

# CASE STUDY

*AMBER NELSON*

1

kissing descends  
from breathing

the way one smells  
near the neck  
that little divot on the collarbone

it's limbic and memory  
an olfactory note vibrating  
at just the right frequency

such a fight for survival  
and for flavor

see how this skin  
is different than that skin  
some are saltier than others

a demonstrated connection between smells and  
how the body prefers

the links for the human body  
just some lips  
pressed together

2

think about what to do  
the technical details

one muscle changes the shape of the mouth  
an illustration of the muscle: O

just the tip of the tongue  
just tip the head to the right

and hands of course  
where to put them

when involved, for example:

the mouth opens, the jawbone down  
see: close the mouth, now open  
lips take to sliding, sipping  
and how the tongue slips

sometimes nose to nose  
sometimes nose to elbows, nose  
to rises and dips

3  
scientists start in the womb, not on pillows  
how they learn, they lean  
hypotheses into experiments  
all that data

to kiss bestows evidence  
and takes more than lips

sensations not confined to mouths  
pulses between brain and skin and tongue

dopamine urging, how adrenaline  
rushes through toes, through fingertips

drawn in a kiss, the body:

attaches, devotes to  
pleasure and  
feels how heart rate  
plays the body

how euphoria dilates the vessels: O o o  
opened up to oxygen  
like fire  
like something's burning

and the breathing