

The Relationship Book:

Volume 9

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1. Most women enjoy sex, too. (Duh!)**
- 2. Everyone is different.**
- 3. Communication is important.**
- 4. Consent is essential.**

Educate Yourself

Read Like A Wolf Eats

Feel Free to Give This Book to Anyone Free of Charge

Be Excellent to Each Other

Books Then, Books Now, Books Forever

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CHAPTER 1: Questions 1-20

1. “What Is Something That You Would Highly Recommend?”

1) degeneratescholar wrote:

“Living alone.

“Once you know you can live without roommates or a partner, you won’t put up with nonsense out of fear of being alone.”

tintinnabulation commented:

“This! Living alone can honestly be so freeing, especially if you’re the type (like me) who can’t fully relax / decompress when you’re around others all the time!

“I also think when we live with others, we tend to fall into certain ‘roles’ that are constructed by the dynamic of who we live with. Living by yourself gives you a chance to see how you operate without those outside influences, sorta like a control group in an experiment.”

Misseskat commented, “I’m a natural loner, and I’d kill to be able to afford to live alone. Living in the US makes this almost impossible. I’ve always wanted a place to myself. I don’t even like sharing a bed.”

2) coxykitten923 wrote, “Forgoing men; buy a Magic Wand and a body pillow.”

MooMooMai commented:

“I really don’t want this to be true but with more time that goes by ...

“Don’t see how I’ll ever meet one who fits what we both need in relationship. Especially with all of the coping mechanisms that I’ve developed from my experiences.

“I feel by the time (IF) I ever get to a place that resembles recovered, all the good ones won’t be available. Combined with my reclusiveness, I’m coming to the realization that it’s very *highly* probable that I’ll be alone forever.”

LinguisticClamSauce commented, “So you’re saying you’ll end up living longer, healthier, and happier while being able to sleep diagonally and peacefully every night, in a home that is perfectly suited to your needs, where everything is exactly as you like it? Wow, that sounds terrible. No wonder women are so desperate to be in relationships. */sarcasm.*”

3) Dillra wrote, “Get yourself a vibrator, seriously. Even if you’re in a relationship and / or sexually active. It’s a game-changer, whether you use it on your own or with a partner. I went from hardly ever climaxing with a partner to having an orgasm almost every time I have sex. You don’t have to splurge on a fancy-looking contraption either — a small bullet vibrator works just fine for me. Got mine when I was 29. I wish I’d done it a decade earlier.”¹

2. “What’s A Physical Trait In The Opposite Sex That Is A ‘Turn Off’ For You?”

xmoxi69 wrote, “Long nails like claws and over-the-top plastic surgery.”

MasterTacticianAlba commented:

“When I was like five years old, my mother took me to the public pool.

¹ Source: qweenrosa, “What is something that you would highly recommend?” Reddit. AskWomen. 17 January 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/s64wge/what_is_something_that_you_would_highly_recommend/ >.

“I couldn’t swim at the time, but my mum put me in the deep pool anyway and wasted no fucking time distracting the lifeguard by showing off her nails. Literally stood between me and the lifeguard while facing away.

“The pool gets progressively deeper and before long I drifted off and couldn’t touch the ground anymore and started to drown.

“It’s burnt into my brain how desperately I fought trying to get the attention of my mum and the lifeguard. I would sink down until I could touch the ground and use all my strength to push up to gasp another breathe before sinking back down. I couldn’t scream so I was splashing frantically trying to draw attention to myself. Didn’t work. I [almost] drowned [and died].

“I can remember absolutely seething with rage about what a pathetic failing of a parent my mother was that this was happening and how she was about to let me die because of her fucking nails while distracting the one fucking person who was supposed to help me.

“Literally fighting for my life and she never even turned around.

“I blacked out and someone rescued me, and I was resuscitated next to the pool and then taken to hospital.

“Throughout primary school and secondary my mother would still get her nails done fortnightly and she never understood why I fucking hated her for it.

“There were even times when she was late to pick me up by an hour because she was getting her nails done. It happened multiple times and of course she never told me she was at an appointment so I would end up walking home only for her to get back later and apologise for it. Anything else and I might

have forgiven her for forgetting me, but because of her nails?
Not a chance.

“I’m 26 now and don’t talk to my mother at all. Moved out at 18 to a city six hours away. I absolutely hate people showing me their nails, especially if it’s the longer pointy style like how my mum would get hers done.”²

3. “If All Your Exes Sat At A Table Together And Vented About You, What Would They All Agree On?”

1) i-eat-people-for-fun wrote, “That they aren’t real.”

2) WynterRayne wrote:

“That I’m always ready with a comeback / quip, and that it’s incredibly annoying (yet also strangely attractive).

“Pro: It’s like dating a combination of Willow and Buffy.

“Con: It’s like dating a combination of Willow and Buffy.

“I watched that show [*Buffy the Vampire Slayer*] far too much as a teenager. Today, that means I’m old.”

