first kiss.

MALE: Seriously?

FEMALE: How sweet, you remember your first kiss?

CLOONEY: Every millisecond.

MALE: You did all that on your first kiss?

FEMALE: Wow. How romantic.

MALE: And impressive.

CLOONEY: Her name was Esmeralda.

FEMALE: That wasn't her real name.

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

MALE: Bit obvious.

FEMALE: Over the top.

CLOONEY: I preferred Essie.

FEMALE: How did you meet?

CLOONEY: You don't want to hear that.

FEMALE: Yes we do.

CLOONEY: It was at the library.

MALE: The library?

FEMALE: You meet very nice girls at the library.

MALE: Obviously you don't go there then.

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

MALE: That's not a good sign.

FEMALE: How did you do it? Did you just say hello or did you trot out some stupid line?

MALE: Did you say “Read here often.” (he chuckles a little)

CLOONEY: I just said “Hello”.

FEMALE: That’s good. The direct approach.

CLOONEY: 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.

MALE: Embarrassing.

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

FEMALE: Yeah?

MALE: Hit it off.

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

FEMALE: And your smile.

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

MALE: And then – Raspberry Avenue.

FEMALE: Not right away silly.

CLOONEY: No. We went out once maybe twice.

MALE: Dinner, dancing?

CLOONEY: Dinner. Then a play.

MALE: A play? What was that like?

FEMALE: Very romantic.

MALE: I hope it wasn’t “Romeo and Juliet.”

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

FEMALE: Moonlight on the water.

MALE: Gentle summer breeze.

CLOONEY: We stopped and leaned on the rail looking out to sea. And then I looked

at her and she looked at me – and –

MALE: Slurpo!

FEMALE: Raspberry Avenue. No wonder you remember it.

MALE: Why did you call it “Raspberry”? You have Indian food for dinner?

CLOONEY: I gave all our kisses names.

FEMALE: Varieties?

CLOONEY Flavors. 20 Flavors of our kisses.

MALE: 20?

CLOONEY: There was Honeysuckle Wine.

FEMALE: Sounds delicious.

CLOONEY: Two lips on two lips – full and long

MALE: Sounds pretty easy.

FEMALE AND MALE DEMONSTRATE.

FEMALE: Nice. Simple, bold.

CLOONEY: Then there was Blueberry Almond.

MALE: Where did you get these names?

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

FEMALE: How did that go – Blueberry Almond?

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

FEMALE: Sounds delicious.

MALE: Let’s try that one..

MALE AND FEMALE DEMONSTRATE THE KISSES.

CLOONEY: Watermelon Waterfall. Two lips on two lips – not too long, not too short.
Peachy Caramel. Two lips on one lip – bottom.
Sweet dream Cherry-Blossom.

FEMALE: That sounds heavenly.

CLOONEY: Two lips on one lip – top.

MALE AND FEMALE DEMONSTRATE.

MALE: Tastes good too.

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

FEMALE: Dreamy.

CLOONEY: Sweet Cold November.

MALE: What's that?

CLOONEY: The same but the bottom lip. With a tiny bite at the end.

FEMALE: Ouch, but kind of sexy.

MALE: Not bad. Next.

CLOONEY: Kiwi fruit Cartwheel. Two lips on one lip – top – hold –

FEMALE: Didn't we just do this one?

CLOONEY: And suck.

MALE: Ooh, I like this one.

CLOONEY: Tangerine glow waterfall. Almost the same but using the bottom lip.

FEMALE: See how you like it.

THIS TIME FEMALE SUCKS MALE'S LIP.

MALE: Hey. Not so hard.

FEMALE: Oh, poor liddle babykins.

CLOONEY: Aquamarine Sherbert.

MALE: Is that a color or a flavor?

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

THEY DO.

FEMALE: (SIGHS) Lovely.

CLOONEY: Then Coconut Meringue. Same but the left corner.
Then Butter Rum Cinnamon.

FEMALE: Let's do that one.

CLOONEY: Two lips on fingertips.

FEMALE: I'm getting tingles right up my arms.

CLOONEY: To your shoulders?.

MALE: Which one?

CLOONEY: Both.

MALE: You two sure kissed a lot.

CLOONEY: Sometimes we'd kiss for so long, afterwards we'd experience Phantom Kisses.

FEMALE: What's that?

CLOONEY: It's like that amazing feeling when you've been kissing

MALE: And kissing

FEMALE: And kissing

CLOONEY: And you suddenly stop and your lips keep kissing

FEMALE: By themselves !

CLOONEY: Like you've been at sea and you're back on land but your legs keep thinking you're still at sea

MALE: And the ground keeps moving

FEMALE: It's like that?

CLOONEY: But with kissing. Your lips are still kissing

MALE: Although your lover is –

FEMALE: no longer

CLOONEY: There.

Take a beat.

MALE: How many flavors are we up to?

CLOONEY: Twelve.

MALE: Then what are we waiting for?

CLOONEY: Toffee tempter.

MALE: Which is?

CLOONEY: Neck. Neck. Neck.

THE KISSERS DEMONSTRATE AGAIN.

MALE: Next.

CLOONEY: Okay, these all with mouth open.

MALE: Now we're talking.

CLOONEY: Lace Sunshower. Two lips on two lips – no tongue.

FEMALE: Hey! He said no tongue!

