

Love at the Push of a Button

by Marilyn Reeves

It was love at first sight! She had never felt this way before, not for anyone at any time in her life. He just suddenly he appeared out of nowhere – bright shining eyes, gleaming white smile and a sort of boyish charm that threw her off balance and kept her wanting more. She was smitten!

Sometimes he would come to see her and bring her candy and flowers. But the thing she cherished most was simply his company – talking with her, telling her stories, flashing his beautiful smile. She lived for those precious moments and could hardly wait until his next visit.

She dreamed that one day he might take her in his arms. But alas, it was only a dream. And as time went by she saw less and less of him. She felt neglected and forgotten. Then she began hearing rumors about him seeing other women. And she grew very sad and jealous.

So she went to see the gypsy and asked her for some sort of magic that would give her power over him. And the gypsy gave her a little device that she could use to make him do her bidding.

The next day she asked him to come and see her, and when he arrived, she pulled the magic gadget out of her pocket and pushed the button marked “KISS”. He immediately wrapped his arms around her and kissed her. It wasn’t quite the passionate kiss she’d been hoping for – it was sort of, well ... forced. But nice. Very, very nice!

Then she pushed another button and invited him into her bedroom. He came willingly, and one thing led to another and she finally got her wish. But still, something was missing ... she just wasn’t quite sure what it was.

Well, this went on for a period of months. He was completely under her control. She would push the button marked “SIT” and he would just sit in the chair and do nothing at all until she was ready for him, and then she pushed whichever button she chose, and he would perform accordingly.

But his love making was always mechanical, his kisses wooden – he simply wasn’t into it, the way that she had hoped. And his conversation became reduced to only two words: “Yes, Ma’am.” What happened to that charming fellow who had always regaled her with his witty sayings and fascinating stories? He just didn’t seem himself anymore.

So finally one day she told him, “Enough is enough. This isn’t working. You’re not even *you* anymore. Goodbye, my darling, you are free to go.”

Sadly she pushed the “OFF” button and watched him walk out of her life.

She had learned a bitter lesson: we can’t control who our hearts will love nor force someone to love us. We can only hope that someday, somehow, the two will be the same. Because that’s when the true magic happens!