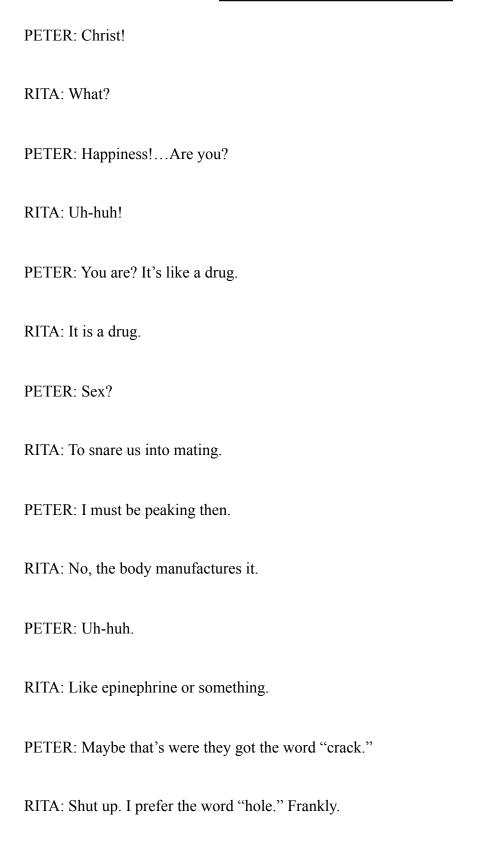
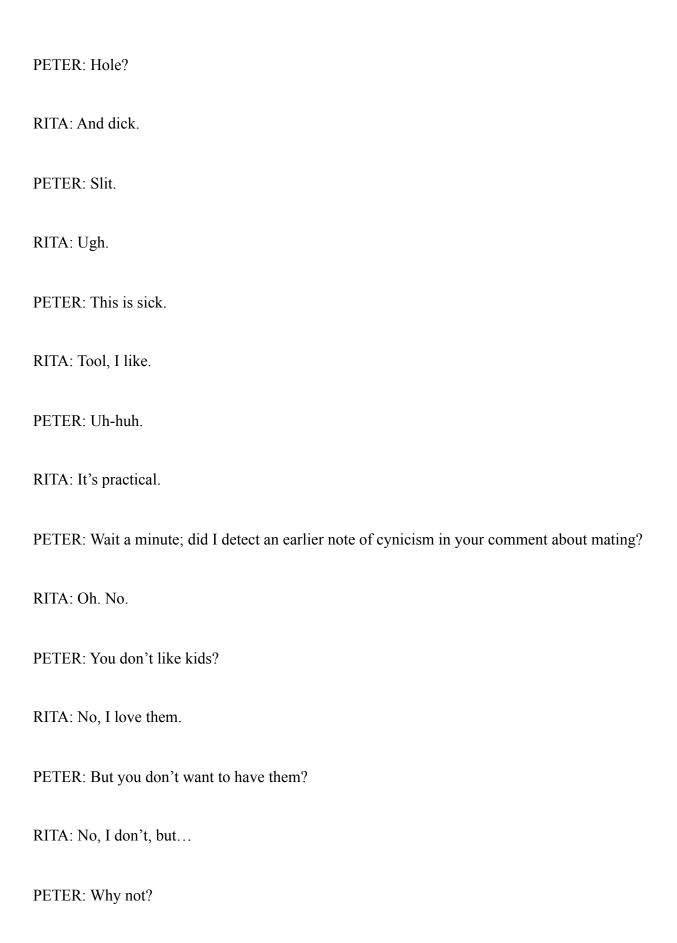
## PRELUDE TO A KISS





RITA: I just don't.

PETER: Your career?

RITA: What career? No, I think kids are great, I just don't think it's fair to raise them in the world, the way that it is now.

PETER: Where else are you going to raise them? We're here.

RITA: I know, but...

PETER: It's like what you were saying about the socialists. (Rita hesitates) Say.

RITA: Like...the woman in *The White Hotel*. People really do struggle their whole lives just to die in lime pits, and not just in books. Women go blind from watching their children being murdered.

PETER: Not in this country they don't.

RITA: No, they get shot on the sidewalk in front of their houses in some drug war. I mean, just what you went through being passed from one parent to another who didn't even –

PETER: I survived...

RITA: I'll being lying in bed late at night and I'll look at the light in the room and suddenly see it all just go up in a blinding flash, in flames, and I'm the only one left alive...I can't look at you sitting there without imagining you...dying...bursting into flames...

PETER: No wonder you can't sleep.

RITA: The world's a really terrible place. It's too precarious. (pause) You want kids, obviously. I wish I could say I did.

PETER: It's okay.

RITA: What's your dirtiest fantasy?

PETER: Excuse me? No, I thought your just said what's my dirtiest fantasy.

RITA: What?

PETER: No, I can't -

RITA: Yes, you can. Please?

PETER: I'm sorry, I can't. What's yours, though? I'd be curious.

RITA: I asked you first. Come on.

PETER: Oh god.

RITA: Please.

PETER: Well, they change.

RITA: Sure. What's one?

