

## A Night of Romance

### **:Theme:**

#### *Introduction:*

You are listening to WLUW 88.7 Chicago, independent community radio. This is Blind Spot.

Tonight, Blind Spot is proud to present *A Night of Romance*.

Featuring the voices of Eric Humphry, Brian Taylor, Carolina Wheat and Jesse Wyss.

----- (violin music starts) -----

#### *Eric:*

Romance: a field guide. Part one: How to supply more love in the everyday.

#### *Jesse:*

Give your lover a dozen roses, but with a creative twist. Eleven red, and one white. Attach a note that reads...

#### *Eric:*

In every bunch there's one who stands out, and you are that one.

#### *Jesse:*

Spend an entire day watching romantic movies

#### *Eric:*

Slow dance at a restaurant when there's no music

#### *Jesse:*

Call the local radio station and request a special love song and dedicate it to that special someone.

#### *Eric:*

Doesn't your partner deserve a trophy? Trophy shops have a wealth of ideas waiting for you...

#### *Jesse:*

World's best lover, a gold medal for giving it to me all night long, best in class, best divorce ever.

*Carolina:*

I should have gotten a medal for leaving you

-----skips and sputters-----outdoor sounds-----

*Eric:*

I don't understand , things were going so well, I thought you really liked me

*Jesse:*

He was supposed to meet you at the "castle" in Central Park at noon on Sunday from the outside it looked like a medieval castle, inside were just steep narrow stairways and passages – it looked over the stage used for free Shakespeare plays in the summertime --

*Brian:*

I did and still do like you, you are wonderful but I am not happy with us anymore

*Eric:*

That makes no sense, how can you change so quickly?

*Jesse:*

Time passed; you grew angry. You grew indifferent to the indifference he has been spreading in your relationship. --- you vowed to never wait any longer than a half hour for anyone, a promise that, for the most part, you kept. You waited for an hour and a half -- You kept telling yourself that it was your pleasure to wait because it was a beautiful setting on a clear summer day with kids flying their kites and sailing their boats in the pond – but you were miserable and desperately trying to keep a failing relationship together when he arrived he wasn't the least bit sorry for being late;

*Brian:*

I have, I feel like I am going thru the motions and I don't want to lie to you or myself

*Eric:*

You're swine – you lied to me – you used me

*Brian:*

I don't know what I am but I never used you without you using me too and I never lied to you, I always told you in the moment what I was feeling.

*Eric:*

you lied

*Jesse:*

You were boiling and wanted to scream at him, but you didn't. – just remained silent – pathetic. A week later in Chicago, the two of you broke up. From then on you only date men who aren't selfish. You have enough selfishness for two people.

*Brian:*

I told you how I felt.

*Eric:*

Screw you, I should have never believed you. you're just like all the rest!

-----short pause-----violin out----clicking-----

*Eric:*

Romance: a field guide. Part two: Cheap ways to impress your lover.

*Jesse:*

Fake a power outage. Throw the breaker. With no tv to tempt you, with no furnace to heat you, you will have no choice to get out the candles, huddle around the fire place and be romantic

*Eric:*

Pick a flower for your lover from the side of the road.

*Jesse:*

Buy a lottery ticket and attach a note that says, I hit the jackpot when I met you.

*Eric:*

Write 'I love you' with soap on the bathroom mirror.

*Jesse:*

On their birthday, send a thank you card to their mother.

*Eric:*

Hold hands.

*Jesse:*

When in public together, wink at them from across the room.

*Eric:*

Take a shower together.

*Jesse:*

You should not equate money and romance, it will only get you in trouble.

-----short pause-----violin-----low tones-----

*Eric:*

When was your first date.

*Carolina:*

When I was 15, looked like I was 10 and his twin brother told me that too.

*Eric:*

What's the first thing you remember about it?

*Carolina:*

It was cold Wisconsin Thanksgiving break and I bought some black knit gloves from Shopko with a feather puff on each hand for around 2 bucks.

*Eric:*

Why the gloves..

*Carolina:*

They were probably too dorky to wear around a cool skateboard boy.

*Brian:*

Tell me about the skateboarder.

*Carolina:*

The cool skateboard boy was a 110 pound anorexic Male covered up by his “baggy” pants. When he came to the door to pick me up I pretty much ran out of the house and jumped in his car, I didn’t want him to meet any of my crazy family.

*Eric:*

We'll get back to your family. What were the first words you said to him.

*Carolina:*

“are you ready ?” I said and dashed past him.

*Eric:*

What did you do on the date?

*Carolina:*

We had fondue with his Dad and step-mom at his house. I knew he hated his step-mom. I had never heard of fondue before and tried not to show that I felt all of sudden uncultured and clumsy.

*Eric:*

Do you remember any of the conversation?

