

# CANDY KISSES

## By Edan Schappert

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### CAST:

**STRAW**-a strawberry candy

**VAN**-a vanilla candy

**AT RISE:** **STRAW** and **VAN** are sitting in middle of stage, each tightly wrapped in aluminum foil, like tight balls, and their heads are the only thing that's visible. Sticking out of their neck areas are long, thin paper scarves. One scarf says "STRAW" and the other says "VAN." The two sit very quietly, only their eyes move.

**\*NOTE:** For contest purposes, where costumes and props are not allowed, this play can easily be performed without either.

**STRAW:** (**looks over to VAN**) Well?

**VAN:** Yes?

**STRAW:** What's the explanation for all this?

**VAN:** You're asking me?

**STRAW:** Is there someone else?

**VAN:** Must you be so cynical?

**STRAW:** I'm cynical because I want a simple question answered?

**VAN:** Must you always answer a question with another question?

**STRAW:** (**annoyed**) This is getting us nowhere.

**VAN:** Try to relax.

**STRAW:** Don't you realize the word "try" and the word "relax" are opposites and create an oxymoronic phrase?

**VAN:** Okay – then just chill out.

**STRAW:** But I demand an explanation for all this!

**VAN:** Don't ask me.

**STRAW:** Can't you at least help me figure it out?

**VAN:** (**yawns**) I'm tired. I'm going to take a nap.

**STRAW:** WAKE UP!!!

**VAN:** (**jumps**) Wow, who made you the boss?

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STRAW: Let's start with the facts. I like everything neat, tidy, organized and in order. I don't like things happening helter-skelter and out of control. So let's go through the events as they happened.

**(nods head authoritatively)**

VAN: **(mocking)** Yes, let's.

STRAW: Point number one. We were in a big cellophane bag in our aluminum wrappings, all fitting very well in the bag. When we were at the factory, I learned that they put 20 pieces of candy in every bag. Day in and day out. Year after year. That's known as your basic precision.

VAN: **(yawns loudly)** That's known as your basic boring.

STRAW: **(authoritatively)** Boring is good. Boring is consistent. A boring life is an uncomplicated life.

VAN: **(yawns louder)** Right...

STRAW: So, we were all wrapped in our aluminum cocoons with our paper scarves protruding out smartly at our necks. Ah, yes...the quality control engineers worked it out so perfectly and made us all identical pieces of candy.

VAN: **(yawns even louder)** Very interesting...

STRAW: And we were put into a clean cellophane bag...which was exactly 10 inches by 6 inches, with a precision corrugated sealing at the top and the bottom.

VAN: Oh, wonderful. Wonderful.

STRAW: Accuracy does not seem to impress you.

VAN: Want to hear some jokes I heard at the factory?

STRAW: Not *now*. I'm working.

VAN: Sorry.

STRAW: I can see you are a candy who likes frivolous joviality. Well, I cannot permit that at a serious time like this.

VAN: **(puckers up face into a serious look)** Serious. Yes.

STRAW: Point number two. We were shipped in a truck by night to a store, and then, of course, we were bought. Who wouldn't buy such extraordinary things as us? Well, that's when the trouble started. We were then taken to somebody's home and rudely thrown out of the bag onto this cold plate! **(shivers)**

VAN: How about if I sing? That might liven things up.

STRAW: No.

VAN: Right.

STRAW: **(very stern)** Your impractical attitude is beginning to rankle me. Why don't you help me find out why we're sitting here on this plate.

VAN: We're here because they dumped us out of the bag.

STRAW: Come, come. That's not efficient thinking.

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VAN: You can't expect efficient thinking from me. I'm just a simple piece of candy.

STRAW: Well, I'm not simple! I'm highly intelligent. Why aren't you more like me?

VAN: I don't think the world could stand one more like you.

STRAW: And what's that supposed to mean?

VAN: You're too stiff. You can't have fun.

STRAW: I am merely critical of persons and things in the world that don't come up to my standards.

VAN: And what are your standards?

STRAW: I want everything to be seriously perfect.

VAN: Or perfectly serious!

STRAW: Are you casting aspersions at my outlook on life?

VAN: Yes. So what's your name? (*peers over to read name on paper scarf*) Let me see...

STRAW: It's Straw – for Strawberry. What else. That's what all our names are. (*very smug*)

VAN: My name is Van. See?

(*tries to move into a position where name can be seen*)

STRAW: (*aghast*) Van??!!! What kind of a name is that?

VAN: I'm a Vanilla.

STRAW: Vanilla??!!! Oh, yes. (*chuckles smugly*) Now I know why you're a little odd. You're a square peg in a round hole – you're out of step in a world of Strawberry!

VAN: I don't feel out of step. I'm very happy with myself.

STRAW: (*laughs*) Van! What a stupid name! Who ever heard of a Van? All I've ever known are Straws. And that's all there is! Oh my, you're a complete misfit. Oh, I do take pity on you in this world.

VAN: Did anybody ever tell you you're not a whole lot of fun?

STRAW: (*snooty*) Well, Straws really can't have fun with Vans, now, can they? You are *not* quite in my category.

VAN: Well, at least we've got better manners, and we don't go around insulting other candies!

STRAW: I don't have time for this kind of talk. I'm going out to investigate.

(*folds down aluminum wrapping from shoulders*)

VAN: I hope you investigate better than you socialize.

STRAW: (*finishes unwrapping aluminum foil; has not undressed, has simply taken the wrapping off like an overcoat*) There. That's better.

*(stands up)*

VAN: What are you doing?

STRAW: *(walks around the rim of the plate, pulls a cloth measuring tape from a pocket and starts measuring the plate)* Aha! *(quickly)*

I see this plate is 13 inches in diameter, has a 48 inch circumference, ridges spaced every inch and a half – *(excited)* and has fluted edges every quarter inch at the uppermost part! Excellent!

VAN: What good is knowing that?

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