

Close Up #9 – Love at First Sight

Transcript

Hello everyone out there! Happy Valentine's Day! This is Maura with your Culips podcast. This is the **Close Up** podcast where we look at a conversation very closely. If you want to know more about this episode, or any of our episodes, you can go to our website, that's Culips.com, C-U-L-I-P-S.com. There you can click on Lipservice, you can see the transcript and quizzes, and lots of interesting explanations. So Happy Valentine's Day!

If you're celebrating today or not, we hope you have a great day! And since today is the day of love, we're continuing from our episode last week. Last week, Robin asked Harp if she **believed in love at first sight**. Before we listen to the rest of their conversation, I'm going to tell you a little about "**love at first sight**."

So, do you **believe in love at first sight**? "**Sight**" means your ability to see. In this case, the first time you see someone. So, the question means, do you believe that you can love someone the very first time that you see them?

Some people believe that you can meet someone and know immediately that you love them and then you spend the rest of your happy lives together. Other people believe that it's not possible to know if you love someone right away. You need to know the person more before you can decide that you love them.

When talking about "**love at first sight**," we often think of **Cupid**. **Cupid** is a little mythological god. **Cupid** looks like a little boy, almost naked, with a diaper and wings, and he flies around shooting people with his arrow. He has an arrow and he shoots people. Kind of funny!

I'll give you an example. Let's say **Cupid** shoots an arrow hits that Jon. So now the first person that Jon sees, he will fall in love with. We will explain more about **Cupid** and the history of **Cupid** in our Lipservice, of course.

Another classic example of **love at first sight** is **Romeo and Juliet**. From the first moment they see each other, they love each other very passionately. "**Love at first sight**" happens a lot in movies and TV shows and is written about in many songs. We will post some cool links for you on our blog about **love at first sight**.

OK. I won't make you wait any longer. Let's listen to the rest of the conversation from last week's episode. So, Robin asks Harp...

- Robin: But, yeah. Can I ask you another question? Do you **believe in love at first sight**?
- Harp: I would say maybe not **love at first sight**, but I **believe in** love at maybe, like, a first meeting.
- Robin: OK.
- Harp: When you **get to talking** and there is that interaction, there's those **sparks**, you know, the **chemistry** between two people.
- Robin: But how long does it take for you to fall in love with somebody?
- Harp: I don't think there is a time I would put on it, but more than just one meeting. The first meeting would get me interested in someone.
- Robin: And then the second one you would fall in love. All right!
- Harp: Yeah, maybe. What about you? Do you **believe in love at first sight**?
- Robin: Yeah, yeah, definitely. I think there is a possibility you could meet somebody and have very **strong feelings** for them **right off the bat**.

So, this conversation is definitely about “**love at first sight**.” Harp gives her opinion and then Robin gives his. Harp does not **believe in love at first sight** or the first time you see someone. But she says it is possible the first time you meet someone, so she thinks you need to talk to each other first.

- Robin: But, yeah. Can I ask you another question? Do you **believe in love at first sight**?
- Harp: I would say maybe not **love at first sight**, but I **believe in** love at maybe, like, a first meeting.
- Robin: OK.
- Harp: When you **get to talking** and there is that interaction, there's those **sparks**, you know, the **chemistry** between two people.

Harp talks about “**sparks**” and “**chemistry**.” These two words are used to talk about two people romantically. It is used to say if they liked each other or not.

If there were **sparks** between two people, it means that they liked each other. In the same way, if two people have **chemistry**, it also means they liked each other.

So, Harp thinks you need to talk to a person first to see if you have **sparks** or **chemistry**.

Robin: But how long does it take for you to fall in love with somebody?

Harp: I don't think there is a time I would put on it, but more than just one meeting. The first meeting would get me interested in someone.

Robin: And then the second one you would fall in love. All right!

“Fall in love.” Does everyone know this expression? When you meet someone and you start to love them, this is called falling in love. Maybe we say “fall” because you have no control over it. You know, when you feel love, you can't control it either.

Robin: And then the second one you would fall in love. All right!

Harp: Yeah, maybe. What about you? Do you **believe in love at first sight**?

Robin: Yeah, yeah, definitely. I think there is a possibility you could meet somebody and have very **strong feelings** for them **right off the bat**.

Robin says, “there is a possibility you could meet somebody and have **strong feelings** for them.” “Strong feelings” means “romantic feelings” or that you feel attracted to this person. In any case, when you have **strong feelings** about a person it means that you are interested in them romantically.

He also says you could have these feelings for another person “**right off the bat**.” “**Right off the bat**” means “immediately” or “right away.” So, when we say that something happens **right off the bat**, it means that something happened right from the beginning. So, when you see a person you could be attracted to them immediately or **right off the bat**.

So, Harp doesn't **believe in love at first sight**; she thinks that you have to get to know someone before you can love them. Robin thinks that anything is possible. Isn't Robin a romantic? He thinks that you could feel really strongly for someone immediately.

I think that it's true, too. You can have **strong feelings** for someone right away. But it usually ends up being lust not love. "Lust" is a physical attraction which often does not last forever. Sometimes you might even hear people say, "Lust at first **sight**."

So, whatever you think about **love at first sight**, we hope you are feeling the love today on Valentine's Day!

So remember to go to our website, Culips.com, check out our Lipservice and enjoy visiting our blog. This has been Maura and the Close Up podcast, and we'll see you later! Bye!

Close Up #9 – Love at First Sight

Detailed Explanation

The Five Senses

We say “Love at first **sight**.” **Sight** is the ability to see, like we mentioned in this episode. Here is a list of all five of the senses.

