

4. HITTING THE SPOT

–Tell me everything about yourself!

I don't know where to start. I am not ready for a job interview, and I sure the hell hope that love is not another interview. It's not easy talking about myself. Sure there's the short form like a resume. Telling people about my personality. What are the hopes for my life. My most profound memories. Where I went to school. Where I've worked. Who I've loved and lost. And who I could never love at all. But then we get in to the tough stuff. What separates the women from the girls.

If I really told you about myself, it would probably mean that I liked you. That I was hoping that you could somehow makeup for any deficiencies in my character. I really don't want to go there. Not tonight.

I know what you're hoping. That a few drinks will make me more vulnerable. It will loosen my tongue. And I won't be averse to revealing things about myself. And once that I've gone that far, then I'll begin to feel that there really is something between us. It's not easy to open myself up without believing that you are doing the same when in fact you're heart good be in Mongolia for all you care. We all hope to scale the Great Wall, but only a few actually live up to the promise. By that time, it is usually too late. Why not start off on the right foot? That's how I am trying to cast it. Trying to make the best of an OK thing.

If you buy me a drink, I'll pretend that it's a good start. You've been admiring me all night. And you finally got up your nerve to come talk to me. I have to give you some credit. On the other hand, you may have been doing this kind of thing all the time so it was no big deal to prey on a helpless creature like myself. After all, why am I flying solo?

Good question. Why am I alone? Because I came her looking for a guy like you. Someone who could ply me with his excellent conversation skills. Who could make me feel that I was not at a total loss. So here I am. Here we are. Our love at first bite!

It must mean something if we can break it all down to a few moments of desperate longing. And in that gap between being and nothingness, we feel the gentle glance of a stranger. We hear the welcoming words of someone who wants to know our darkest secrets. But what do you really want to hear. That my appeals are temporary. When you really get to know me, you will detest me just as much as every other guy who has sat in this place. If not for my drop dead body and vivacious smiles that you'd rather spend your time swimming from a man-eating shark. Chomp! Chomp!

Dear, we are in the middle of a deal. And I don't want to blow it for you. I want you to really believe that you are the most charming man in America. After all, before sizing me up, you did your own stock-taking. You examined your prospects and your present lofty position, and you felt pretty good about yourself. You thought that you had what it takes to take on a woman like me. Boom! That's how you feel when you're at the zone at work. Or at the gym. Just look at your body working away. A regular dynamo. You just don't sit on the sidelines. You make electricity happen! I am ready to surrender, baby.

Once the ball is in my court, it up to me to volley back. And I am clearly ready to hit a smash. To knock you into submission. That is what you came for. That is exactly what you have been aiming for. Why you try to perfect your court game. It's not just hitting the ball

against the backboard. You have discovered worthy opponents who have far expanded your game. And now you are ready to take me on. Ready to whip me into shape.

You want me to tell you about myself. How long do we really have? I'm not going to give you the short version. I'm ready for a tall tale, and I am doing the telling.

–How long do we have?

–We have all night.

For you, that means time enough for the full game. If some revelation comes after my further surrender, that is part and parcel of the match. You're already touching me. Claiming your territory. A weaker girl would squeal. Oh, baby, I thought no one was ever going to talk to me. Hey, I come out into public to face the depths of my depression. I just need a strong guy like you to remind what I lack in poise can be made up by your confidence.

–That's what we call trust.

I like that game. I try to consider all the aspects of playing. It's not just about tonight. If I feel good about this, it could be a year. Or a couple of years. Or a lifetime. After all, I have nobody waiting in the wings to go one on one with. I haven't made any serious plans about my life. At least, not yet.

Who are you kidding? If I was that naive, I would have quit long ago. Of course, there is the bother option. That I can't make long range plans. So here I am to drown my misery. And I am willing to share that bitter cocktail with you. You know how it is. A couple of hours into the banter, I can work miracles. Hey, that's why you approached me in the first place. So here I am ready to deliver everything that I promised.