3) StraitJakit wrote, “‘He’s bad at communicating and has a tendency to bottle shit up until he snaps at the wrong person for no reason,’ and then the current S/O would say I’ve changed from that. Which I have. I still have a lot more improvement to do, but I’m trying. One day I want all my exes to hear about or see me and think, ‘Damn. He’s a lot better of a person than he was with me. Good for him.’”

² Source: Throwaway06178, “What’s a physical trait in the opposite sex which is a ‘turn off’ for you?” Reddit. AskReddit. 20 January 2022 <
https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/s90wz8/whats_a_physical_trait_in_the_opposite_sex_which/>.

4) GuessHuw wrote, “That it is weird that they’re all at the same table!”³

4. “What Memory Is Burned Into Your Head?”

1) PumaTwins wrote:

“It was 2004 and I was 20 years old and I was hanging out in Manhattan with this girl named Lauren who I was deeply, deeply into at the time. I remember we were somewhere near Chinatown, and we stopped on the sidewalk to regroup and figure out what we were going to do next because we were all bored.

“There was this stupid indigo-colored neon light that was turning on and off in five-second intervals and I remember looking at her, and I can’t remember what we were saying to each other, but out of nowhere the store closed and every light went off except that sign.

“For five perfect seconds (which felt like an eternity), she was staring into my eyes and she was just bathed in this beautiful blue light, and for the first time in my life I KNEW ... I didn’t think, like I did when I was some stupid kid ... I KNEW I was in love with her. It was the most intense feeling that I had ever felt, because I had never felt what being in love was before. I thought I had a bunch of times, but this was legitimate.

“I slung my arm around her waist and I pulled her close and I just pecked her on the lips and I told her, ‘I think I’m

³ Source; Apeeeuu_, “If all your exes sat at a table together and vented about you, what would they all agree on?” Reddit. AskReddit. 22 January 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/s9yf2b/if_all_your_exes_sat_at_a_table_together_and/ >.

experiencing the perfect moment with you,’ and she said, ‘That makes two of us.’

“We had a relationship for about two years after that. I will never forget that moment. The way that light hit her was like an epiphany, and even now almost 18 years later I still remember the way that New York City sidewalk smelled and sounded. I remember the way the air felt. I remember how perfect she looked.

“It’s one of the best moments I’ve ever experienced in my life, and I will always remember it.”

2) ssstfumate wrote, “When I was 10 on a vacation to the Carolinas. I was bored walking by the beach wondering how I would be when I grew up and who I would be with. I decided If I remembered this moment really well it would almost be like talking to myself from the future so I sat and focused on the moment deeply. I still remember it very vividly and when I remember that moment, I think over my life, and it lets me see where I am and who I have become through different eyes.”⁴

5. “Married People Of Reddit, What Do You Miss About Being Single?”

1) BRN3R_ACCNT wrote, “Not having to consider anyone else when making a decision.”

Fran_Kebelik wrote, “We sometimes use the ‘let’s just be roommates’ pass in our marriage. If you are really getting on each other’s nerves, you can just call for a roommate night and then just ignore each other and do your own thing. This

⁴ Source: BennyTheG, “What memory is burned into your head?”
Reddit. AskReddit. 22 January 2022 <
https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/s9yb8n/what_memory_is_burned_into_your_head/>.

includes sleeping in different rooms. Sometimes you just need a break.”

Furydragonstormer commented, “Sounds quite like a workable solution if needed, though not guaranteed to work for everyone. Many do need to know that no two relationships are ever truly the same, so things like this won’t always work in other relationships.”

Fran_Kebelik responded:

“Yes, completely. You would both need to agree that this is good solution to needing time apart. Also I don’t know how it would work if you had kids.

“Still if it does work, you get to watch whatever you want and eat all the snacks in bed that your heart desires.”

YouJustSaidButFuck commented:

“My wife and I established this literally week 1 of dating.

“Ground rules: if you don’t want to deal with me, want time to yourself, or for whatever reason, just tell me to go the fuck away, no questions (except maybe a ‘is everything ok?’”

“Eight years in, we still do it.

“‘I want me-time.’

“‘I need a weekend without you, please.’

“‘Go to x’s tonight. I want the house to myself.’

“Etc.”

Flumpelstilyskin commented, “I don’t think telling them to go to their ex’s is such a good idea.”

2) LInisobn wrote, “Things being where I left them.”

Rohhez commented, “I left it right here in the middle of the floor!”

3) bloopie1192 wrote, “Not being beaten in my sleep by my wife. I BOUGHT A KING-SIZE BED SO YOU COULD FIGHT YOUR DREAM NINJAS ON YOUR SIDE OF THE BED! STAY AWAY FROM ME! PLEASE!”

projektako commented:

“It’s the snoring that keeps me awake or wakes me up.

“I have confirmed through my in-laws that she never snored before she met me.

