

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

A COMEDY IN TEN MINUTES

By Matt Thompson

Copyright © MMVIII by Matt Thompson

All Rights Reserved

Brooklyn Publishers, LLC in association with Heuer Publishing LLC

Professionals and amateurs are hereby warned that this work is subject to a royalty. Royalty must be paid every time a play is performed whether or not it is presented for profit and whether or not admission is charged. A play is performed any time it is acted before an audience. All rights to this work of any kind including but not limited to professional and amateur stage performing rights are controlled exclusively by Brooklyn Publishers, LLC and Heuer Publishing LLC. Inquiries concerning rights should be addressed to Brooklyn Publishers, LLC.

This work is fully protected by copyright. No part of this work may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without permission of the publisher. Copying (by any means) or performing a copyrighted work without permission constitutes an infringement of copyright.

All organizations receiving permission to produce this work agree to give the author(s) credit in any and all advertisement and publicity relating to the production. The author(s) billing must appear below the title and be at least 50% as large as the title of the Work. All programs, advertisements, and other printed material distributed or published in connection with production of the work must include the following notice: **“Produced by special arrangement with Brooklyn Publishers, LLC in association with Heuer Publishing LLC.”**

There shall be no deletions, alterations, or changes of any kind made to the work, including the changing of character gender, the cutting of dialogue, or the alteration of objectionable language unless directly authorized by the publisher or otherwise allowed in the work’s “Production Notes.” The title of the play shall not be altered.

The right of performance is not transferable and is strictly forbidden in cases where scripts are borrowed or purchased second-hand from a third party. All rights, including but not limited to professional and amateur stage performing, recitation, lecturing, public reading, television, radio, motion picture, video or sound taping, internet streaming or other forms of broadcast as technology progresses, and the rights of translation into foreign languages, are strictly reserved.

COPYING OR REPRODUCING ALL OR ANY PART OF THIS BOOK IN ANY MANNER IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN BY LAW. One copy for each speaking role must be purchased for production purposes. Single copies of scripts are sold for personal reading or production consideration only.

BROOKLYN PUBLISHERS, LLC

P.O. BOX 248 • CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA 52406

TOLL FREE (888) 473-8521 • FAX (319) 368-8011

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

By Matt Thompson

SYNOPSIS: *First Impressions* is a heartwarming comedy about a guy and a girl and their first impressions of one another. As they both break the fourth wall, we get a glimpse into their real thoughts - funny, direct, and honest!

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(1 MAN, 2 WOMEN)

JASON (m)A customer. Stops by the flower shop on his way home. Asks Jessica to Valentine's Dinner.

JESSICA (f)Owns a flower shop. Interested in Jason.

SAMANTHA (f)Works at the flower shop.

DO NOT COPY

AT RISE:

A blank stage. JASON and JESSICA stand looking out, speaking aside.

JASON: February.

JESSICA: Fourteenth.

JASON: Valentine's Day.

JESSICA: Valentine's Day.

JASON: I stopped by the flower shop.

JESSICA: He stopped by the flower shop.

JASON: *(Walking into the "flower shop.")* Excuse me.

JESSICA: *(Turning around.)* Yes? *(Aside.)* He was attractive.

JASON: *(Aside.)* She looked like an angel that fell out of heaven.

JESSICA: May I help you?

JASON: *(Fumbling a little because SHE's so pretty.)* I was looking for . . . uh . . . beauty.

JESSICA: Excuse me?

JASON: I mean I was looking for something beautiful . . . for a . . . special . . . woman in my life.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* Married.

JASON: Well, not *the* woman of my life.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* Girlfriend.

JASON: In fact, she's not even that special.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* Commitment issues.

JASON: I mean . . . it's for my mother.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* Freudian issues.

JASON: *(Pulling his thoughts together.)* It's her birthday, and I wanted to get her something pretty for this special occasion.

JESSICA: Your mother's birthday is today? On Valentine's Day?

JASON: Yes.

JESSICA: And how old is your mother?

JASON: I don't know. I never ask women their age.

JESSICA giggles.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* Witty. *(To JASON.)* Do you know what you would like to get her?

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

JASON: I don't know much about flowers.

JESSICA: Well, how about an *Abutilon Megapotamicum*?

JASON: *(Aside.)* She's smart.

JESSICA: Or some *Solanum Capsicastrum*?

JASON: *(Aside.)* She's really smart.

JESSICA: You know what. I may have just what you want. I have a beautiful set of *Magnoliophyta Rosaceae*s.

JASON: Yes, you do. I noticed that when I walked in.

JESSICA: *(Smiling. Aside.)* He's flirting.

JASON: *(Aside.)* I'm flirting. *(To JESSICA.)* I think you're a bit over my head with the Latin phylum names there.

JESSICA: Sorry. I just get caught up.

Beat.

JASON: You know . . . you have a very nice smile.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* I'm listening. *(To JASON.)* Thank you.

JASON: It's easy to see how you can make your customers feel so at ease.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* I'm still listening. *(To JASON.)* I think it's the plants that do that. But you're very kind.

JASON: It's easy to be kind when your face radiates pure beauty.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* He has my undivided attention.

JASON: So what do you think?

JESSICA: *(A little flustered herself after his compliment.)* About what?

JASON: About the . . . *Magnavox* . . . *Freebee* . . . *Rialto* . . .

JESSICA: The *Magnoliophyta Rosaceae*?

JASON: Yes, it sounds exotic. What are they?

JESSICA: Roses.

JASON: Cute.

