

## **Bait**

Do it like this. Eye contact for one stretched second – first in partied groups, then when you see her at the supermarket. You will know which supermarket.

At a party, talking, squeeze by in a space that's not so narrow, and be sure to touch her hips. Both hips. Send one surprising gift, a book or ripped CD to show that you were listening. Make it good:

you'll get it back. In conversation, shift in slightly awkward ways to show your arms at best advantage. Talk to someone else and laugh too loud; turn back and raise your eyebrows

to include her in a joke at their expense, a small conspiracy. Take time, take your time; for only then can you lean in and say *I want you bruised.*

**Jo Bell**