“My Mother-in-Law noticed the loud snoring and then when I exited the room, she remarked, ‘I thought it was you! That’s my daughter! It’s SO LOUD!’”

accidental_snot commented, “My 130-pound wife snores with the aggression of a rail dragster. We sleep in different rooms.”

4) TheDarkKnight1035 wrote, “Just being alone and being able to do whatever I want.”

T2grn4me commented:

“Indeed. This!

“But after a day I realize I’d rather be married to my wife. Being honest.”

phrosty20 commented:

“The novelty wears out very quickly. Shortly before my wife had our second baby, I came down with the flu, so they all packed up and headed to my in-laws. I thought it’d be a blast getting to be alone for a couple of days, but it got boring after a few hours.

“I can’t fathom being alone, all day, every day, and this is coming from a person who needs a lot of alone time to survive.”

PBnBacon wrote, “Yeah, I always think it’s going to be fun having time alone and I’m going to do all this cool stuff. What actually happens is that the dog and I share a rotisserie chicken straight out of the package and fall asleep in a pile on the couch watching Netflix.”

ThatsMcGuffin2U commented, “I bet the dog loves it.”

Tin-Star commented, “The chicken likely feels indifferent at best.”

5) mikeypipes01 wrote, “Quietness. Except for TV, music, or video games, it was so quiet in my house. Now, with a wife and three little girls, it’s a mad house. Sometimes when it’s just me and the dog, I look over and apologize to him.”

6) Historical-Ad4794 wrote, “Hmm, the things I miss? Ahh, cleaning the way I want. I have a thing about liking to clean when no one else is around, just because how I do it takes time and has a weird system to it.”⁵

6. “What Is The Strangest Thing You Have Found In Your Bra After Taking It Off?”

1) witandlearning wrote, “Frank from My Chemical Romance’s guitar pick. I knew it got thrown somewhere in my vicinity because everyone around me was looking for it, but I didn’t realise my titties caught it until I got back to my

⁵ Source: Morticiar, “Married people of Reddit, what do you miss about being single?” Reddit. AskReddit. 22 January 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/sagljh/married_people_of_reddit_what_do_you_miss_about/>.

friend's house, went to go change, and it fell onto the bathroom floor.”

2) ThePlaguedSummoner wrote, “A grape. Dropped one down my shirt when I was eating some earlier that day and forgot about it. Started freaking out thinking I had a lump and that I had breast cancer only to realize that it was the grape from my snack.”

3) Significant_Form7428 wrote, “Many years ago, I was the nurse accompanying the (urology) ward round. A medical student picked up a generic sample pot from a patient's table. This pot contained the calcified stones from said patient's bladder. He shook it. The lid wasn't on. Slow-mo horror moment as they fly through the air and end up in my hair, down my tunic, in my bra.”⁶

7. “Women Who Have Extremely Attractive Female Friends, Do You Ever Grow Resentful For The Attention They Get In Public And Why?”

1) mawkish wrote, “Definitely not ... honestly most of the ‘attention’ they get I wouldn't wish on my worst enemy.”

BrynLovesBlueberries commented, “Same. I'm already uncomfortable with the ‘attention’ I get, but what my bestie and another friend (former model, a true classic beauty and an absolute sweetheart to boot) get would make me not wanna leave the house on most days.”

justassianenough commented, “Exactly this. My super pretty friends get more creepy comments, random people trying to invade her personal space, and men harass her and then treat

⁶ Source: FaultyFalmingo, “What is the strangest thing you have found in your bra after taking it off?” Reddit. AskWomen. 22 January 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/sade7s/what_is_the_strangest_thing_you_have_found_in/ >.

her like garbage when she doesn't give them the time of day than I have ever gotten. I've never been jealous of her because she's literally scared to go do things alone that I happily enjoy doing solo. Going to the movies and getting dinner alone is so relaxing for me and she does those things alone and men think it's an invite to join her."

2) punkinholler wrote, "I had a friend who is so attractive that, when she lived in LA, she used to do modelling work for the extra money. (She had a day job working in a lab.) She got invited to a party at the Playboy mansion just because. I'm reasonably attractive, but I usually felt like the Frodo (or I guess Rosie Gamgee since I'm not a guy) to her Arwen when we'd go somewhere together. However, I realized very quickly that it was a damn good thing that I am not as attractive as her because I would have punched a motherfucker at least once a day. We were working at a coffee shop once and this 65- to 70-year-old dude literally ran into a table because he was so busy trying to get her attention by being a gross lech (served him right). Every time we went out to a bar, an endless parade of dudes would want her attention, some of whom were more polite than others. She also used to have trouble with other women sometimes if they made negative assumptions about her intelligence or moral character before they got to know her. It certainly wasn't all women, but it took a couple of years before people realized she was very smart and she wore pretty clothes for herself, not because she was trying to be sexy for anyone or get anything."

3) celestialism wrote, "Not since I was about 22, no. A lot of women who get plenty of attention in public don't *want* that level of attention. It's often more of a curse than a blessing."