*Carolina:*

I tried to be funny and said. “So Eric, how many of your classes are you gonna fail this semester?” Eric was his name and he *was* failing some classes. I don’t know why I thought that would be funny. I guess I didn’t know what else to say. His Dad looked really pissed .

*Eric:*

What else...

*Carolina:*

God’s mercy allowed the dinner to end and we went down stairs to watch Saturday Night Live in his basement. He slowly inched closer. Arm around me. I got used to it after 10 minutes. Then he put his face in mine and his tongue in my mouth.

*Eric:*

What did you think?

*Carolina:*

I thought “ this is French Kissing!” and then “ This is very disgusting”, I pulled away, I said “ you have to talk me home now.”

*Eric:*

How did he react?

*Carolina:*

He didn't know why. He put on his shoes. I was like super scared. He was like super pissed. He shoved his foot into his Black suede airwalks.

---pause----spits and sputters-----

*Eric:*

Romance: a field guide. Part Three: Things not to mention on a first date.

*Jesse:*

Anything about your ex-husband, his ex-wife, or the fact that your parents have seen you and an ex having sex.

----pause----bar sounds-----w/ glitch-----

*Carolina:*

You don't love me anymore?

*Brian:*

It's not by choice. I just don't, it's not that I don't want to.

*Carolina:*

That doesn't make any sense. Why don't you love me anymore?

*Brian:*

If given the choice I would, but I don't, can't, I don't.

*Carolina:*

You can't! you can't love, or you can't love me.

*Brian:*

I can't love you.

*Carolina:*  
But you did, you told me you did.

*Brian:*  
Sure, I did.

*Carolina:*  
So, why can't you anymore?

*Brian:*  
There was an undefined moment. A moment that I stopped thinking of you, I think.

*Carolina:*  
Stopped thinking of me!

*Brian:*  
It happened over the last month or so, I think.

*Carolina:*  
What did I do? What caused this alleged moment?

*Brian:*  
It's not that simple. I have found that in the matters of love that cause and effect are turned inside out. Linear progression does not apply. One plus X does not equal 4. The variables are constantly in flux, they add subtract and multiply over the course of time with out warning. My inability to do the math created a divide in the way that we related. This divide caused me to stop thinking of you. I think.

*Carolina:*  
You cheated on me.

*Brian:*  
No, I could never cheat on you.

*Carolina:*  
Did you ever love me?

*Brian:*  
Of course. I still do.

*Carolina:*

I don't understand. Why can't we be together?

*Brian:*

I've tried my best, but I can no longer actively love you.

*Carolina:*

Why can't you love me?

*Brian:*

Trying to describe the nature of a relationship is similar to trying to argue for the existence of god. I am hindered in this by my unwillingness to believe in god. So, there is no way for me to explain my love. Either way, I know that we cannot be.

*Carolina:*

Stop hiding behind this convoluted arguments. You say that you love me, but can't be with me. You give these absurd reasons that revolve around algebra and theology, but just reveal your inability to get in touch with your feelings.

*Brian:*

That is most likely true. But it is the only way that I can attempt to explain that which I do not understand.

*Carolina:*

I understand that just five weeks ago that I was happier than I have ever been. And I understand that just five weeks ago that you seemed happy as well. What happened in those 35 days. 35 days is a short period of time to fall out of love.

*Brian:*

I didn't fall out of love with you, just not actively. If I could have seen it, I would have tried to stop it.

*Carolina:*

Tried to stop it?!?

*Brian:*

I'm saying that this is comparable to a near earth asteroid.

*Carolina:*

You've lost it.

*Brian:*

An asteroid, that could at any moment come out of the heavens and destroy the earth. The path of the destructor being concealed by the great void of space, or even concealed by the earth's orbit, or the sun, or any of the other planets. The thing is, is that there is an asteroid that is out there, waiting to wipe us all out, it has been there from the beginning. We have not detected it yet. Even if we did we may not be able to destroy it or change it's path. We cannot defend ourselves. The final impact is coming, and there is nothing that we can do.

*Carolina:*

You're ridiculous; around the bend.

*Brian:*

Yes, that is, also most likely true.

*Carolina:*

This is fear of commitment.

*Brian:*

No, I know that fiery beast, this is an asteroid. I can't explain it any better.

-----pause-----violin starts-----rhythmic behaviors-----

*ERIC:*

Romance: a field guide. Part Four: ways of telling if you are in love.

*Jesse:*

I get that wrong every time. Ask someone close to you, they will know better.

*Brian:*

Better yet, just wait until you don't have a choice.

*Caroline:*

If you are asking the question, you most likely are in love.

*Jesse:*

It's not easy, whatever the answer is.

-----pause-----violin continue-----shift audio to glitch-----

*Eric:*  
Deserve more.

*Jesse: AND Carolina:*  
We deserve more.

*Jesse:*  
Everything you want, need and deserve-right? Why the hell  
does all that magic feeling leave?