CLOONEY: Sweet Angel Gloss- Two lips on two lips, tongue flicking across bottom lip

MALE: This is agony.

FEMALE: The waiting makes it better.

CLOONEY: Deluxe Latte'. Tongue on tongue – touching.

MALE: That sounds more like it.

*THE KISSERS CARRY OUT A LONG AND ACROBATIC KISS.
THEY END UP HUFFING AND PUFFING AT THE END. BEAT.*

CLOONEY: Then there's my personal favorite. A combination kiss.

MALE: Sounds tricky.

FEMALE: You can handle it.

MALE: It won't cause a whip lash will it?

THEY DEMONSTRATE AS CLOONEY DESCRIBES.

CLOONEY: 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.

FEMALE: That was amazing. What's it called?

CLOONEY: Peppermint Pacemaker

MALE: Dyn-o-mite !

FEMALE: What about a Special Kiss.

MALE: What's a special kiss?

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

FEMALE: It's a silly kiss.

CLOONEY: Or a fun kiss.

FEMALE: A secret only they share.

CLOONEY: A common language

FEMALE: 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.

MALE: Can we get back to the Special Kiss?

CLOONEY: 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.

FEMALE: Show me.

CLOONEY GOES TO FEMALE. HE DEMONSTRATES THE SPECIAL KISS WITH HER.

CLOONEY: His lips aren't moving.

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

CLOONEY: I said it was a tremble.

FEMALE: More like a quiver.

MALE: I still say his lips aren't moving.

THEY FINISH THE SPECIAL KISS.

MALE: (TO FEMALE) Could you feel that?

FEMALE: Just barely.

MALE: What did it feel like?

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

CLOONEY: Or a butterfly.

FEMALE: Sounds lovely.

MALE: 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 FEMALE AND DEMONSTRATES.

MALE: How was that?

FEMALE: Did you have a kebab for lunch?

MALE: (TO CLOONEY) There's some you're leaving out.

CLOONEY: I haven't finished yet.

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

CLOONEY: Try me.

MALE: The Rooster.

CLOONEY: What's that?

MALE DEMONSTRATES WITH FEMALE.

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

CLOONEY: The what?

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

FEMALE BEGINS TO CHOKE.

MALE: 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.

FEMALE: Stop it. That's creepy.

MALE: Frozen in Time: You never change the position of your head. You just stay incredibly still. Like you've been cryogenically frozen.
The Squid: They taste really awful. All you can think of is how to slip them a breath mint.

FEMALE BEGINS TO COUGH.

MALE: The Wrecking Ball: They kiss like a battering ram.

FEMALE: (GASPING) How many more?

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

FEMALE: I didn't know you smoked.

MALE: I don't.

FEMALE: I preferred his flavors. How many left?

CLOONEY: Just two – and these are a little bit different. Burberry Night. Two lips pressed against two lips. Hard, brittle, unyielding.

MALE AND FEMALE DEMONSTRATE

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

CLOONEY: Then one final kiss. Tomorrow's Smile

FEMALE: Is that a flavor?

CLOONEY: Yes.

FEMALE: That sounds sad.

CLOONEY: We were kissing

MALE: As usual

CLOONEY: Soft gentle kisses

FEMALE: On the lips

CLOONEY: And then I tasted something/. Wet, salty. And I realized

FEMALE: They were tears.

CLOONEY: She was crying

MALE: And all of a sudden

FEMALE: It was –

CLOONEY: Clear

MALE: In that –

FEMALE: Moment

CLOONEY: I understood what the tears meant

MALE: Hot

FEMALE: Wet

CLOONEY: Stained with ... love?

MALE: Salt.

CLOONEY: On her cheek

FEMALE: Her lips

CLOONEY: Tears of

MALE: Happiness?

FEMALE: Sadness

MALE: Joy?

CLOONEY: Sadness

MALE: Ecstasy !

FEMALE: Goodbye.

FEMALE GOES TO CLOONEY. SHE KISSES HIM GENTLY ON THE LIPS AND EXITS.

MALE: What happened?

CLOONEY: I don't know. She changed. I changed. I didn't want it to end like that. I didn't want it to end at all.

MALE: Nothing ends nicely.

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

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

CLOONEY: Not everything is solved by a kiss.

FEMALE: You sure about that?

CLOONEY: How did we go from Raspberry Avenue to Tomorrow's Smile? Now that's all I have left. Her 20 Flavors

FEMALE: Raspberry Avenue.

MALE: Honeysuckle Wine.

CLOONEY: Blueberry Almond

FEMALE: Watermelon Waterfall

MALE: Peachy Caramel

CLOONEY: Sweet Dream Cherry-Blossom

FEMALE: Blue Pool Tangerine

MALE: Sweet Cold November

CLOONEY: Kiwi fruit Cartwheel

FEMALE: Tangerine glow waterfall

MALE: Aquamarine Sherbet

CLOONEY: Coconut Meringue

FEMALE: Butter Rum Cinnamon

MALE: Toffee tempter.

CLOONEY: Lace Sunshower

FEMALE: Sweet Angel Gloss

MALE: Deluxe Latte'

CLOONEY: Peppermint Pacemaker

FEMALE: Burberry Night

BEAT.

MALE: Hey. That's only 19

CLOONEY: I don't count the last one.

LIGHTS SLOWLY FADE. THE END