



bacio di tutti i baci
(Kiss of all kisses)

By Joshua Golden
Based on an original
screenplay concept
by Jason E. Davies

Contact:
goatgarden@icloud.com



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Four Characters:

FRANK & ROSE:
Husband and wife

TONY:
has an Italian accent

SYLVIA:
Off stage voice.

Scene opens in the home of Frank and Rose.
Frank reading a book, Rose reading a magazine.

ROSE

WOW! It says here that in some places in Italy you can actually buy an old villa for only a Euro! We'll have to check this out, what a coincidence...

FRANK
(*Distracted*)

What? A Euro? that can't be right... wait, what do mean a coincidence?

ROSE

Remember? when we booked the trip I told you, after you find out how Italian you really are... you might be eligible to become an Italian citizen... and we could maybe think about, you know, relocating.

FRANK

Is that really what you want? I mean, honey... we're Americans.

ROSE

I know, I know, but, the way things are going here, it might not be a bad back up plan. I mean, an Italian villa! Wouldn't you just love life in an Italian village!? It looks like they need some work, but doesn't that sound like a great project?

FRANK

You know... I'm not sure I want to do that DNA test you gave me.

ROSE

Oh come on Frank, Why not? it will fun.

FRANK

Fun? How do you figure?

ROSE

You know, you might find some long lost relatives- or at least can find out more about your family tree.

FRANK

Did you ever stop to think why my family tree got so lost in the weeds? you've heard the stories at those family gatherings you enjoy so much. There's always some tall tale of the criminality our family was involved in back in the day.

ROSE

Oh come on, those stories might just be old fairy tales, I mean, what are the odds.

FRANK

Haven't you heard? There are eight million stories in the naked city.

ROSE

But what's that have to do with your DNA test?

FRANK

I don't know- I'm just not sure I want to put my personal code out into the world, if I don't have to... I mean, what if it falls into the wrong hands?

ROSE

Oh Frank, that's precious. Come on, We'll find out where your people are from, then visit all your ancestral haunts it'll be an adventure! From what you do know your people really got around. My father the genealogy nut, already told me who, where and what my great, great, greats were up to. But they mostly stayed put, not a very adventurous lot.

FRANK

Yeah, OK, you're right, Maybe exploring my roots could add a little adventure to our trip. I'll do it.

Lights down

Scene opens, a different room- Italianate
TONY pacing with a cigarette, phone headset on.

TONY

Really? A lead? *Che figo!* Just like you said, great work *bebe*, this high tech- we really need to get in on that stuff. Yeah, yeah... sure, if you're sure, I catch flight tonight... Heh, heh, not we're in a rush, after all this time, *ma io*, Ima lookin' forward to closing books on dis one ... OK doll, *Devo andare*.

Lights out.

Scene opens with ROSE dusting apartment,
FRANK on computer.

ROSE

And Sooo, What does it say?

FRANK picks up computer.

FRANK

(*Sighs*)

Well, let's see... Ah ha, surprise! I'm Italian, full-on Southern Italy, just a smattering of North Africa, a smidge of eastern Europe- Albania, Bulgaria- something like that. Hey, wait a minute there's a notification here...

ROSE

(Pausing)

Really? Whats it say?

FRANK

Oh man, I thought I shut down the "contact me" option.
(Reading)

ROSE

What! Why would you? That's part of the fun. Come on, whats it say?

FRANK

Jeez, there's a message here from some long lost cousin I've never heard of!

ROSE

Really?! That's so cool! What do they say?

FRANK

SHE, says "Hello cousin! Well, I think we are cousins. From my family research you must be related to my great grandfathers brother- he moved to California way back in 1909 and sort of dropped off the family radar. Please contact me..." she left a phone number, and it says here she lives in New York.

ROSE comes around
to peer over FRANKS shoulder

ROSE

Wow! That was fast. Imagine that- a whole family line you didn't even know about. And she has research! That's great! You have to call her.

FRANK

I do?

ROSE

Why not?

FRANK

I dunno, don't you think it's a little... weird?

ROSE

How so?