*Carolina:*  
Who the hell have we picked?

*Jesse:*  
All those boys. All those cute, witty boys. Where are they?  
Weren't you one of them?

*Carolina:*  
They all seem so young now- but 4:30 turns into 5:30 turns  
into 7:30 turns into soon turns into 9 turns into midnight.

*Jesse:*  
Wasn't that all fun?

*Carolina:*  
Wasn't it great?

*Jesse:*  
Boy I had fun.

*Carolina:*  
Until I met my last- I would not describe it as fun. Not yet  
anyway. What if I saw you know who? I guess I don't  
have to feel bad about being so solitude-ish and a loner,  
you know. I mean, that was a long time that I had magic  
people-magic boys in my life.

*Jesse:*  
That conversation will be over before you know it.

*Carolina:*  
Sits and stares.

*Jesse:*  
What are you doing here?

*Carolina:*  
There's a lot I'd like to say to you.

*Jesse:*  
You filled my void with magic.

*Carolina:*  
You called me the Brightest Light.

*Jesse:*  
It's so hard to be content when your nature is to be nomadic,  
an emotional Bedouin

*Carolina:*  
They never stop talking do they? Maybe they aren't really  
that fun; maybe they really aren't that witty.

*Jesse:*  
I kissed him in the rain. He said it was the single most  
romantic thing he'd ever been a part of.

-----interruptive sonic behavior-----

*Eric:*  
Romance: a field guide. Part five: Pick up lines, or ways of  
getting things started.

*Brian:*  
This song goes out to a girl I'll probably never talk to again.

*Caroline:*  
I haven't heard a good one yet.

*Eric:*  
Well, Booze

*Jesse:*  
Yeah, Booze

-----traffic sounds-----

*Jesse:*

This is the weirdest date.

*Carolina:*

I was in high school. It was another high school's homecoming. I happened to be going with a sort of an alternative rocker type, shy guy

*Eric:*

His name was Aaron.

*Carolina:*

Man, he had a huge crush on me. I could call him anytime and he'd call me right back. We sometimes talked on the phone until 4am, sometimes even on a weeknight. That was fun. I got to philosophize and categorize the world and have a genuine listener.

*Eric:*

He was a true fan.

*Carolina:*

Having a boy fan was great, just great.

*Jesse:*

So he asked you to Homecoming.

*Carolina:*

But he was cool, so we didn't take it too seriously. I borrowed a dress from a friend of mine. This friend was also his friend and she was very possessive of me.

*Brian:*

Her name was Allison.

*Carolina:*

In fact the night of homecoming Aaron had arranged for me to stay with his friends date's house.

*Brian:*

But your mutual friend Allison convinced you that you should stay at her house, do need not get the boys hopes up.

*Carolina:*

I was an idiot for agreeing to do that.

*Jesse:*

Allison just wanted to have her hands in the situation.

*Carolina:*

Anyway I got dressed at my friends house, Aaron picked me up and at the last minute I took my glasses off so I'd be prettier, but I couldn't see the whole night. I almost fell down the stairs of his friend's parent's house.

*Eric:*

Inside they took a couple polaroids.

*Jesse:*

Then you went to dinner at a semi-fancy place. You ordered a salad. You were still uncomfortable eating in front of boys that liked you. You didn't feel full the whole night.

*Carolina:*

I just ended up being hungry. Once we got to the school. I was too shy to dance,

*Jesse:*

So you just acted cool.

*Carolina:*

Like dancing wasn't that cool. Most of the night the four of us just went outside to smoke and then back inside to sit at a table.

*Brian:*

You danced a couple of times, but you couldn't really see anything because you had taken your glasses off and you left them behind.

*Carolina:*

I had him drop me off early. Looking back, I think I was the worst date anyone could ask for.

*Eric:*

You couldn't see,

*Carolina:*

I didn't dance, I...

*Jesse:*

You didn't stay out late

*Carolina:*

And I don't think I was that much fun.

*Jesse:*

After that Aaron still like you?

*Carolina:*

Until the spring, then he started to date some girl and sort of forgot about me. Funny thing is, Allison let that other girl borrow the same dress I borrowed to go on a different date with Aaron.

*Jesse:*

Same guy, same dress, different girl.

*Carolina:*

I thought that was weird.

*Eric:*

You kissed Aaron right before you went to college?

*Carolina:*

I wasn't sure of what I wanted or if I even liked him. I couldn't tell if I liked him or I just missed him liking me. After a few weeks I decided I didn't like him. I decided there would be way too many boys in college to like. It turns out there were only a few and they weren't that great anyway.

*Eric:*

You did run into him a few years later though and you dated for a few months again.

*Carolina:*

Yes, when I was 21 not 16 and it still didn't work out. The difference was by that time was just the idea the idea of a sweet boy who worshipped me.

*Jesse:*

But he wasn't the same person anymore?