The road to being fit is truly a lonely one. You can only do so much with the other girls. The real pains of physical exertion must be borne alone. Even when I overcome the doubts within myself, there remains that residual feeling where I wonder if it's all worth it. A moment like this and my artistry is rewarded completely. It's no accident if I was born to perform to my utmost. I am ready to reap my gain.

You are good. This has to be one of the spiritual acts of mercy, comforting the sick at heart. I feel so much better just sitting here and listening to your flattery. Or should I call it praise, proper praise. You are only calling it like you see it. That has to be an art in itself. Doesn't philosophy have a name for that kind of thing.

–Have you been touching yourself again?

–What kind of question is that?

–I have stared into your eyes and seen the heart of the matter
that

–Honey, you are looking fine.

–So this kind of shit does work.

–Nothing really works. You just have to want it as much as I do.

–I'm with a guy.

–Does he give you what you need?

–That and more. Do you really think that you can measure up?

–But what do you need?

–I told you. Nothing that you could give me.

- It’s not as if he’s here now.
- I could get him here on a moment’s notice.
- Go ahead! There’s no time like the present.
- So what are you offering?
- Getting a little worried that he won’t show.
- Oh, he’ll show. I just don’t mind playing a little bluff poker while I’m waiting.
- I know what gets every girl a squealing.
- He does too.
- Doesn’t that make you feel common. Whether it’s him or me, it’s all practically the same thing.
- Practically but not really.
- I’m going to get what I want.
- So how do you get away with it?
- What?
- Your parents don’t know, do they?
- Do you like what you see?
- I think that I really like what I don’t see. Do you catch my drift?
- I think that’s what desire is all about. Do you want to touch what I’ve got?
- You’re a psychologist.
- I’m a smart girl.
- A little pricey, if that’s what you mean. You think that you can afford me.
- I didn’t know that I was paying for it.
- Oh, you’re always paying for it.
- That’s what this is about.
- Let just pretend that we are making a deal. Only we’re playing with our souls.
- Your soul? Is that something that I can see.
- I don’t know. Are you trying to look under my dress?
- Would you like that?
- I’d like to get out of this a little better off than when we started.
- And what is that supposed to mean?
- Can you make me feel good?
- What are you going to do for me?
- Does everything have to be some kind of deal?
- It is better if we are honest all around.
- You just want me to confess to you that I’m crazy.
- That would be a beginning.
- Any other questions?
- I just want to know who is the real you.
- What is that supposed to mean?
- I don’t know. You just seem like you need a lot of money to live.
- I just want security.
- And what is that supposed to be?
- A full closet!

- Are you serious?
- You’re the one asking me all these leading questions. And I just want to satisfy your curiosity. Pique your interest.
- You’ve got me pretty interested already. You have a way of getting what you want. It’s a little frightening.
- Get what I want how?
- In affairs of the heart, you’ve got to be better.
- I just want you to buy me another drink.
- Are you used to having guys buy you drinks?
- When I’m low on cash.
- And when is that?
- Now and then.
- More now than then.
- You’re a comedian.
- And you look like you could use some help.
- Do I really look that bad?
- That’s not what I mean.
- What do you mean?
- Do you always get things to go your way?
- What would the opposite of that be?
- This is getting complicated!
- No more questions?
- One big one. Do you hide in love?
- Love? Or love-making.
- You know what I mean!
- You want to go down on me.
- Go down?
- Show me things that no other man can do.
- Have you ever done this before?
- Let a guy hurt me. I do pretty good on my own with that sort of thing.
- Maybe, you should lay off the rough stuff.
- Maybe you should mind your own business.
- But you could use some money?
- Do you want me to do a trick for you?
- Do me a trick, and I’ll buy you a drink.
- I thought that you were a nice guy.
- If you thought that, you would have walked away.
- How long is this going to go on?
- How long do you want it to continue?
- Until you sweep me off my feet. Do you think that you could do that?
- I can do whatever you need me to do!
- Oh, I get it. You can buy me a house.
- In good time.