FRANK

I mean... I dunno... I never heard any details about my great grandfathers family, all I do know is he changed his name when he came to California. That's where all those rumors began. Like, who does that? Those stories never add-up though. I heard besides being a respectable business man, during prohibition he was making brandy for bank presidents and store managers, sort of a gentleman bootlegger- till the feds busted his operation. It's weird though they never caught him.

ROSE

With his high class customers- Heh,heh, maybe he really was
(With accent)
caa-nectt-ed.

FRANK

Very funny... Yeah OK, maybe I'll try... see if I can get any poop on the old country, Well, New York any way.

(Typing)

um... let see- 'Hi, cousin Sylvia, I'll give you a call you tomorrow'

ROSE

Fun!

Lights out,
Scene opens with Airport atmosphere
TONY on phone.

TONY

Sylvie- OK, I'm here, took the, how you say? Night bird?.. What?
Grazie, owl... so, dija get the address?
No? *Va Bene... no problema*, there's time I need to pick up
something first...if ya get my drift... yeah sure, sure. OK, Ciao
Bella.

Lights out
Lights up on FRANK with phone.

FRANK

Uh, hi, I'm calling for Sylvia?

SYLVIA

(Off stage voice)

Yes? speaking. Oh, is this Frank?

FRANK

Yes, yes it is, um..

SYLVIA

Cousin! call me Sylvie, so nice to meet you!

FRANK

Yeah, er, me too? This is all so new, I really don't know
anything about my grandmothers family history, or her father,
let alone that he had a brother...

SYLVIA

Five brothers, and two sisters!

FRANK

Wow, really?

SYLVIA

You were named after their father.

FRANK

Really? Well I knew that my grandmothers father was Francisco.

SYLVIA

Yes, the oldest, Frankie junior.

FRANK

So Francisco senior had eight kids?

SYLVIA

Well yes, that survived, yes. What about you Frank?, do you have any children?

FRANK

What? Me? NO, no, I never felt like bringing more kids into the world was the right thing to do.

SYLVIA

Really? Ah... that's such a shame, the Fratellastri's always had very large families.

FRANK

Fratellastri? That was his real name?

SYLVIA

Of course... Real name? Wait a minute, are you saying Frankie Junior changed his name? No wonder...

FRANK

No wonder?

SYLVIA

Er, ah, no wonder it was so hard to find anything out about what happened to him... Hey, listen Frank, I'm really sorry, but I have to run right now, What's a good time to call you back later?

FRANK

Oh, um, OK, I'll be here, any time really.

SYLVIA

OK, Great, ciao.

FRANK

Heh, heh, yeah, um, ciao.

FRANK puzzled picks up computer
Begins typing

Lets see, Fra-tell-astri, Franco...

FRANK works key board

Here we are... what's this? Black hand society... blah, blah, blah
Sicilian clan... and... SHIT! MAFIA.

FRANK reads frantically

Barbershop massacre!... Brothers killed, shit, Vendetta! Shit,
SHIT! Mob war...? Oh MY God, All those stories, they were true!

Lights dim, as FRANK continues to scroll
Lights out - beat.

ROSE enters and turns on lights.
Sees FRANK.

ROSE

Honey? You're sitting here in the dark? What's up?

(No response)

Frank?

FRANK

OH, yeah, hi, just thinking...

ROSE

About what?

FRANK

Well, I talked to cousin *Sylvie* briefly, she had to run, but not before I found out about my real family name.

ROSE

And?...

(pause)

Frank! what is it?

FRANK

Fratellastri.

ROSE

Really, like that Mob clan?

FRANK

Wait? You know about the Fratellastri crime family?

ROSE

Of course, don't you? I mean there've been movies made, it was all over the news when, what's-his-name, the Godfather went down hard.

FRANK

When was this?

ROSE

Oh, I don't know, sometime in the 80's I think. So, are you related to them, or what?

FRANK

I'm not certain, but look, if I am... I did some searching, there's this huge vendetta thing from back before my Great Grandfather Frank Fratellastri Junior left New York- murdered brothers back and forth, turf wars, a big messy mob hits that went on for decades... I mean, it's no wonder that he left.