*Carolina:*

He didn't really like me anymore, he had a lot of anger for hurting him in high school, he had just broken up with a girlfriend of 2 years and still seemed sad about her so he couldn't really like me anymore I guess. I think I thought he would be such a fan of mine like in high school that I couldn't see he was being really mean to me.

*Jesse:*

He never called you back right away. He would make plans with you and not show up. He would make fun of you and your interests. He didn't really have a lot to say.

*Carolina:*

But whenever I tried to end it he would bring me a flower or trinket or show up at my campus and take me out to lunch.

*Jesse:*

But you finally said goodbye.

*Carolina:*

Yes, on a tearful New Year's Eve.

*Jesse:*

So, where is he now...

*Carolina:*

Allison and him are married and I hear they have three children. They even invited me to the wedding, but I didn't go.

---pause---violin stops-----tonal-----

*Eric:*

Romance: a field guide. Part Six: Examples, and what to do

if this happens to you.

*Carolina:*

Okay, so it was the first time we had broken up. Well the first of five times. And I had forgotten an earring at his house, I guess I thought that we weren't done yet. So he called.

*Brian:*

I have a pair of your earrings,

*Carolina:*

Oh really, do you want to meet for coffee?

*Brian:*

Why not the bar, at around 9?

*Carolina:*

I said yes of course. So I was drinking nervously all night. Beer, beer, beer, then whiskey, then gin and tonic, then beer. Then...

*Brian:*

I love you. I know it might not be the right time, but I love you.

*Carolina:*

Huh, I just turned to my drink. I thought we were having a nice time. I thought we were on the way to getting back together. Why did he have to ruin it by bringing up love. I think he knew it too.

*Brian:*

Two mind eraser's please.

*Carolina:*

He tried to blow it off. I just didn't know what to say. I guess its what I wanted to hear, but I didn't expect it. I knew there was some things were unsettled, but this, I just wasn't ready for. I don't know if you know what a mind eraser is, I still don't. all I know is its brown and not very tasty.

*Brian:*

Cheers, um... to us.

*Carolina:*

If you are in this position, number one, don't drink the mind eraser. It didn't work. I still remember everything, and number two; well, I had to run to the bathroom right after putting the shot glass down. I threw up all over the bathroom. Somehow I just couldn't get any of it in the toilet. I felt better, but I started compulsively cleaning up. Maybe it was embarrassment, maybe I was just dealing with not knowing how to deal with love. But that's not number two...

*Brian:*

Are you okay

*Carolina:*

Yeah, I'm fine.

*Brian:*

Well, its just that somebody told me you were puking in the bathroom.

*Carolina:*

Me, no... I didn't throw up... I was pooping. That's number two. Never cover up puke with poop. It's not better.

-----pause-----violin only-----

*Carolina:*

We made love with the lights off.

*Brian:*

I didn't take this as a personal affront.

*Carolina:*

He never noticed my orange top, and cute orange satin underwear set, he just tossed them in the corner under his crumpled, deflated shirt and black jeans.

*Brian:*

Also the basketful of complimentary oils and contraceptives next to the bed, each with its own unique musing printed on it in sentimental, grammatically wobbly English. "*I remember when we sitting on the beach. You laughed of me and say, 'that's a seagull.'*" is the inscription on an otherwise utilitarian-looking condom wrapper.

*Carolina:*

It was more like a bad soft-porn shoot instead of a real, immediate experience. The stench of the carpet cleaner was the only thing that kept reminding me that I wasn't watching a movie.

*Brian:*

The softness of the light is so stereotypically 'dreamy' that it's hard to imagine the situation as anything but a simulation.

*Carolina:*

I got bored, so I started scrapping into his back. He stopped and jerked away. I must have drawn blood.

*Brian:*

It was the best.

*Carolina:*

No more cheap Japanese Hotels.

*Brian:*

We Made love with the lights on.

-----violin stops-----

*Eric:*

Romance: a field guide. Part seven: romantic places you might not have thought of before.

*Brian: singing back behind the following text*

I love you, I love you, I love you, I love you, I love you, I love you. (about 5 times)

*Jesse:*

A public park, at night

*Eric:*

A college library, anthropology or geography section.

*Carolina:*

The back of a 82 dodge.

*Jesse:*

A friend's house.

*Eric:*

A Kentucky Fried Chicken bathroom.

-----short pause-----environmental sounds-----

*Brian:*

There is always a story about the first time with some one.

*Eric:*

You mean sex.

*Brian:*

Yes.

*Eric:*

Is this a dear playboy letter?

*Brian:*

No. I mean the full on unfulfilling first time you are with

someone.

*Eric:*

You're that bad in bed.

*Brian:*

No. I'm speaking more of the awkwardness.

*Eric:*

So it's a "Dear Penthouse" letter.

*Brian:*

It's just a story.

*Eric:*

Which story.

