

A Perfect Fit (by Stefanie Giebert)

characters

Samantha (Sam), a young woman, slightly naïve, always short of money but fashion-loving.

Laura, her friend

Lisa and Monica, other friends

Gene, a molecular biologist with a passion for fashion. Trying to be charming.

Jean, a molecular biologist with a passion for genetics. More business-like. Less charming.

Scene 1

It's the year 2020. Samantha runs into her friend Laura in the street.

Laura: Sammy! Hi!

Sam: Hi!

Laura: You've been shopping?

Sam: Oh, yeah, you know I was looking for a pair of jeans. But the crazy thing is I never seem to find any that really fit.

Laura: Oh, yeah... Tell me about it... It's so hard to find jeans that really fit. When they fit in the waist they don't fit in the legs -

Sam: Yes, I thought I had a really good pair that fit around great around the thighs but then I looked in the mirror and realised they looked really weird around the knees.

Laura: Oh. You poor thing. I know how frustrating that is. Last week I was looking for a pair of jeans – and came home with 3 t-shirts instead.

Sam: Oh. Guess what I bought?

Laura: T-shirts?

Sam opens her shopping bags. Guilty as accused... But I mean, why can they make t-shirts that fit but no jeans?

Person with flyers approaches them.

Sam: No thanks. (*her friend wasn't so quick. They look at the flyer.*) And what is it this time? New cellphone shop?

Laura: No... (*reads the flyer*) Hey – this might be the solution to your problem!

Sam: Hm?

Laura: (*reads*) Gene's jeans. The perfect fit. Gene's Jeans offers you the perfect fit. Looking for a pair of jeans that fit like a glove? Look no further! Not custom-tailored but custom-engineered to fit not just your body but the whole you.

Sam: Sounds expensive.

Laura: Our introductory offer: 1 pair of jeans for \$20.

Sam: Wow. That sounds like an offer I cannot refuse.

Scene 2

Samantha enters the "Gene's Jeans" store. The store looks more like a biology lab than a fashion store. She looks around. Slightly intimidated.

Gene *materialises from somewhere*: Good afternoon! Can I help you?

Samantha *is startled*: Oh. Hi. Um... I came because of the jeans. But I don't know-

Jean (*materialises on Sam's other side*): Oh, well, we're all here because of the genes. Aren't we Gene?

Gene: Of course we are, Jean.

Sam: Oh, that's good. Because I didn't think it looked like a fashion store.

Jean: Fashion store? Did you say fashion store? This isn't a fashion store.

Sam: I... yes. Um, look, maybe I'm in the wrong shop. Nice talking to you- (*wants to leave*)

Gene: Oh, no no. Don't you go! Why the long face? You have come to exactly the right place!

Sam: But she said it wasn't -

Gene: No, you don't understand. We have passion for fashion. But we also go in for the aesthetics of genetics. A perfect synthesis of bioscience and the textile industry.

Sam: Ah. Ok. But I just wanted-

Gene: We know what you want. You want the perfect fit.

Jean: And that's what we want as well. Please sit down. (*manoeuvres her to a chair, arranges equipment to take a buccal swab*). Open your mouth, please.

Sam: I'm sorry but there must be some misunderstanding. I came because I wanted to buy a pair of pants. I saw this ad, or rather I got this flyer and so-

Jean: -you'll have to sign here.

Sam: Sorry?

Gene: Maybe we should do a little sales talk first. (*to Jean*) Our product is not as self-explanatory as you always think, Jean. (*to Sam*) Ok. You know, every individual is different and so everyone needs

a different fit.

Jean: And, in order to find the perfectly fitting jeans for you we will need a sample of your DNA, so we can find the perfect fit.

Gene: So, Jean here will just take a tiny little sample of your DNA- it's not painful at all – and then we can begin the selection process.

Sam: Ok.

Jean: But you'll need to authorise the order. It's no big deal, though. Just sign here. (*puts several pages before her*)

Sam: Whoa, that's a lot of paper for buying a pair of jeans.

Jean: Oh, it's just the standard procedure. I mean, nobody ever reads the small print anyway. Or do you?