- You're proposing to me. And you don't even know me.
- What?
- Are you feeling sorry for me?
- I can help you out.
- I could never repay you..
- You don't have to.
- You're not going to let me off that easily. You'd still want me to play those little games in the dark.
- I never thought that you could let go like that.
- Like how?
- I don't know.
- What are you doing?
- I'm looking at you.
- Looking at me?
- I'm trying to see who is the real you.
- That never works. What do you see?
- I'm looking at a quite amazing girl who no one ever give a chance.
- A chance to do what?
- A chance to be herself. Does that sound right?
- You're just talking in circles. Is that some new kind of flattery.
- I'm trying to be different from every other guy that you meet.
- What do you want? I've got a mom and dad. I'm pretty conventional.
- So what made you so special.
- I want something more for myself. I'm ambitious.
- That's good. Have you ever thought of being a model?
- Another come on. Do you want me to pose for you?
- If I asked, would you?
- Are you asking?
- I'm not really a photographer. But you could come by to my place, and we could see what we could come up with. Do you like dressing up? Acting as if you're on stage?
- I'm not a twelve year old.
- You know what I'm saying.
- I want someone to take me seriously for once.
- Then act a little more serious.
- That's a shitty thing to say.
- How else can I put?
- Well, you could open your wallet, and every girl could just heel like a fucking dog.
- You think that you can read my mind. You don't know. I'm not like you think.
- You're not hoping for some girl to send you sex mail.
- I really am a simple guy.
- After Lady has done her tricks for you.
- Well, there is a big pay off for the right poodle!
- I'm not about to bark.

- You're just waiting for the big payoff.
- What does that mean?
- I could even find my own guy if I liked.
- Has anyone ever proposed to you?
- There's a line around the block.
- And you always said no.
- Until now. We are made for each other.
- Now you really are walking on thin ice.
- The point is I'm not falling in.
- You walk lightly.
- Most angels do!
- Is it that simple?
- Do I need this?
- Need what?
- Is there an echo in this room?
- It would be pretty much the same thing outside.
- I get it. You're a shadow. I just got rid of a guy like you.
- Lizzie Borden? You chopped off his head.
- No, he cooked his own goose.
- Who taught you to be so mean?
- Mean?
- I'm sorry. Who taught you how to make love?
- Now you're going to try to butter me up. What's in it for me?
- I could take you out for dinner.
- I thought that we were out for drinks.
- You know what I mean.
- You know how to ask all the hard questions.
- Like, how long will this last?
- You have a dirty mind.
- That isn't how I meant it.
- That's how I meant it.
- I'm looking for a little more security.
- Do you like pain?
- What are you actually asking?
- What do you really like?
- I'm told to like this kind of thing
- You mean that you scream until you like it.
- And?
- You have great legs!
- Do you want it?
- What?
- You like to show it off!
- I'll buy that.

- What?
- Isn't that what you want me to say?
- I'm not good at this.
- You're a mess in bed.
- Are you still trying to seduce me?
- I won't try anything!
- Then what?
- Sex taught me that I could be who I wanted to be. I could pretend, and other people would pretend with me.
- Is this a come on?
- I'm just telling you this! This really has nothing at all to do with you.
- Does it make you feel dirty?
- You can't shame me! I'm not going to give you something for nothing!
- What are you trying to say?
- I didn't get like this far without someone heaping lavish praise on me every second.
- Is that all that it takes.
- No that's only a beginning.
- And if you settled for less.
- I'd be less of a lead in my own movie.
- Don't men get into that sort of thing.
- You tell me.
- Do you usually get what you want from me?
- More than that! It takes more than a drink and some flattery to get me in the mood. You have to tell me a story. A really good story. One that has my name written all over it.
- So there is a method..
- Not as far as you're concerned.
- Is this more playing hard to get?
- No, it's being too hard for you to get.
- Don't think that we're going to be friends after this?
- You were the one who was acting all friendly to me last night.
- Isn't this what you were angling for with all your sweet talk?
- I thought that you really liked me.
- Who are you kidding? You do this kind of thing all the time.
- It's not like that!
- Can't take a little of your own medicine?
- Is this how you get revenge?
- What?
- Are you afraid if someone really gets to know you?
- It's not that easy to get to know me.
- It can't be that hard.
- It's harder than you can ever know.
- That's what you think.
- Do you get off persecuting helpless girl?