*Brian:*

Amanda Clarke. Dreadful

*Eric:*

You are bad in bed.

*Brian:*

No, the sex was fairly decent for the first time, but that might have been the bottle of wine. The dreadful aspect of the night actually happened the next morning.

*Eric:*

What was Amanda a man? Sorry, I couldn't resist.

*Brian:*

No, It was The Columbia disaster.

*Eric:*

What?

*Brian:*

The Space Shuttle, it exploded..

*Eric:*

Yeah, Yeah, Yeah, Over Texas. I hate that state. Man, Penthouse would never print that, Popular Mechanics, maybe, or Omini.

*Brian: (cut off ERIC'S rambling/lead the conversation)*

The alarm clock was set for 10am. To the talk radio station.  
The news man woke us up with vague talk about a shuttle explosion, and little hope for survivors.

*Carolina:*

It must be an anniversary. They're just replaying something from history.

*Brian:*

No, the Challenger exploded 17 years a couple days ago.  
This isn't an anniversary of anything.

*Carolina:*

So. Turn the radio off and come back to bed.

*Brian:*

I can't.

*Eric:*

You passed up morning sex because the shuttle exploded.

*Carolina:*

Yes he did. None of my friends believed me. He went on and on about the history of NASA tragedies, related them to the enlightenment and how notions of progress within society effected they way in which the future is perceived, Blah, Blah, Blah. It completely ruined the mood.

*Brian:*

I told you too much of myself that morning.

*Carolina:*

All I wanted was to spend time with you in bed and you were running around making phone calls, taping the television and radio reports.

*Eric:*

That is the stupidest thing I think you have ever done. You had a naked women in you bed and you got all obsessed with astronauts?

*Brian:*

Yeah, I know.

*Carolina:*  
Scaring our relationship.

*Brian:*  
Tell me about it.

*Eric:*  
Yet another time an abstraction ruined a relationship.

*Brian:*  
Yes, but Amanda and I were damaged goods from the start.

*Carolina:*  
I was still seeing kind of seeing this guy in New York, and kind of dating someone else in Chicago. John was merely a novelty to me. Someone who may be famous and I can say that I knew.

*Brian:*  
I'll never be famous. You know that, don't you?

*Carolina:*  
My aunt read about you in the newspaper.

*Brian:*  
Your aunt reads too much.

*Carolina:*  
I was just out of a serious relationship, and had just gotten back into the dating world.

*Brian:*  
I knew that Amanda was seeing other people. It didn't bother me. Actually, I was happy she was. It took the relationship pressure off.

*Carolina:*

You're completely full of it. Why are you putting words in my mouth? I wasn't seeing any one else. True, I just got of a long term relationship, and true I don't know how seriously I ever took you, but that is not reason to lie. I just thought you were cute and interesting. You are the one that started getting serious, you are the one that drove me away.

*Brian:*

That's not how I remember it.

-----violin starts-----

*Jesse:*

Let me be the objective observer for a moment and point out a few key facts. When you met John was hopped up on Sudafed and beer. Amanda was high on coke. You exchanged emails and left the party separate.

*Eric:*

John you emailed Amanda two days later and asked her out on a date. Amanda, you reluctantly accepted, mostly because you forgot what John looked like. You were not sure which one of the men you gave your information to that night was contacting you. John, you knew all of this in the back of your mind, but did not care. John, you picked Amanda up for your first date in your friend's car.

*Jesse:*

You never revealed this information to Amanda. To this day, she believes that you drive a 1994 Dodge Sedan. Dinner and drinks followed. You made out in the bar. John you drove Amanda home. Amanda you invited him up, but in a way that made John feel like it was to sleep on the couch. Amanda said that she would cook dinner for John the following Wednesday.

*Eric:*

John accepted. The meal was not a success. The three bottles of wine were. That was the night that the two of you first had sex. The Columbia did not explode the next morning. You see each five more months before the dreadful morning of the Columbia Disaster.

*Jesse:*

At this point, your relationship was hopeful. John you were talking about Amanda to all of your friends and Amanda you were email pictures of John to all of your friends in New York.

*Eric*

John you are at fault for the relationship souring.

*Jesse:*

At the moment of the Columbia Disaster your interest in the Amanda ceased.

-----Violin stops-----

*Brian:*

That may be true. I did get some of the facts incorrect before. But we did stop talking to each other shortly after, and that wasn't solely my fault.

*Carolina:*

You never called me on my cell phone. Only my home phone. I told you time and again to call me on my cell phone, and you never did.

*Brian:*

I hate talking to people on cell phones.

*Carolina:*

That is no excuse.

*Brian:*

You still ended up marrying the guy you broke up with before going out with me.

*Carolina:*

I don't see what that has to do with anything. Peter and I were ended. So, we ended up getting back together, but that was a year after the two of us dated.

