TRULY, MADLY, DEEPLY

By Rod

This sketch is based on John 21 vv 15-19, Jesus’ reinstatement of Peter. It seeks to illustrate how Jesus was taking Peter to a deep level of commitment – a lifelong commitment.

*CAST*

*Jessica Young woman*

*Simon Her boyfriend*

Enter Jessica and Simon. There is a bench (or pair of chairs) midstage.

Jessica Shall we sit on this bench for a few minutes?

Simon Yeah, why not. We can gaze at the stars. Look at that sky; it’s so clear. We might see Orion.

Jess Which Orion?

Simon Oh, any Orion, any Orion, any any Orion. *[They laugh together at their shared joke]*

Jess We make a good team.

Simon We should do by now.

Jess Oh, it’s been a lovely evening, Simon.

Simon Yes, fantastic. It’s such amazing weather.

Jess I wasn’t just meaning the weather.

Simon *[Understanding]* Oh, right. Yes, it’s been great.

Jess *[Pause]* Simon, do you truly love me?

Simon You know I do, Jess.

Jess Then you won’t mind lending me your coat. It’s beginning to chill off.

Simon No sweat. Here you are, babe. *[Simon removes coat and places it over her shoulders. He puts his arm round her shoulders for good measure.]*

Jess Thanks. Ah this is lovely. *[They sit in silence for a while. Then Simon starts to cuddle more intimately. Jess pulls away and sits up. Simon takes his arm away]* Simon, do you truly love me?

Simon Yes, Jess, you know I love you. I’m mad about you.

Jess *[With meaning]* Then you won’t mind if all we do is cuddle.

Simon No, that’s fine. Is this OK? *[Puts arm tentatively over her shoulder]*

Jess It’s great. *[They are quiet again – but it is an uncomfortable silence. Simon appears distant. He shivers, showing he is cold.]* Simon, do you love me?

Simon *[Pulling his arm away]* Look, Jess, what is this: 20 questions or something – but all the same question? We’ve been together for over three years. You know me well enough by now to know that I am truly, madly, deeply in love with you.

Jess How deeply?

Simon Oh I don’t know?

Jess Deeply enough to marry me?

Simon Ah!

*THE END*