Odie1123 commented, "I seem to be the 'pretty friend.' And it's not a position I hold dearly. It makes some of my friends, who are beautiful, inside and out, feel insecure because I'm

really thin. I hate making anyone feel insecure and sometimes it feels like I do that just by existing. You also have to make sure you're super friendly to any males' girlfriends, so they think you're not a threat. It also makes you a target for unwanted male attention when you're out alone or vulnerable. Being lucky with looks does come at a cost, I think."

4) GameofPorcelainThron commented, "My girlfriend is very traditionally attractive and talking to her about her experience is eye-opening and fascinating. Even just lurking on her Instagram, the sheer number of comments and DMs she gets is astounding. She's learned to ignore most of it, but it has certainly made her a lot more cautious in her day-to-day interactions, even though she's a total sweetheart."

LeaJadis wrote:

"Nope. I get to sit back and enjoy all the free stuff they give her without having to deal with all that attention.

"But I hate it when the ugly friend starts hitting on you so that his more handsome friend can get with your friend. That I hate."

5) pitchesandthrows wrote, "Guess I'll be the one to say it. I'm extremely jealous of my attractive friends and how stupidly easy it is for them to get laid. I know both outlooks are extremely unhealthy and I'm working on them in therapy. But given my sheltered upbringing and non-existent self-esteem, it's really hard not to. But also, it's obviously not their fault for just existing."

rommango123 commented, "I think the fact that you admitted it shows how mature and amazing you are! You go, girl! You've got this!"

Lie2gether commented:

“It made me laugh that it took this long scrolling down to find this answer. I love your honesty. I am very competitive. I literally feel insulted when someone finds a friend more attractive. It is absurd! My emotion are real but are often fucking embarrassing and ridiculous.

“Therapy is great, takes courage, and is helpful. For me, working out helps a ton as well. If I don’t work out, how I feel about myself starts getting very unhealthy.”

6) henchmen_DM_me wrote:

“Nope.

“My best friend and I are probably similarly attractive naturally, like no makeup / hair dye / fashion.

“She, however, gets a lot of attention in public and makes a living on her appearance. Most of what makes her extremely *conventionally* attractive is bleach, hairstyle, makeup, sexy clothes, and a flirty attitude.

“I willingly made my weirdo-fashion, unattractive-haircut, minimal-makeup bed and I’m more than happy to lie in it. The kind of person I prefer, prefers the kind of style I have. But I’m invisible to most since it’s not conventionally sexy.

“Different strokes, basically.

“My only bitterness is how stupid and easily manipulated by her appearance half the population is. Makes me lose faith in humanity. But I love my friend and it doesn’t make me mad at her. If anything, I’m rooting for her!”⁷

⁷ Source: universemary, “Women who have extremely attractive female friends, do you ever grow resentful for the attention they get in public and why?” Reddit. AskWomen. 21 January 2022 <

8. “What Is Your Embarrassing Sex Story?”

1) tarot0308 wrote, “One time my ex and I were in the middle of doing it, and his older brother and his brother’s best friend barged in the room and proceeded to shoot us with nerf guns. It was embarrassing at the time, but now it’s always a good laugh.”

2) ThatOneGirl132465 wrote:

“I’ve got a good one.

“Sex at my grandparents’ house. Didn’t expect my grandmother home for another hour.

“He had just finished on my stomach when my nana came in without knocking or anything.

“In a fit of panic, the boyfriend laid on top of me ... on his own cum.

“Nana saw his ass.

“So did my mum.

“Edit: We are still dating three years later and my family wants his good ass genes in the gene pool.”

3) WannaBePolymath314, “Dating my now-wife, we were over at her parents’ house and they were gone. We had just finished having sex and her mom came home unexpectedly. Wife went out in the living room in her robe and her mom already knew what was up. She didn’t care, but my wife was horrified. Lol.”⁸

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/s9k0v5/women_who_have_extremely_attractive_female/ >.

⁸ Source: Impressive-Basis5238, “What is your embarrassing sex story?” Reddit. AskReddit. 24 January 2022 <

9. “Women Who Like Women, What Do You Look For In A Woman?”

1) Toastiexists wrote, “Someone who treats me well and gives good hugs.”

2) Far_Bicycle7269 wrote, “Someone about the same size as me, so if the relationship works out, our wardrobes double.”

mustservivecapitlism commented, “My girlfriend’s tiny feet are a constant annoyance to me. She’s the same size and height but has teeny-tiny feet.”

smiledoncry commented, “Sorry to hear that she isn’t your sole mate.”

AGuyFromGPlus commented, “I’m sure if you tell her that she’ll shoe you away.”

Sagebrush_Slim commented, “She’ll take her back. She’s a flip-flopper.”

SHPLUMBO commented, “Yup. Keeps them on their toes.”

Chandlre commented, “Might get kicked to the curb.”

liltunechi8 commented, “I heel ya.”