*Brian:*

He never told his mother that he and you had broken up. And you spent Christmas at his parents' house. You went on vacation with him in the Hamptons. We only saw each other for five months and you saw him all the time! What am I supposed to think.

*Carolina:*

That's not true, you're blowing things out of proportions!

*Eric:*

I think we're getting off course. The Space Shuttle Columbia exploded over Texas the morning after the two of you had sex, how did this effect your relationship?

*Carolina:*

He never satisfied me.

*Jesse:*

That was not the question. How did the space shuttle effect your relationship?

*Brian:*

I wasn't satisfied in the relationship and I could say that the space shuttle exploding over Texas was, in many ways, a convergence of everything I'm interested in. An Event, for me, intellectually large and creatively fortuitous, it was even a moment of historical weight that I could not just come back to bed. I would be untrue to myself. I could say I was wholly justified in turning down sex. Sex come and goes, and I know I will many more opportunities for good morning sex, with you or otherwise. I could have said the space shuttle doesn't explode everyday. I could have said I was just being myself, following my own "path". I could have said a lot of things, and they'd all be lies. Deep down, I knew that we did not have much in common. The initial attraction was fading and there was not much else. I came to a point that I did not like myself when I was around Amanda. So I hid behind the space shuttle exploding over Texas.

*Carolina:*

He was full of himself, then, just like he is now. He went on and on about his ideas and passions, blah, blah, blah, but left little room for me. He kept secretes from me. He would want us to go out at a moments notice; we always had to live by his schedule. So I faded away. I don't know what any of this has to do with outer space.

-----pause-----violin starts-----beat type behaviour-----

*Eric:*

Romance: a field guide. Part Eight: How the Stars effect love.

*Jesse:*

In this case the female is a Cancer, influenced by the sun and the male is a Leo, persuaded by Mars.

*Eric:*

For these two, a successful cooperation in achieving goals and accomplishing tasks is highlighted. They make an excellent working team and you are able to assist each other in achieving specific, concrete goals.

*Jesse:*

The love signs for Leo and Cancer are generally guided by the following principles. When you're involved with a Cancer, you're involved with a parent, a patriot, a nurse and a night-owl. When you're involved with a Leo, you're involved with a superstar, a leader, an achiever and a chief-of-staff.

*Eric:*

If you can give a Cancer emotional commitment and security, a loving home and some care for children, you have a better chance of getting their love and affection. If you can give a Leo sincere admiration and applause then you have a better chance of getting their love and affection.

*Jesse:*

Essentially, Cancer is a good person who needs to deal with family and emotional issues. Cancer's hugs are world class and Cancer's snuggles are second to none. At heart, Leo is practically perfect. The ancients have said that Leo is entitled to the Lion's share of fun. Leo needs to roar with pride, both on center stage and in the bedroom.

*Eric:*

Cancer is naturally inclined to be touchy about some, but not all relatives and needs to work on the family tree and make some sense of it all. To win points, Cancer can treat Leo to a most excellent piece of gold jewelry. Leo also appreciates Cancer's undivided attention. By developing willpower, Leo can find creative ways to get you into the spotlight and shine. Leo may be playing the game of life stakes higher than Cancer may realize.

*Jesse:*

Cancer has moods that change about four times a day, every two and a half days, every month and every 18 or 19 years. Cancer needs to make the most of these cycles, and establish goals with corresponding deadlines. Cancer is not necessarily the most direct individual. Security is something Cancer is always aware of. Usually it's a top priority. Cancer is definitely strong and protective of turf.

*Eric:*

You might find yourself tempted by a random stranger or acquaintance, but you can brush it off and have fun flirting at the same time. Don't worry about jealousy.

*Jesse:*

Don't let yourself get rushed into anything; you'll know just how fast you want to move. Your partner doesn't mean any harm, so try not to lash out.

*Brian:*

Remember to focus on relationships. Emotional commitment is now a key issue. Search your feelings. Be objective. Do your duty to resolve alienation. In time, people will appreciate the work that you do on yourself.... Positive deeds bring you the benefits and advantages that you desire.... Network. Exchange ideas. Enjoy social as well as business meetings.... You can support and encourage the arts. Distinguish between fact and fantasy. Use your ability to see through appearances.... Go with some intense self-expressions.

*Carolina:*

Remember to spend extra time with someone you love. Spend time on the home front with your favorite people.... Develop your stamina and physique. Bring out better character traits.... Be sure to reward the loyalty you value.... It's easy to enjoy new duties and routines. You can improve your sense of well being. Take pleasure in new experience. Personal relations get better now.

-----tonal-----

*Eric:*  
Who are you really?

*Jesse:*  
You don't understand the nature of sex.

*Eric:*  
Do you even know what you want from a lover?

*Carolina:*  
A tube long and pliable, in which to put many fluids, mostly  
unclean.