- You’re not great playing with the hapless girl act.
 - That’s not exactly my style! It’s just that you seem used to dealing with innocent types.
- You finally face some stiff competition, and you’re in a tailspin.
- I’m game if you are!
 - You were enjoying yourself, and now you just want to leave. What’s wrong?
 - I decided that I’m not going to sleep with you after all. Now I just want to get out of here.
 - After all?* What did I do wrong?
 - You didn’t do anything wrong. I just decided that this is all wrong. Now I have to get out of here.
 - Wrong. I can make it better.
 - I’m leaving. Now just get of my way.
 - I’m not in your way. It’s just that we were having a good time.
 - We were. Now, I need to go! So it’s been nice.
 - Let me get you another drink.
 - I drank way too much at the bar. Now let me leave.
 - Leave?
 - You’re not really the kind of guy that I want to be with.
 - We were kissing. We were having fun. What happened?
 - The spell wore off. I realized that the magic was over, and I just wanted to get out of here.
 - The spell, how can I get it back.
 - That’s the point. You can’t.
 - I don’t want you to leave.
 - This is not about you.
 - But why? What did I do wrong?
 - Take a look around. Take a look at me. I don’t belong here. I should have known when I opened the door.
 - I told you that I was going to make you feel good.
 - At this point, there’s really nothing that you can do to make me feel right. I have to go.
 - Just sit down. I’ll get you a drink. We can talk. Just talk. Then I’ll call you a cab.
 - I’m leaving. This is me leaving.
 - The night is dark. It’s lonely out there.
 - What is that? High school poetry. I’m, walking out the door. It’s been fun.
 - One drink.
 - What do you have? Do you have any scotch?
 - Actually I do. Sit down, and I’ll pour you one.
 - One drink. That is all. And don’t sit next to me, whatever you do.
 - Do you want ice?
 - No ice.
 - Here’s your drink.
 - Thanks.
 - You were freaking me out for a moment. I’ve never had a girl react like that before.

- Do you have a lot of girls come up here?
- Not really. It's not like I'm some kind of playboy.
- Now and then.
- On my more charming days. I was getting all insecure.
- I have to admit that you were frightening me a bit. I wasn't sure if your were going to let me leave.
- It wasn't as if I was going to do anything to you.
- You weren't. You gave me one of those looks. And you're body language scared me.
- Body language?
- You have a way of getting what you want.
- I don't know. I don't hurt people.
- But you're kind of big. A little intimidating.
- I'm not that tall. I ride a bike. I try to stay in shape. But it's not as if I'm a fighter.
- But you have a little bit of a temper. You don't like it if someone crosses you. You don't know how to walk away.
- I know when I'm outmatched.
- Like tonight?
- What?
- You're smiling.
- It is a little funny.
- I was almost ready to call the police. Or just yell at the top of my lungs.
- You didn't need to do anything like that.
- I'm just telling you how I felt.
- Really?
- I don't mind if you come sit next to me.
- Is that OK?
- I'm not really as afraid of you anymore.
- I never meant to do anything to hurt you. Do you like it to hurt?
- What is that supposed to mean?
- Is that how you like it? A little rough?
- Like it? I have enough pain in life without adding more.
- Things have been difficult for you.
- I don't know. I don't like to think about that kind of thing.
- I'm sorry if to have asked.
- I could use another drink.
- Another drink. Are you finished that one.
- I'd like to get my buzz back.
- You look kind of sexy like that.
- I don't really want to talk about it.
- So why are you here?
- I don't know. I'm here so make the best of it.
- Do you mind?
- You are sitting a little too close.

