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 <u>all</u> 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