*Eric:*  
Have you ever thought of what you could be if you weren't  
who you are?

*Carolina:*  
Lots of pretty pink flowers and yellow butterflies.

*Brian:*  
If I asked you to have sex with a stranger, would you?

*Jesse:*  
Too many lies, too much pain.

*Brian:*  
Why do you insist on hurting me so?

*Carolina:*  
With rubber and lace and thin imaginary garter belts.

*Jesse:*  
Mine eyes have seen the glory.

*Brian:*  
What is music, really?

*Carolina:*  
It's not what you think.

*Eric:*

Do you think you might ever become gay?

*Carolina:*  
Yes and No.

*Brian:*  
Is that what you want?

*Jesse:*  
Depends on the stranger, Silly.

*Brian:*  
If you were to put your feelings about my genitals in tangible words, what would they be?

*Jesse:*  
It's a matter of taste but I'd lick it.

*Brian:*  
Would you like to leave me?

*Jesse:*  
Aphrodisiac of the soul.

*Brian:*  
The time is now, but for what?

*Jesse:*  
Better and wiser I will encounter.

*Brian:*  
Will you become a drunken fool?

*Jesse:*  
A hook in the lip of not a fish but a mammal; there is blood involved.

*Brian:*  
Scissors?

*Jesse:*  
I truly believe that day will come.

*Eric:*  
What would you say if I told you that you bore me?

*Carolina:*  
Something sweet but poisonous, tasting of soap but  
thoroughly unclean.

*Jesse:*  
Out of the darkest night is born the dawn or something.

*Eric:*  
Do you know what love is?

*Carolina:*  
In order to be incestuous, one must first be attracted to one's  
relatives, whatever their sex.

*Brian:*  
Describe yourself in a quote.

*Jesse:*  
Unspeakable crimes against Man.

*Carolina:*  
"In a Monsoon, It's anybody's game."

*Brian:*  
If anything matters to you at all, what is it?

*Jesse:*  
Everything beautiful is found in holes.

*Eric:*  
I'm digging a hole to China.

*Brian:*  
You are walking in a dark tropical rainforest. Before you is a  
stream of black water with a dead monkey beside  
it—what do you do?

*Carolina:*  
If you sing to me, it will happen.

*Eric:*  
Do you believe there's a god?

*Carolina:*  
Sometimes I think hair is wrong.

*Brian:*

Do you hate your mother?

*Jesse:*

It's like an itch on my thigh which I enjoy scratching until it bleeds.

*Brian:*

What do you think is the most heinous sight of all?

*Jesse:*

It's not so different from anything else I do.

*Eric:*

What is special?

*Carolina:*

Seeing you buried alive.

*Eric:*

Beauty is found in holes and I'm digging a hole to China.

*Brian:*

What do airplanes mean to you?

*Carolina:*

They play their music too loud upstairs.

*Jesse:*

I smoke because I can and because it's far less harmful than the rest of the world.

*Brian:*

Will you kiss me?

*Jesse:*

Nothing more than clean-shaven legs.

*Eric:*

When will you marry me?

*Brian:*

When I can do it on-line.

*Carolina:*

The ocean, the sea reflects nothing but the sun. So it is with myself.

*Brian:*

Where is your head in relation to the rest of your body, especially your genitals?

*Carolina:*

No and Yes.

*Jesse:*

If it means life or death, I will do it.

*Brian:*

Have you ever used your genitals to hurt or harm?

*Jesse:*

I won't answer—it's too important.

*Eric:*

Do you enjoy oral sex, or simply submit to it?

*Carolina:*

Just thinking about that makes me queasy and sleepy.

*Eric:*

Do you?

*Jesse:*

It makes my blood curdle.

*Eric:*

What is your mission in life?

*Carolina:*

What is wrong is easy and that makes it right.

*Eric:*

You are a penis. What?

*Brian:*

I'm Boiling.

*Jesse:*

Stronger than anyone else has felt about such a thing.

*Brian:*  
Would you like to take me to bed now?

*Jesse:*  
A pencil through the tongue immune to lead poisoning.

*Brian:*  
Would you kill me if you had the chance?

*Jesse:*  
Unbelievable wetness between sore lips.

*Eric:*  
China is filling a hole on me.

*Carolina:*  
Glory, Glory Hallelujah

*Eric:*  
Is that what you think I truly want?

*Carolina:*  
Guns.

*Brian:*  
Dear Penthouse.

*Eric:*  
A gun is something able to kill; what are you?

*Jesse:*  
Usually they are too dumb to notice.

*Brian:*  
Isn't what I've done enough?

*Jesse:*  
Edie Bell is the answer; I won't explain how.

*Brian:*  
If I answer yes, what will you give me?

*Jesse:*  
Only drugs could help right now.

*Eric:*

Dear Penthouse, I'm digging a hole to China.