- Really?
- Just move a tad.
- Is that all right.
- That will work for now.
- You are seeming pretty relaxed/
- I could almost live like this.
- I thought that you didn't like it here.
- I'm getting more used to it.
- You took your shoes off. Would you mind massaging my feet?
- Not at all. Are you always this nervous?
- Nervous? Not always. Things were just moving too fast.
- You jumped me when we came in. I don't think that I've ever felt that kind of passion before.
- Passion?
- I really would love to get to know you better.
- I'm a hard person to get to know.
- Why's that?
- That's just how things are. I have this tendency to clam up.
- Maybe you could open up for me!
- Don't expect too much all at once.
- You really would like to get together again.
- I'm not sure if that is really possible. For what it is, we shouldn't rush things.
- How's your drink?
- It's good. I'm getting in my groove again. I don't think I had enough to eat today.
- Do you often stave yourself.
- What is that supposed to mean?
- It means that you look good. And it just looks as if you don't eat a lot.
- I do what I can.
- We could get some dinner some time.
- I'm not good at making plans.
- I can order in a pizza if you want.
- It is rather late. I don't think that anyone delivers this late at night. Besides, I don't think that I want to stay that long.
- You're going to leave?
- I want you to kiss me.
- You said...
- I know what I said. And now I want you to kiss me.
- Do you want to sleep together?
- We'll see. Now kiss me!
- Whatever you say.
- That was a little tame. You were a lot more ferocious earlier tonight.
- I'm not sure what I should be doing.
- Give it all you got! You know what that means?

- I guess so.
- Now that's more like it. Are you good at taking directions.
- I guess that I am. What do you want?
- Let me whisper it to you. I'm a little embarrassed saying it out loud.
- There's no one here.
- I'm still shy.
- Are you sure that you want to go through with this?
- This? You don't even know what I'm going to say. Come a little closer so that I can whisper.
- Really! You're in to that.
- Every girl is. You just have to learn how to ask in the right way.
- I didn't ask.
- But I know that you wanted it. Just by the way that you touched me in that bar. You do that to a lot of girls.
- Really, I don't!
- You can be honest to me.
- I'm trying.
- You're a weak little man who gets off in hurting women.
- I promise that I'm not like that.
- But if I asked you to do some thing, you would do them for me.
- Nothing perverse. I'm just a normal guy.
- Who like to hide his predilection for the bizarre now and then.
- Not at all.
- Of course you are. I know the code. That's how you enticed me here. I told you. I'm a bad girl. And I've done some bad, bad things.
- I don't play games like that.
- Yeah, you do. That's what made me have second thought about you. And then you tried to stop me from leaving. That's why I let you massage my feet. Just to get you ready for what comes next.
- I kissed you.
- It's not the kissing. It's the way that you kiss. Like there's no tomorrow.
- No one ever told me that before.
- But it is a nice try.
- You're more like a little angel. A bird with a broken wing. I'm here to help.
- You only say that because you get off by being so dominant. I'm not so innocent. This may be unusual for you. But it's normal for you.,
- What are you saying?
- I'm saying what you want to hear. You were looking for a girl like me. Someone who liked it as much as you do. Well, honey, here I am. So let's get down to business.
- Business?
- You know what I mean. I didn't come up here for a couple of drinks.
- Why are you here?
- What do you want me to say? I'm here to fuck you. And then I want to leave.

- Quit playing with me.
- I'm not playing. I'm here for some mischief. And then I want to leave.
- I'm not that kind of guy.
- What the fuck do you mean? Why did you think was going to happen when I came back with you? That we were going to get married?
- No. I just thought that we had something in common.
- We do. We both like to get naked and fuck our problems away. To get good and drunk, and just forget.
- I don't think I'm that crazy. I'm a little shy myself.
- Is that what you're going to tell the judge? You're a psycho. I diagnosed it from the moment that I saw you. So quit trying to hide your true nature. Just be yourself.
- What do you mean?
- I want you to put your hands around my neck, and pretend to choke me.
- I'm not into rough stuff.
- Yes, you are. That's what freaked me out. I took one look around this apartment, and I realized. This is where time stops. You have nothing on the walls. It's almost as if you don't live here. You don't want any reminders of the past, your past. Have you spent time inside?
- No. Not at all.
- You've never been caught. Well, do what you've got to do! That's why I'm here.
- Huh?
- Sometimes I wonder what girls see in guys like you. I do wonder. But down deep, I know. I told you that we're alike.
- You're messing with me.
- No, you're messing with me. You're acting all passive on me now.
- I'm not sure what you want me to do!
- Do what feels right! Do what comes naturally!