(FRANK thinks a moment)

But wait a minute those old school vendettas don't just fade away! this is Hatfield and McCoy territory, with generations invested in seeking revenge!

ROSE

Oh Frank, don't be silly, that's all old news.

FRANK

But what if it isn't?! I mean, how do I know I'm related to this Sylvie, if that's really her name! What if she's from the other side? maybe they use the DNA thing to find family members so... they can contract a vengeance hit! Oh God! Oh my God! She wanted to know if we had kids, why did she want to know that!?

FRANK jumps up begins pacing

Think about it! Really, they could be playing a long game here. Planning a surgical strike using DNA technology, JE-Suss how could I be so stupid?! SHIT, SHIT! This is serious, Rose, honey we need a plan!

ROSE

Now wait a minute Frank, honey, STOP! Get a hold of yourself,

FRANK

But don't you see? if this vendetta...

ROSE

Frank! Listen to yourself, you're talking crazy. Now come on, please honey, calm down, breathe.

FRANK stops, breathes

FRANK

Oh God, You're right... This is crazy, maybe I'm just a bit paranoid? Stressed? I really do need that vacation, but right now I could use a drink!

ROSE

Now theres an idea, why don't you go and get nice bottle of wine?

FRANK

Yeah, yeah, maybe I will.

Frank gets up to leave

What would you prefer?

ROSE

How about some Chianti?

Frank throws her a scowl

(Laughing)

Frank, honey, lighten up. It's getting late and we need to eat, Why not stop and get some of that pesto ravioli you love.

FRANK

Yeah, OK... OK, that sounds good. Yeah... maybe I was getting a little excited, Damn Google and their damned rabbit holes!

ROSE

That's the spirit- See you in a bit then.

FRANK

Yeah,

(With a chuckle)

ciao.

ROSE is puzzled by his chuckle

FRANK exits

Lights down

An off stage phone call begins
between TONY and SYLVIA

SYLVIA

Hey, it's me. Look Tony... this guy, he's a civilian, Turns out Franco changed his name, the guy didn't even know he was connected. No kids! A bystander, I'm thinking you should call it off.

TONY

What you talking? He's next in line, you know the way it works.

SYLVIA

I know, I know, I'm just saying, maybe this time...

TONY

Basta! Just get me that address!

TONY hangs up.
Lights back up,
Phone rings.

ROSE

Hello?

SYLVIA

Hello, Ah, I'm calling for Frank?

ROSE

He's stepped out for a moment, may I ask who's calling?

SYLVIA

I'm Sylvia, a cous...

ROSE

Oh, Yes! Hi! Cousin Sylvia! I'm Rose, Franks wife.

SYLVIA

Ah, such a lovely name, Happy to meet you Rose. Please call me Sylvie. I am so looking forward to meeting Frank, catching up with family can be so much... fun.

ROSE

Yes, yes... Sylvie. I agree. We want to know every little thing about the family, we have a trip to Italy planned, and would love to visit the old family places.

SYLVIA

Oh? I'm sure you will enjoy that, em, listen, Rose, I'm going to be in San Fransisco this weekend and Frank invited me to come on over to visit, but he didn't get a chance to give me your address...

ROSE

Oh, oh that'll be great! should we do Sunday brunch?

SYLVIA

Oh, That's sweet of you, but I wouldn't want to impose...

ROSE

No, not at all... say 11 O'clock? We're at the corner of 19th and Delores, across the street from the park, there's a big brick castle of a school on the other side of 19th- you can't miss it, second floor.

SYLVIA

Great, great, ah, OK then, I'll be seeing you.

ROSE

OK, then, cousin, looking forward to it!

SYLVIA

Yes, ciao.

ROSE smiles at the word,

ROSE

Um, ciao?

ROSE Hangs up phone.

Lights out

Lights back up

TONY on street, smoking,
FRANK passes him with grocery bag happily whistling

'That's Amore'

Tony tosses cigarette
looks around furtively, pulls a gun from jacket
and follows FRANK off stage

Lights out

End