AGurFromGPlus commented, “Maybe they just got off the wrong foot.”

fiz64 commented, “If she gets mad at you, try and slipper a compliment.”

AGuyFromGPlus commented, “Don’t worry: Time heals all wounds.”

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/sbmdy1/what_is_your_embarrassing_sex_story/ >.

captainccg commented:

“I’m a straight female, quite large, 5’7”. My husband is a mostly fit, petite 5’6”.

“His size S shirts fit me better than most women’s XL, most of his sweatpants fit me, and his shoes are only one size up.

“No one would believe I steal all his stuff from him just from looking at our different sizes.”

magical-zebra commented, “The one thing I miss about my ex is her clothes.”

GoldenWacky commented, “I miss my hoodies.”

3) Thisisperment wrote, “A girl who likes me back.”

CanniBall1320 commented, “Look at Miss High Standards here.”

4) Flying_Haggis wrote, “That she is kind, smart, and has a sense of humour. It’s also nice if she has a nice smile, but looks aren’t as important in my opinion. I like a woman who can have a witty conversation with me and doesn’t bend to someone else’s opinions easily. The most important thing is definitely how kind they are to other people, though. It shows a lot about maturity.”

sonic-silver commented, “I am a man, and I look for exactly this in a woman, also.”

whosthedoginthisscen commented, “But with big bazongas.”

mmotterpops commented, “As a lesbian, same.”⁹

⁹ Source: thejellomaker, “Women who like women, what do you look for in a woman?” Reddit. AskReddit. 24 January 2022 <

10. “What Is The Funniest Way You Can Describe Your Boobs?”

- 1) PixelPixxy wrote, “Organically grown squishmallows.”
- 2) SleepFlower80 wrote, “My mum described mine perfectly: two aspirin on an ironing board.”
- 3) Aspen9999 wrote, “Speed bumps. As soon as you run, they start bumping all over to get you to slow down.”
- 4) waterfirewater wrote, “Um, I call them Biggie Smalls. Due to the very noticeable size difference.”

DaniolioliDizzler commented, “Struggle of my life here! Thankfully it’s only one cup size difference! C & D.”

5) La-Bete-Noire wrote:

“Chesticles.

“They’re sensitive sex-related orb-like organs that often get in the way of things and hurt like a mofo when you accidentally smack them when they’re already really sore.”

Fine-Sheepherder commented, “Wow! I never thought boobs hurt.”

La-Bete-Noire responded, “Oh yeah, they definitely get a bit sore and swollen around that time of the month! More than once, I have accidentally punched myself in the tit and nearly cried.”

6) Mirasta_Yale wrote, “They’re my white bunnies.”

Fine-Sheepherder commented, “Bunnies. That means they are cute.”

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/sc5hlq/women_who_like_women_what_do_you_look_for_in_a/>.

Mirasta_Yale responded, “That’s what I’ve been told.”

7) ShylieF wrote:

“(°)(•)

“Lol. I had a reduction and he left Mr. Right a tad high.”¹⁰

11. “Guys Of Reddit, What Is One Piece Of Sex Advice You Could Give To Girls?”

Spike-Rockit wrote, “Don’t fake orgasms to spare your partner’s feelings; you’ll end up teaching them to do the wrong things in bed and make it even less likely they’ll get you off the next time.”

the-leftover commented, “How do I tell a guy that I didn’t cum / orgasmed? For example: Sometimes when he’s down on me or just fucking, he asks me and I didn’t orgasm and I don’t know how to tell him because it seems like he’s almost anxious for me to cum already. (This happened more than one time and with different guys asking me, and I don’t know how to respond in a way that won’t frustrate them.)”

Enleyetenment advised:

“‘It felt good but if you try this, or this, or go here, lighter, harder, faster, slower, it’ll really get me going.’

“Just tell them, or answer their question. If they’re asking, hopefully they’re asking because they’re excited to get you off, not just for it to be over. And if the latter is the case ... well, it’s time to move on or have a talk.”

¹⁰ Source: Fine-Shepherd, “What is the funniest way you can describe your boobs?” Reddit. AskWomen. 25 January 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/scctcv/what_is_the_funniest_way_you_can_describe_your/>.

the-leftover responded, "I'll try doing that, thanks, I always feel pressured to have an orgasm, all the men I've had sex so far with didn't stay too long doing oral and kept asking me if I already came."

Non-Bloke commented, "This could also be good advice for the men (sorry to hijack your post, fellas), but the majority of women can't orgasm from penetration alone. Please don't expect it from us and please don't feel like you've done a bad job if it doesn't happen — some women just literally can't do it."

the-leftover responded, "Yes, you're totally right, I can have great sex but zero orgasms and still enjoy it; of course, it would be great to have some orgasms, but at least for me it takes a lot of time so I get it if it doesn't happen."