Sight	-	the ability to see
Hearing	-	the ability to hear
Touch	-	the ability to physically feel
Taste	-	the ability to taste (the food you eat)
Smell	-	the ability to smell

Senses are the physical ways in which people interact with the world around them.

Cupid

Cupid is the god of love. He is often shown wearing only a **diaper** (for babies), or the otherwise completely **naked** (no clothes). He almost always has **wings** (the two parts that people do not have, but birds have) to fly around. And he also usually has a bow and arrows. A bow is the instrument used to shoot arrows. See the bow and arrows in the picture here.



Cupid is also believed to be mischievous, which means he is always causing trouble. He is flying around making people fall in love with other, playing with our serious emotions.

Cupid is often associated with **love at first sight**, because after you are hit with an arrow you fall in love with the first person you see.

Romeo and Juliet

This is probably one of the most famous couples in the Western world. In case you don't know about them, we will give you a brief description.

Romeo and Juliet is the name of a play written by William Shakespeare. It is about a teenaged boy named **Romeo** who falls in love at first sight with **Juliet**. But it becomes complicated! The problem is that **Romeo's** family and **Juliet's** family hate each other. This

means that **Romeo and Juliet** cannot be together. Or can they? You will have to read more about this story to find out!

This story has inspired other plays and movies. The most recent version of **Romeo and Juliet** is a Hollywood movie of the story from 1996.

To believe in (something)

We know the verb “**believe**,” but “to **believe** something” and “to **believe in** something” are a bit different.

Harp says she doesn’t **believe in** love at first sight. This means that she does not think love at first sight exists.

The best way to understand the difference between these two is to look at an example.

1. I **believe** Jon. He told me the movie was good.
2. I **believe in** Jon. One day he will be an excellent doctor.

1. This means that I trust what Jon has said. I believe what he says. I trust this to be true.
2. This means that I have faith in Jon’s ability to be a doctor.

3. She **believes** everything the media says.
4. She **believes in** ghosts.

3. She trusts everything the media says. She accepts what the media says as true.
4. She thinks that ghosts exist. She is convinced that ghosts are real.

I **believe in** is generally used with people, **believing in** their abilities. It is also used with religious or spiritual beliefs and other phenomenon.

To get to talking

“**Get**” is a very popular word in English. You may have already noticed that we use it often in English with different meanings. In this episode Harp says, “**get to talking**.”

“**Get to talking**” in this case means to start talking.

Here a couple more examples:

After awhile we **got to talking** and realized we weren’t mad at each other anymore.

They **got to talking** and discovered they had a lot in common.

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Sparks and Chemistry

We have used the expressions “**sparks**” and “**chemistry**” in other Culips episodes to talk about romantic connections between people. Check out the episodes Close Up #4 and #5 – Blind Date part 1 and 2.

Both expressions have links to fire. “**Sparks**” often come before a fire. And many elements in **chemistry**, once combined, can start a fire.

Fire can also be a symbol of love. We often talk about “burning love” or flames as a symbol of passion and love.

Right off the bat

In this episode, we explained that this expression means “right from the beginning” or “immediately.”

This is one of many baseball expressions. In this sport, the bat is the equipment that is used to hit the ball. When the ball is **right off the bat**, it is the beginning of the game or the play.

Here are some examples:

Right off the bat, he just tells me that he doesn’t think it will work.

I had prepared for the presentation, but then **right off the bat**, he just started talking.

Here is a list of other baseball-inspired expressions.

- To step up to the plate
- To hit a homer (or homerun)
- To cover your bases
- Ballpark figures
- Three strikes, you’re out
- To be off-base
- To be out in left field
- To be on the ball

If you are curious about these expressions, send your questions to us!

Strong feelings

We can have **strong feelings** against something or just **strong feelings** in general. But if we have **strong feeling for** a person, it means we are interested in that person romantically.

If you are interested in these expressions about love and **strong feelings**, check out our the Catch Word podcast #19 called “Crush.” There you can learn more about this expression and others.

Here is a list of other ways to say that you have **strong feelings** for someone.

- To have a crush on (someone)
- To be interested in (someone)
- To be smitten with (someone)
- To be taken with (someone)
- To be in love with (someone)

Quiz (see the answers at the bottom of this Lipservice)**1. In addition to “sight” what are the other four senses?**

- a) hearing, touch, taste, smell
- b) ears, hands, mouth, nose
- c) hearing, taste, eat, smell
- d) hearing, taste, touch, odour

2. Which phrase below describes Cupid?

- a) he wears a diaper and sings
- b) he is almost naked and eats a lot
- c) he is skinny and naked
- d) he wears a diaper and has wings

3. Which famous couple fell in love at first sight?

- a) Richard and Julie
- b) Richard and Juliet
- c) Rome and Jules
- d) Romeo and Juliet

4. What are some slang terms for having a romantic connection with someone?

- a) chemists
- b) sparks and metal
- c) sparks and chemistry
- d) moons and stars

5. “We liked each other immediately.”

Please choose the expression that means “immediately.”

- a) batty
- b) on time
- c) right off the bat
- d) just in time

6. Which statement is true about Harp and Robin's conversation?

- a) Harp doesn't really believe in love at first sight, but Robin does.
- b) Harp believes in love at first sight, but Robin doesn't.
- c) Harp and Robin both believe in love at first sight.
- d) Harp and Robin both do not believe in love at first sight.

Answers: 1.a 2.d 3.d 4.c 5.c 6.a