

# **Practice Makes Perfect**

by Christina Healey

Practice Makes Perfect

*A park in the burbs. The time is current. Meet LILY, 17: a spunky girl with big dreams and little life experience. ROGER, 17, LILY's best friend and polar opposite, enters at a pace, phone in hand.*

*Note to the actors: a "/" indicates an overlap in dialogue. A "-" indicates a cutoff.*

ROGER

Hey- everything alright? I got your text-

LILY

Aaron asked me out.

ROGER

Oh...kay. You seem really / uptight about it.

LILY

I've never been on a date before.

ROGER

Okay, what's wrong with that?

LILY

I've never held hands with another person before.

ROGER

That's a lie.

LILY

You don't count.

ROGER

Wow. Geez, okay.

LILY

I've never kissed anyone before.

ROGER

Well, there's a first time for everything.

LILY

No, Roger! You don't understand!

ROGER

What don't I understand?

LILY

I cannot let my inexperience absolutely ruin my chances with Aaron. What if he's the one?

ROGER

Oh my God, Lil. Seriously? It's your first date. It's not / that deep.

LILY

You never know, though! What if he is, huh? What if he's the one?

ROGER

Okay, so what if he is?

LILY

I need to make a good impression!

ROGER

You know, I really think you're taking this 'first date' thing way too seriously-

LILY

Yeah, okay, but imagine how nice it would be to NOT mess this up.

ROGER

Uh...I guess.

LILY

I was reading in Cosmo this morning-

ROGER

Cosmo?

LILY

Cosmopolitan magazine.

ROGER

They still exist?

LILY

Yes, they still exist. They exist for girls like me having an existential crisis over a guy they're crazy about and having absolutely no idea what to do.

ROGER

Okay.

LILY

So I was reading Cosmo, and there was an article about the best way to shape your mouth when kissing.

ROGER

You really can't make this stuff up, can you?

LILY

They said the best way to get the right shape was to kiss an orange. Can you believe it? Practice kissing an orange and you'll be the best kisser around.

ROGER

What? That sounds ridiculous.

LILY

I know. That's why I texted you.

ROGER

Because...*(he gets it now)* Lil, no, you can't be serious-

LILY

I don't want to be bad at it, Roger! Come on! Who do I know better than you?

ROGER

You want me to kiss you so you can practice for your date with Aaron?

LILY

Yes.

ROGER

Do you even hear yourself?

LILY

I know it sounds ridiculous, okay! But I can't get feedback from an orange!