OscarWildatheart commented, "If you can make yourself orgasm without any problems, why not show your partner how you do it? Or you could both stimulate you at the same time (one takes the clitoris, one focuses on the vagina / g-spot). Or just try giving verbal directions until you're in the right place to say, 'Yes, exactly like that!' Communication is a big one here."

Enleyetenment commented, "I feel like too many people (guys and girls) view oral foreplay as something to add lubrication rather than something more. Maybe not all the time, but some of the time."

Non-Bloke responded, "Yeah, I think a lot of people treat sex as the end goal, not getting each other off. Some people do foreplay for five minutes just to get the ball rolling instead of using it as a way to pleasure their partner properly."

2) User_492006 wrote, "If you want it, don't be shy. It's a huge turn on when a girl goes for what she wants."

drbye commented, "This is how I met my wife."

leopoldovitch commented, “My first date with my ex-wife: She brought lube and very confidently put it on the coffee table and explained that she wanted anal. Now, I just don’t trust a woman who brings lube on her first date.”

Winter_Department_87 commented, “Wow, that’s a lot for a first date. But different strokes for different folks.”

3) this1is4thechampions wrote, “Be vocal. For the love of fuck, TELL US what you like / don’t like.”

polywha commented, “On the flip side, guys, please be vocal also. I can’t tell you how unnerving it is to be with a partner who is silent.”

Minerva8918 commented:

“Jesus, THIS! I was with a guy and while going downtown he’d just sit there and stare. I was like, ‘Okay, am I doing something wrong?’ (I’ve NEVER had any complaints, only compliments.) It was just ... yeah, unnerving!

‘He’d talk dirty during the deed sometimes but yeah, I definitely like some sort of signs of enjoyment. Or at least tell me what / how to do it better.”

SAVIOR_OMEGA commented, “He was trying not to get too into it so he didn’t nut.”

nobody671 commented, “He probably was enjoying it, but was just too scared to show you or he just wasn’t sure how to show you. Lots of guys have that problem. Including me.”

ONinAB responded, “You can’t really overwhelm us with too much enthusiasm. We’re already down there — say something!”

wak3l3oarder commented, “Nah, dude was doing math problems in his head [to keep from cumming too fast].”

Brilliant-Display-16 commented, “WOMEN LOVE MEN WHO MOAN IN BED. I swear it’s a factor in making me finish faster.”

IDontMeanToInterrupt commented, “One well-timed moan will throw me right over the cliff! I can’t emphasize this enough. Let us hear you! That low, growly moan. Now I’m thinking about it and I need to go take care of something.”

Brilliant-Display-16 responded, “Girrrrrlllll, these men just do not know. I can cum from just LISTENING to a man’s moans. No visuals needed.”¹¹

12. “What False Fact Did You Believe In For Way Too Long?”

1) caryatidcorp wrote, “That artichoke hearts were toxic. All because my dad wanted me and my brother to leave them for him.”

DumbledoresArmy23:

“Many years ago, I considered telling any future children I had that things I like are spicy or something so I could have them.

“Then I realised I didn’t want kids who were afraid of spicy food.”

illTwinkleYourStar commented, “That’s why you tell them there’s alcohol in it.”

¹¹ Source: jestgowithit, “Guys of Reddit, what is one piece of sex advice you could give to girls?” Reddit. AskReddit. 25 January 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/sr1a2/guys_of_reddit_what_is_one_piece_of_sex_advice/ >.

DumbledoresArmy23 commented, “Ahh! Good play. My sister definitely says this to my niece; I’ll keep it in the back pocket!”

2) EmpressChaddarPickle wrote:

“My grandad loved dark chocolates. He always told my dad that dark chocolate is poisonous to children so he wouldn’t take any. Trouble is, he never corrected him.

“So, when my dad was 23 and at a friend’s house, their toddler got hold of an After Eight Dark Chocolate Thin Mint.

“Cue my dad leaping from the couch, shouting ‘NO’ and slapping the chocolate out of the toddler’s hand.”

3) chrissereen1988 wrote, “That spiders have big territories, so if your father killed the ENORMOUS spider in your room it was safe to go to bed, because there would be no other spiders in the WHOLE house.”

KiloJools commented, “This was such an excellent move on your dad’s part. I wish my dad had thought of that!”

chrissereen1988 replied, “It gave so much comfort. And I was embarrassingly old before I found out it was a lie.”

4) TheGriffnin wrote, “When I was a kid, my mom always told me that all the nutrition in bread is in the crust, so she wouldn’t have to keep cutting it off. Found out that wasn’t true when I was 20, after bringing it up to some friends. I still get shit for that.”

cynniminnibuns commented, “Age 30 here. Thought that was true until ... this moment.”

hat-of-sky commented, “My mom told me that about potato skins (it’s true-ish) and I assumed the same applied to bread crusts. Wasn’t until I made my own bread it hit me it was all the same dough.”

5) Warm-Presentation560 wrote:

“When I was younger I believed that in different countries a version of myself was there.

