

# FIRST IMPRESSIONS

TEN MINUTE PLAY

**By Matt Thompson**

Copyright © MMVIII by Matt Thompson

All Rights Reserved

Heuer Publishing LLC, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

**The writing of plays is a means of livelihood. Unlawful use of a playwright's work deprives the creator of his or her rightful income. The playwright is compensated on the full purchase price and the right of performance can only be secured through purchase of at least four (4) copies of this work. PERFORMANCES ARE LIMITED TO ONE VENUE FOR ONE YEAR FROM DATE OF PURCHASE.**

**The possession of this script without direct purchase from the publisher confers no right or license to produce this work publicly or in private, for gain or charity. On all programs and advertising this notice must appear: "Produced by special arrangement with Heuer Publishing LLC of Cedar Rapids, Iowa."**

This dramatic 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.

**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 the professional, motion picture, radio, television, videotape, broadcast, recitation, lecturing, tabloid, publication, and reading are reserved.

**COPYING OR REPRODUCING ALL OR ANY PART OF THIS BOOK IN ANY MANNER IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN BY LAW.**

***PUBLISHED BY***

**HEUER PUBLISHING LLC**

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

**TOLL FREE (800) 950-7529 • 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.

**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?

**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 Rosaceaes.

**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?

**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.

**JASON:** You know, if you had two cousins named Paul and Nate, you could call your shop Paul 'n' Nate's Fungi Gardening. (*Aside.*) I make a funny joke. She laughs.

**JESSICA:** (*Aside.*) He makes a bad joke. I give him a courtesy laugh, because I'm elated and drunk in the mind.

*THEY share a little courtesy laugh.*

**JESSICA:** So it's your mother's birthday?

**JASON:** Yes, the entire family will be there. You'll see.

**JESSICA:** I'll see what?

**JASON:** My family. When you meet them... I mean one day...when you meet them. (*Aside.*) Did I just say that?

**JESSICA:** (*Aside.*) Did he just say what I think he said?

**JASON:** (*Aside.*) I said that. (*To JESSICA.*) So about dinner. How about tonight?

**JESSICA:** (*Aside.*) Today is Valentine's Day. (*To JASON.*) Today is Valentine's Day.

**JASON:** (*Aside.*) I know. (*To JESSICA.*) I know.

**JESSICA:** (*A little flustered.*) Tonight? Aren't you spending time with your mother?

**JASON:** She goes to bed at seven. I could come by and pick you up, here at the flower shop, say around eight o'clock.

**JESSICA:** (*Aside.*) I'm a little flustered, but excited at the same time. (*To JASON.*) Uh...well...you know...

**JASON:** (*Aside.*) I came on too strong.

**JESSICA:** I'm not sure...

**JASON:** (*Aside.*) She's not into me.

**JESSICA:** I'll have to check my schedule.

**JASON:** (*Aside.*) Flat out rejection.

**JESSICA:** (*Aside.*) I don't have any plans tonight.

**JASON:** (*Aside.*) She has big plans tonight. She must have had a thousand guys ask her out for tonight.

**JESSICA:** (*Aside.*) Nobody asked me out tonight.

**JASON:** (*Aside.*) A girl that beautiful can't be single on Valentine's Day.

**JESSICA:** (*Aside.*) I am single on Valentine's. But by *choice*...

**JASON:** (*Aside.*) I wonder who she's going out with?

**JESSICA:** (*Aside.*) Demetrius Hayden did ask me out.

**JASON:** (*Aside.*) He's probably some chiseled looking six-foot guy with dark hair and a low voice.

**JESSICA:** (*Aside.*) He's a foot shorter than me, doesn't brush his teeth, and has a hairy back.

**JASON:** (*Aside.*) I haven't got a chance.



**JESSICA:** (*Aside.*) He's charming. And he's a writer. How cool is that?

**JASON:** (*Aside.*) I'm nervous.

**JESSICA:** (*Aside.*) I'm nervous.

*SAMANTHA enters.*

**SAMANTHA:** (*Aside.*) I'm delivering the flowers. (*To JESSICA.*) Here ya go.

*SAMANTHA hands JESSICA a dozen roses and exits.*

**JESSICA:** Thank you Samantha. (*To JASON.*) Here you are, one dozen red roses.

**JASON:** Great. So, uh...about tonight? What do you say?

**JESSICA:** (*Sighs.*) Well . . .

**JASON:** (*Aside.*) Oh boy, here it comes.

**JESSICA:** (*With an upward inflection.*) You know what...

**JASON:** (*Aside.*) A glimmer of hope.

**JESSICA:** I might be able to switch some things around.

**JASON:** (*Aside; HE jumps for joy.*) Score! Yeah! Alright! Do a little dance! Yeah! (*To JESSICA, very calm.*) Great. So I'll pick you up at eight?

**JESSICA:** Yeah, I guess so, why not.

**JASON:** I'll see you then.

*JASON takes one of the single red roses from the bunch and hands it to JESSICA. HE smiles and exits. After HE is gone, JESSICA jumps for joy.*

**THE END**