

IDEAL
A one-minute play by Peter M. Floyd
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CAST OF CHARACTERS:

The ARTIST, male
The PAINTING, female

The ARTIST holds a small brush and palette. He is working on the PAINTING, who sits in front of him. He is currently painting her face.

ARTIST

Let's make the mouth a little wider, give you a very slight smile... (*ARTIST stands back, studying.*) I think this really captures her.

PAINTING

No. Her lips are thinner.

ARTIST

Maybe.

PAINTING

Her eyes are bluer.

ARTIST

True, but I can't see the sea in them, the way I can see them in yours.

PAINTING

She'll hate me.

ARTIST

It doesn't matter.

PAINTING

Of course it does. I'd like to think I reflect reality.

ARTIST

You're missing the point... You're the ideal. You're the perfection. Honestly, I don't care if she likes you or not. You're really the one I love.

PAINTING

You're such a liar.

ARTIST

No, I mean it; you're the complete epitome of... of... God,
that mouth is all wrong; I need to redo it completely.

*The ARTIST takes his brush and begins working on
her mouth again.*

PAINTING

See! I-- (*But as the ARTIST reshapes her mouth, she can no
longer speak.*)

ARTIST

I don't know what I was thinking; these lips are way too
thick.

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