“Example: In France there would be a French version of myself living a regular life.”

04whim commented, “I had something similar, misunderstanding what ancestors were. When I was little I thought there were iterations of me throughout history. A Victorian me, paleolithic me and so on. Basically I invented reincarnation.”

HeftyPockets commented, “Traveled abroad more than a few times, I’ve seen Scottish and Irish versions of myself floating around.”

Wind_Yer_Nedck_In commented:

“I’m a big, bearded guy with glasses; there are versions of me literally everywhere. Like on the next street over.

“The facial recognition at my gym lets me in as different people all the time because we look so much alike.”

6) IncomeNatural8178 wrote, “When I was a kid, I thought Zig Zag rolling papers were little bibles, cause the dude on the front looked like Jesus to me.”

7) sigmashead wrote:

“My buddy once told me that the Blue Ribbon from PBR was for winning an event in a beer competition way back in the day and that the category they won was ‘beer that tastes the most similar cold as warm.’

“I have told so many people this little fun fact over the years and only recently decided to google it yielding no results other than the realization that I’m a dumbass.”

8)Ω humblyhuman888 wrote:

“Wishing on stars was a real thing.

“When I was about four or five, my dad overheard me wish on a bright star that the next time we went out to eat I would get a huge tub of vanilla ice cream (my fav).

“A couple days later we went to the restaurant he was regional manager of (Hooters, lmao) and out pops this waitress with one of those fancy tin things that you always see in gourmet restaurants in movies. You know, where they take the top of it off when you set it down? She sat it in front of me, pulled the top off, to reveal a big ole tub of vanilla ice cream. My little mind was blown and I don’t think I had ever been so excited.

“I would tell that story to prove my point until I was like 12 years old. Lol.”¹²

13. “When Did You Realize ‘Oh, Crap, I’M The One Being Creepy?’”

1) FriedBeeNuts wrote:

“I was walking home pretty drunk one night and I noticed a woman walking towards me looking uncomfortable so I thought I would just take another way home and took a left before our paths crossed.

“Then she took the same road. I was like, ‘Ah, man,’ I don’t want to go this way now. It’s creepy of me,’ so I decide to

¹² Source: Johnnyboi1322, “What false fact did you believe in for way too long?” Reddit. AskReddit. 26 January 2022 <
https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/sdqed6/what_false_fact_did_you_believe_in_for_way_too/>.

stop and head back but as I am heading back she has disappeared. Awesome.

“Then I am nearly back to my original path and I see she has stopped in a phone booth as I am just about at the phone booth. I freaking pause a moment to work out how to avoid her but then think ok, just go home and I walk past her in the phone booth to go home.

“I just wanted to avoid this woman and made it so much worse.”

2) Catalonia_Sun wrote, “When I was 16, I used to follow a girl I liked around after class a lot but was acting slick pretending I wasn’t, now that I think about it that was creepy as fuck and I’m sure she noticed.”

LoreCriticizer commented, “As someone who got followed when I was 17, yes she absolutely did.”

Catalonia_ responded, “I was awkward and didn’t have experience with girls or anyone. Lol. In my own mind I thought it was fine until a bit later when I went to college and realized how you actually hang out and date girls.”

Dynamic_is_cool requested, “Wait, you know how? **RELEASE THE INFORMATION!**”

UnsolicitedCounsel advised, “First, you approach them from behind and whisper ‘m’lady’ in their ear. It is most effective at nighttime if they are walking alone. When they turn around, they will be shocked by your good looks and initiative. They may even gasp. Take this opportunity to place your index finger over their lips and say ‘Shhhhhh, I know ... destiny.’\ This works almost every time and if you’re really good she will invite you back to her place where, if you play your cards right, you’ll be rounding second base within 15 minutes. Nothing beats squeezing warm bags of sand.”

3) BillQuickGates wrote:

“This was at the end of a 12-hour shift on my feet all day so I was quite tired:

“I was driving home from a long day at work and decided to take the shortcut home, which was a dangerous, bendy, dark, country road. It was about 22:30 and pitch dark; there are residential houses around the area so it wasn’t completely secluded but quite secluded. As I’m driving, singing along to Taylor Swift on the radio I see a young girl walking by herself. People wouldn’t walk this road during the day, it would be too dangerous, so this was unusual.

“I barely noticed her and could have hit her as there was no footpath on this very thin two-way road, no road markings, sharp bends, no lights, and barely a speed limit. She had no reflective gear or lights on. There was no close call or anything as I was driving slow, but I didn’t see her until I was only a few meters away. I drove past her and then think to myself, ‘God, she’s either going to get hit by a car or worse, what the f is she doing walking down this road by herself this late.’

“In my sleep-deprived state, I put the car in reverse and go back towards her. With hindsight the look on her face was pure panic — which is now completely understandable, I too would shit myself at this stranger reversing their car back to me on this dark secluded road. She takes out her phone to pretend she’s on a call. I pull down my window and ask if she wants a lift to the end of the road or anywhere; she just says, ‘No, thanks,’ and presumably prays she doesn’t get murdered and I say, ‘Ok, but drivers can’t see you on the road,’ and I drive off home.