*Carolina:*

Glory, Glory Hallelujah

---pause-----violin-----heavy glitch-----

*Eric:*

Romance: a field guide. Part Nine: A Quiz. See what you've learned.

*Jesse:*

Question number one: When it comes to your partner's exes, you know:

*Eric:*

a. Everything, b. A fair amount, c. a little, d. nothing.

*Jesse:*

Question number two: Your partner thinks that astrology is:

*Eric:*

a. I don't know, b. ridiculous, c. Important, d. wonderful

*Jesse:*

Question number three: I call my significant other just to say hello, or I love you.

*Eric:*

a. I have never done that, b. I did it once, c. once in a while, but only when I'm in trouble, d. all the time.

*Jesse:*

Question number four: When watching a couple recite their vows at a wedding this makes you

*Eric:*

a. impatient, you just want to get to the bar, b. wonder how long they will keep their vows, c. smile and feel happy, d. emotional to the point of shedding tears.

*Jesse:*

Question number five: When watching a movie, my significant other and I hold hands and/or cuddle.

*Eric:*

a. never, b. rarely, c. sometimes, d. often.

*Jesse:*

Your scores indicate that the communication in your relationship is likely to be harmonious, and that you and your partner communicate easily. I believe in love at first sight. In addition, you are a romantic person - ABOVE AVERAGE. You know how to pay attention to detail when it comes to creating an amorous mood for your partner. You are thoughtful and kind with your gestures, and you know how to slow down and appreciate the finer things in life once in a while. Romantics tend to be sensual people also, and thus live life more fully.

----pause----violin----low tones-----

*Eric:*

I've heard stories of happy relationships

*Jesse:*

How do they start

*Eric:*

Subject A meets subject B at location C, something like that.

*Brian:*

They talk. Hit it off. Relate to each other in a way that intrigues each other. You know x.

*Carolina:*

They see each other for a while. They are in a relationship.

*Brian:*

Become a couple.

*Eric:*

When does that happen?

*Brian:*

When does what happen

*Carolina:*

The happiness

*Brian:*

I haven't figured that out. But from the data I have compiled, I have concluded that it is very satisfying. You know y.

*Eric:*

Tell me about the point in between the dating and the relationship.

*Brian:*

Oh, you mean the romance, or z.

*Jesse:*

Yes, the romance.

*Brian:*

I think that my friend James describes romance best. It is the undeniable that you do not realize until it has past. Unconscious reactions to situations that stimulate both parties involved.

*Jesse:*

That is a very scientific answer.

*Eric:*

James is a very scientific guy.

*Brian:*

I want something I can use. No abstraction. None of this abc, xyz crap. You Know, I have tried to pick up a few pointers by watching the dating shows on TV and by reading romance novels, but neither are very instructive. The Theories that they have given has caused me much trouble.

*Carolina:*

Your problem has nothing to do with dating shows or romance novels. Your problems have to do with you, your perception.

*Brian:*

Perception? I thought it had to do with my disinterest in normal moral life. That my fall from the bounds of human virtue was so far that my conception of myself as involved with another was impossible.

*Eric:*

No, perception.

*Jesse:*  
Tell me more, tell me more.

*Eric:*  
It has nothing to do with your fear of commitment. In fact you don't  
fear commitment at all, you only think you do.  
{(Fcy – Σx) α Lcx}

*Brian:*  
Tell me more, tell me more.

*Eric:*  
Are you happy?

*Brian:*  
Yes.

*Eric:*  
Are you happy.

*Brian:*  
Yes.

*Eric:*  
That doesn't count. You are happy right now because you are in a  
new relationship.

*Brian:*  
I am happy because the person that I am dating has to possibility of  
being what my prior have not.

*Eric:*  
And what is that.

*Brian:*  
I don't know yet.

*Jesse:*  
So, can you love?

*Eric:*  
Do you believe in romance?

*Brian:*  
I do.

*Carolina:*  
You do?

*Brian:*  
I do, but I am afraid that my flip-flop will fall off and that will create a stumble that will delay or interrupt my happiness.

*Eric:*  
You need to meditate.

*Jesse:*  
Or drink warm soy milk before bed.

*Eric:*  
Which one is x again.

*Carolina:*  
It will help you out. You are dangerously strung out and full of hypertension. The kind that women can see from a mile away.

*Eric:*  
It's a small wonder that you can live your life.

*Brian:*  
Maybe so. Maybe so.

-----Violin ----- Grumbling sonic background -----

BLIND SPOT: a night of romance featured the voices of Eric Humphry, Brian Taylor, Carolina Wheat and Jesse Wyss. The program was written by Anna Benavidas, Thom Bailey, the un-collector (get his real name from email), Eric Humphry, (double check to make sure this is all the people) and John Wanzel. As well as violin by Peter Rosenbloom, computer by John Wanzel or Philip, depending on what really happens.

BLIND SPOT: end statements....

----- End -----