



Kiss by Kiss ocêhtowina

*In Plains
Cree and
English*

**Richard
Van Camp**

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one: péyak [pay YUK]

two: nîso [knee SOH]

three: nisto [niss TOH]

four: nêwo [nay WOH]

five: niyânan [NEE yah nun]

six: nikotwâsik [ni KOOT waa sick]

seven: têpakohp [TAY puh gope]

eight: ayinânêw [eye YIH naa nayo]

nine: kêkâ-mitâtaht [keh kah MIT taa tuht]

ten: mitâtaht [MIT tah tuht]

kiss: ocêhtowin [oo TSAY toh win]

*Translation into Plains Cree (y-dialect) by Mary Cardinal Collins;
edited in Standard Roman Orthography by the Cree Literacy Network*

For Radlee, Vyka, Shaeden and Edzazii: Mahsi cho for
the light you bring to all of our hearts. I love you.

kiyawâw ôma ohci kâ-masinahamân ôma...VYKA, SHAEDEN, êkwa EDZAZII;
ay-hay kâ-pê-wâsêskawiyâhk nitêhinâhk. kisâkikitinân.

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Kiss by Kiss

ocêhtowina

A COUNTING BOOK FOR FAMILIES

akihtâsowi-masinahikan pêyakôskân ohci

Richard Van Camp

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1

One kiss,
pêyak ocêhtowin,

2

two kiss,
nîso ocêhtowin,



3

three kiss,
nisto ocêhtowin,

4

four!
nêwo!



5

Five kiss,
niyânan ocêhtowin,

6

six kiss,
nikotwâsik ocêhtowin,



7

seven kiss,
têpakohp ocêhtowin,

more!
ayiwâk!



8

Eight kiss,
ayinânêw ocêhtowin,

9

nine kiss,
kêkâ-mitâtaht ocêhtowin,

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10

ten kiss,
mitâtaht ocêhtowin,

SMOOCH!

ÂMÎ!



Your kisses are so **sweet**.

kâ-ocêmiyan, kîsîwîsin.

Your kisses are so **fun**!

kâ-ocêmiyan, kimôcikîsin!



Your kisses are as welcome
as the **light** from the **sun**!

kâ-ocêmiyan
mwêhci **owâsêyâw** pîsim!



Your kisses are
so perfect—
this we know is true.

kâ-ocêmiyan, tâpwê anima
mâwaci nimiywêyihtênân.



We thought we were
the greatest kissers,
but it turns out
that it's **you**.

âta êtikwê ê-nihtâ-ocêmiwêyâhk,
kiya mâka êcik âni māmawaci.



We love you, little one.
But we're **not quite** done.

kisâkîhitinân kâ-apisîsisiyan.
mwâc mâka nikîsihtânân.

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Please can we start again
at kiss number **one**?

mahtêsa kîhtwâm ka-mâcihtânaw
pêyak ocêhtowin ohci?