JESSICA: Yes, and so are you. *(Aside.)* Did I just say that?!

JASON: *(Aside.)* She just complimented me.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* I just complimented him. Wait, I can't compliment him too much, what if it goes to his head? What if he has a huge ego? Although, he is *very* cute.

JASON: *(Aside.)* She has a spunky personality. I think I like that.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* He's witty. I think I like that.

THEY smile at each other.

JASON: *(Aside.)* Awkward silence.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* Awkward silence.

JASON: *(Shaking her hand.)* My name's Jason.

JESSICA: Jessica. So, Jason, what do you do for a living?

JASON: Uh . . . Well.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* I wonder how much money he makes?

JASON: *(Aside.)* She wants to know how much money I make.

JESSICA: I'm sorry, I didn't hear you? What do you do again?

JASON: *(Quickly.)* I'm an economic advisor at Teledite Bank Finance.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* Boring.

JASON: I'm an astronaut.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* He's a liar.

JASON: I own the New York Mets.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* He's a very bad liar.

JASON: *(Aside.)* She's not buying it.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* I'm not buying it.

JASON: *(Aside.)* Money isn't important.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* Maybe he misunderstood me. Money isn't important. *(To JASON.)* The New York Mets, huh?

JASON: Uh, yeah. *(Aside.)* Okay, come clean. *(To JESSICA.)* Uh...no, not really. *(Aside.)* Let's change the subject.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* Let's change the subject.

JASON: *(Aside.)* I think I blew it.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* He's blowing it.

JASON: *(Aside.)* I'll be brazen. *(To JESSICA.)* Would you like to go out with me?

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* Brazen. *(To JASON.)* Where would we go out?

JASON: To the tractor pull competition?

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* Strike one.

JASON: Do you play golf?

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* That yuppie sport?

JASON: To the science fiction convention?

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

JESSICA: (*Aside.*) You can't be serious. (*To JASON.*) I'll get your flowers. (*She yells off stage.*) Samantha, a dozen red! (*Back to JASON.*) I'll ring you up over here.

JASON: Hang on a second. Would you like to have dinner with me?

JESSICA: (*Aside.*) I don't think that he can afford me. But because I'm an amazing human being, I'll give him one more chance. (*To JASON.*) Um...you know I was reading this really offbeat book that a girlfriend of mine recommended.

JASON: You don't say?

JESSICA: Do you read, Jason?

JASON: Actually, I don't get a chance to read books...

JESSICA: (*Aside.*) See ya. (*SHE nods and turns away.*)

JASON: ...as much as I write them.

SHE turns back and smiles.

JESSICA: (*Aside.*) Okay, I'm back. (*To JASON.*) You're a writer?

JASON: Yes.

JESSICA: Really? What kind of books do you write?

JASON: Novels. Well, novellas, really. Shorter novels, that is.

JESSICA: Have I heard of them? What are the titles? (*Aside.*) I'm seriously interested.

JASON: (*Aside.*) I think she's interested. (*To JESSICA.*) Well, let's see. My first novel is entitled *The Entangled Entropy*. After that I wrote a book called *Hambone and the Alpaca: The Secret Life of Applesauce, Happy Hogs and Olive Pits*.

JESSICA: Sounds like a *New York Times* bestseller.

JASON: Unfortunately, it never reached the top one hundred. I think the title was a bit much.

JESSICA: (*Sarcastic, but in a good way.*) You think?

JASON: To be honest, I haven't really made a fortune writing. I mean, I haven't made a lot of money.

JESSICA: (*Aside.*) That doesn't matter.

JASON: I figure you have to do what you like to do with your life. I mean, I'm an artist.

JESSICA: (*Aside.*) Oh boy, here we go.

JASON: Writing nourishes the soul and fuels the body. It's music of the mouth. Without words, the world would be silent.

JESSICA: That was...very poetic. *(Aside.)* I think I like that. *(To JASON.)* You have a way with words.

JASON: Thank you. *(Aside.)* I think she likes me.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* I think I like him. *(To JASON.)* What was the name of your last book?

JASON: My last book is called *Goats with Ropes*. It just came out.

JESSICA: What's it about?

JASON: It's about how communism and democracy share common values from the standpoint of a Portuguese goat herder that gets caught by a band of communist robots. In chapter seven, the goats are disguised as eight foot tall baboons. And they all have the face of Thomas Aquinas. And it's all from the viewpoint of an eleven-year-old armadillo.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* Uh-huh. *(To JASON.)* How interesting.

JASON: Oh, I also wrote this other crazy little book. It's out of print and nobody ever read it.

JESSICA: What's it called?

JASON: *The World's Best Peanut Butter Horse*.

JESSICA: Get out of town! That's the book I'm reading!

JASON: You're kidding?

JESSICA: No, I'm serious! That's unbelievable!

JASON: That's amazing! I've never run into anybody that's read my stuff. This is incredible.

JESSICA: *(Aside.)* I'm a bit overwhelmed.

JASON: *(Aside.)* I'm a bit overwhelmed.

JASON: And what about you? How long have you been here?

JESSICA: I own the place. "Jessica's Plants and Flowers." It's always been my dream to own a plant store.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Thank you for reading this free excerpt from FIRST IMPRESSIONS by Matt Thompson. For performance rights and/or a complete copy of the script, please contact us at:

Brooklyn Publishers, LLC

P.O. Box 248 • Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

Toll Free: 1-888-473-8521 • Fax (319) 368-8011

www.brookpub.com

DO NOT COPY