THE CONVERSATION SOCIETY presents Dialogue #12: Steven Hirsch and Britt Morgan

(This conversation between Vivid Entertainment chairman Steven Hirsch and adult film star Britt Morgan took place in Los Angeles circa 1990.)

Britt: I want Peter North to wear a condom.

Steven: Did he have one on for the scenes you shot with him in Cheeks 2?

Britt: No, he was bareback the whole time.

Steven: So why change it up?

Britt: Matt Ramsey.

Steven: Matt Ramsey?

Britt: It's his gay porn name.

Steven: He's still doing that?

Britt: As recently as last month.

Steven: But we spent over a thousand dollars on his conversion therapy. He said he was cured.

Britt: I guess it didn't take.

Steven: Are you sure it was Peter? There's a lot of guys who look just like him, with the hair and the pecs.

Britt: It was him.

Steven: Dominant or passive?

Britt: Both.

Steven: Son of a bitch. Has he been to the Blood Truck? That's why we have it, you know, for emergencies like these.

Britt: It takes two weeks for the results to come back. The shoot starts tomorrow.

Steven: I'm afraid it's the best we can do under the circumstances.

Britt: No it's not.

Steven: We can't do that, honey.

Britt: Why not?

Steven: Because nobody wants to see a sheath in a hardcore sex scene.

Britt: But everybody wants to see me spread eagle in a coffin. Is that what you're saying?

Steven: No, but I bet there's a few people who'd like to own it on VHS.

Britt: Don't be such a scumbag, Steve.

Steven: Look, I get it, okay. This thing has changed the way that people think about sex. Some psychiatrist on T.V. the other day said that 13-year-old boys are wearing rubbers in their wet dreams. People who've been married for 25 years and never once used a condom—they're buying them in bulk. *Every* body's scared.

Britt: Then why is it so hard for you to understand my fear?

Steve: Because we can't *afford* to be scared. We can't let them *know*. I just signed a deal with Tower Records to put Vivid videos on the shelves by Christmas of this year. That's a major national retail outlet. If we start allowing condoms in our films—even *one*—we risk losing the mainstream consumer. He'll jump ship. He'll go to Caballero, or VCA Platinum, or Rosebud. We can't have that.

Britt: Maybe that's what *I'll* do: defect. Then Peter can just masturbate for the camera. I'm sure the mainstream consumer would love that.

Steven: You're under contract, Britt. You can't leave.

Britt: It's just a couple of millimeters of latex.

Steven: But you don't understand the world of difference that makes.

Britt: I do.

Steven: It reminds people that sex has real-world consequences.

Britt: I know.

Steven: If I was the World Health Organization, I'd say fine, bring in the Trojan Horse. But that's not my bag, sweetie. I'm not selling prevention.

Britt: What if he's patient zero? What if he's the French flight attendant?

Steven: Or better yet, what if he isn't, but everybody *thinks* that he is. Do you know how many tapes that would sell? People would pay top dollar to watch what they think is a man infecting a woman. It's half the reason why anybody watches porn these days. They're hoping for a glimpse of death.

Britt: I don't want to die, Steve. And I don't anybody *thinking* that I might. I just want to have safe sex with Matt Ramsey.

Steven: Whatever we end up deciding, I want my money back from that conversion therapist.