

**ACTOR A - MALE - LATE 20s - BRITISH.**

**The role of MATTY in *Tommy Crispino's Tasty Lips*. A coming-of-age story exploring homosexuality. Matty (20s) talks directly to the audience, re-counting his school years and the summer that he finally kissed Tommy.**

TOMMY

Did you... did you give me a note saying to meet you here?

MATTY

Nah. I'm just... waiting for a mate... going bowling.

TOMMY

Oh. Cool.

*TOMMY peers into the distance, looking for someone else.*

TOMMY

It's just... the bowling's shut.

MATTY (*To self*)

Fuck.

TOMMY

And it's just... from when we sat next to each other that time in history... it kinda looked like your handwriting. You've got really curly Ms.

MATTY

Fuck. Fuck. Fuck.

*Very long beat.*

TOMMY

Do you... like me then?

*Long beat. MATTY can't speak.*

TOMMY

I remember when you said I had "nice tie".

MATTY

Are your friends here watching or something? Did you come to laugh at me, cos-

TOMMY

No. I think we're alone.

MATTY (*direct address*)

We were 16. He was the coolest boy in school. Tommy Crispino. Tommy Crispino's eyes and Tommy Crispino's lips were looking at me and he stood a bit closer and his hand gently grazed the back of mine.

*They both smile awkwardly.*

MATTY (*direct address*)

Now, I'd just lean in and kiss him, but then it was more sort of...

TOMMY

Do you wanna like... cop off with me?

*Long beat.*

MATTY

Mmhmm.

*They kiss.*

TOMMY

Cool.

MATTY (*direct address*)

And I think that time he actually meant cool.

*They both smile. Maybe TOMMY kisses MATTY's cheek a couple of times.*

MATTY (*direct address*)

Like most teenage romances it didn't last long, but I'll never forget Tommy Crispino. That summer, all summer long, like James I and George Villiers 400 years before, the entrance to Superbowl was our Watergate. He helped me find the words that then felt like poison, but now are the most natural and the most cool words I know: I am gay.

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**The role of LEE in *Life Sentences*. Lee, working-class and unable to read, is currently in prison. He's a first time convict and his release date is soon approaching. Terry, a long-time prisoner, is tasked with teaching Lee how to read. This scene takes place towards the end of the play after a months have passed and the relationship between Terry and Lee has developed.**

LEE:

Oi Terry, I got some news. I'm being moved to a Cat D.

TERRY: Fantastic, mate. You'll soon be out in the big world if you keep your nose clean.

LEE: Yeah. I'm gonna. And I'm gonna do some classes there.

TERRY: Good on you, son. I'm glad it's working out for you.

LEE: What about you, Terry? What you gonna do?

TERRY: Oh, I'm considering a career in banking.

LEE: You what?

TERRY: Same old, same old, I expect.

LEE: And look. I gotta letter from Ruby.

TERRY: Terrific. What's she say?

LEE: *(he reads)* 'Dear Daddy. I got your story about the bear. It was a nice story and it was nice to hear you read it. Come home soon and read to me' *(he breaks down)*.

TERRY: That's just great, Picasso. Really great.

LEE: Wait, there's some more. 'Come home soon and read to me. Say hello to Uncle Terry from me. Lots of love from Ruby.'

TERRY: *(obviously moved)* Oh.

LEE: I didn't tell her to call you that, she just did.

TERRY: I don't know what to say.

*(LEE starts to leave and then comes back)*

LEE: Anyway, I was wondering...

TERRY: What?

LEE: Your son. Er...

TERRY: What about him?

LEE: I could...suppose I, I could look for him when I get out. So you could contact him.

TERRY: Wha...? He wouldn't want...

LEE: I bet ya he would. Anyway, worth a try. You wouldn't lose nothing, would you?

TERRY: Course I'd lose something. I'd lose him a second time.

LEE: I could use the socials, Facebook or something.

TERRY: You know I don't understand that bollocks.

LEE: You give me everything you know about him and I'll try to find him.