Sam: Ummm... Yeah. I mean, no. Whatever. (*signs*) Here you are. And it said in the ad that they only cost \$20. Is that right?

Gene: Oh, absolutely. Now say: aaaaa!

Sam: Aaaaaa. (*Jean takes a swab*) Aaaaaaa.

Jean: You can close your mouth again. (*puts the sample into a small machine. Light change.*)

Sam: Ah, okay and now I get to choose my jeans? (*gets up*)

Gene: No, no, no. That's not so. Not you chose the jeans. The jeans will choose you.

Jean: Well, not exactly – your genes determine your jeans.

Sam: What?

Jean: Well, you have a certain genetic fingerprint. Right? That determines what kind of pants will fit you. Genes – jeans. As easy as that.

Sam: Ok. But I hate boot-cut jeans. Can I return them if they are boot-cut?

Gene: You won't return them. They will be the perfect fit. (*Light change*) Ah, here we go. *An assistant walks in with a pair of jeans.* That will be \$20 then.

Scene 3:

Samantha meeting friends at a party

Lisa: Hi Sam! Laura! Hey, wow, great jeans!

Monica: Sam, hi! Hi Laura! Hey, those jeans look really great on you! Where did you get them?

Sam (*happily*): There's this new shop, that's where I got them. The shop assistants there are really weird but the pants are worth it. And they only cost \$20!

Laura: Sam, you forgot to tell them the best thing!

Sam: Ok. You know Chris, don't you?

Lisa: The guy we all have a crush on?

Sam: I'm dating him.

Monica: No. Really? *That* Chris? The handsome one? Wow.

Sam: Yeah, I was wearing these jeans to Laura's last party and she had invited Chris and, yeah, actually he came up and said the same thing you just said...

Lisa: Great jeans?

Sam: Yeah, and from then on it was really easy.

Laura: But you still haven't told them the best thing!

Sam (*happily*): Yesterday, Chris asked me to marry him!

Monica: Wow! Where did you get those jeans again? I really need a pair.

Scene 4:

Sam is at home. Reading a magazine or similar. The doorbell rings. Sam is startled and rises to answer the door.

Two persons (Gene and Jean in long coats/uniforms) come in. Sam does not recognise them.

Gene: Good morning. You are Samantha Macallister?

Sam: Yes. What's the matter? I haven't done anything

Jean: It's time.

Sam: Time? (*Pause*)

Gene: She doesn't know.

Jean: Time to accompany us to the clinic.

Sam: Clinic?

Jean You don't have to repeat everything I say.

Gene: It is time for the insemination.

Sam: The what?

Jean: The insemination.

Sam: I don't understand.

Gene: Last month you purchased a pair of jeans from Gene's Jeans, a 100% daughter of PerfectFit Inc.. I think you are wearing them right now.

Sam: I – Oh. (*looks at her jeans*) Yeah, but-

Jean: You signed a contract that states that in exchange for one perfect fit jeans you agree to have your DNA sampled, processed, and stored in a database to be used for further further sales activities of PerfectFit Inc.

Gene(*enthusiastically*): PerfectFit provides clients all over the world with the finest services in artificial fertilisation, designer babies, sperm and egg-cell donors and surrogate motherhip. And jeans fashion, of course. And now *you* are the perfect fit!

Sam: I don't get it.

Jean: Your genetic fingerprint indicates that you are the perfect fit for our clients' expectations.

Gene: A very nice couple from Australia. But I'm not allowed to tell you more. Sorry.

Jean: You will be inseminated with the husband's sperm and then you will carry the child to full term.

Sam: What? You want to make me pregnant?

Jean: After 9 months the child will be harvested and you will be returned to your home.

Sam: No! No, no! Surely not. There must be some misunderstanding.

Gene: You signed the contract. Please come. (*takes her by the arm*)

Sam: No! Let me go! (*Jean takes the other arm, they start to drag her from her place*) No! This is a mistake! You can't do this to me! (*They stop.*)

Jean: Maybe she is worried because she's worn her perfect fit jeans only for such a short time. They won't fit her very much longer when she's in breeding stage.

Gene: Oh, don't worry about that. PerfectFit maternity jeans are of course included in the package. (*They drag her out. Lights down.*)