“Only realising then how silly that was of me and what a fright I must have given that poor girl. What was I thinking? That she was going to get in my car?”

ProfessorDaredevil commented, “I do think your heart was in the right place, but for future reference you could offer to call them an Uber or just generally ask from a safe distance if they need help and inform them that they are not visible to cars and should get off the road quickly.”

El-Adrairah9519 commented, “My brother had an older lady who pulled over for him in a similar situation (he was walking home to our parents’ house in the country late at night, similar back country roads with no lights) and she was just legitimately concerned about a young person walking by themselves, man or woman. My brother assured her he was safe as he was just a few minutes away from his destination.”

4) MetalDetectorists wrote:

“Ok, this turned out to be a total miscommunication, but it’s worth sharing anyway ...

“I met this guy a few years ago on a dating site. Both of us had usernames that weren’t our own name and we didn’t have our face in our profile pictures. After we chatted for a day, we shared selfies and then agreed to meet up

“We ended up having an amazing first date and the several more. After about a few months of fun, he suddenly ends it. I was pretty heart broken.

“This is where the ‘creepiness’ starts:

“Around the corner from my work there was a bar everyone went to, but it wasn’t much my scene. So, I used to trek a bit further to a jazz / speakeasy bar instead. Never been there before, but I decided to go after a few coworkers suggested it as an alternative. Well, turns out his band plays there pretty often. I saw him there about three times, and then changed workplaces and never went back,

“I ended up getting a job at a café in the middle of the city. There was no free parking nearby except for literally out the front of his apartment. Don’t know why the council made that 50-metre strip free parking (possibly because of the council bikes there), but either way it was the only place within walking distance I could park. Believe me, I checked. So for three months I would park out the front of his apartment every few days for about eight hours. Eventually I parked a few kilometres away and took an e-scooter.

“I’m back on the dating site, start chatting with a random dude with no picture and a fake name, and lo and behold it’s him. He blocks me once he figures it out.

“Then I leave that job and get another one at a restaurant. I’m driving pass one night to show my friend where I work, and I notice said ex is there. Next shift I ask if he goes there, and turns out he is a massive regular, there all the time, buddies with the owner. Then they say, **‘Oh, YOU’RE the stalker ex?’**

“They told me everything. Turns out he thought I followed his band tour dates to find out what bar they played at, stalked his apartment by parking out front for a few months every few days, and then scoured the dating site to find him again. He had been bemoaning to the owner and staff for months about this crazy ex-girlfriend of his, and here I was trying to defend myself. Luckily, they believed me, but they obviously let him know I worked there because he never went back

“So yeah. I wasn’t ever intentionally being creepy, but our paths crossed so much within the several months after breaking up that it definitely looked that way. Poor guy.”¹³

¹³ Source: linseeded, “When did you realize ‘Oh, crap, I’M the one being creepy?’” Reddit. AskReddit. 28 January 2022 <

14. “People Who Have Been Incorrectly Accused Of Cheating, What Was Your Partner’s Proof?”

1) HalfaManYouAre wrote:

“I was deep into an online game and my wife came to me with a bra that definitely wasn’t hers. She stood by the door and loudly said, ‘Whose are these?’ I took what she said as an innocent question, rather than an investigation. I quickly looked over and said, ‘Fuck if I know,’ and went back to my game.

“She quickly realized that if I had cheated, and she found proof, I would have had a deer-in-headlights look for a second.

“It was her sister’s bra that somehow go into our laundry.

“We laugh about it to this day.”

2) Zonefluffy wrote, “A pair of my wife’s panties fell out from the leg hole of my pants while I was driving to work. I grab them and shove them in the driver side door pocket and promptly forget about them. Several weeks later, we are cleaning out our cars together and she finds them and is like WTF. She doesn’t recognize them as her own. Finally remembers after I scroll through several thousand of my pictures to find a pic of her actually wearing them.”

3) Kriskao wrote, “She made a big scene because she found nail polish in my toolbox. It was black. I have always had black cars and motorcycles. I use nail polish to fix small scratches.”¹⁴

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/sejjdj/when_did_you_realize_oh_crap_im_the_one_being/>.

¹⁴ Source: PRIMEVIL567, “People who have been incorrectly accused of cheating, what was your partners proof?” Reddit. AskReddit. 28

15. “How Do You Deal With Life When You Find Out That You’re Ugly?”

k0uch wrote:

“Meh, it is what it is.

“I may be ugly, I may have a bland personality, a terrible sense of humor, low intelligence ... I forgot where I was going with this, but I do enjoy me some good beer.”

go_go_ghost commented, “Then one day you might stumble upon someone who will fall in love with you exactly as you are. They will most likely be ugly, too, but you’ll have so much fun together that your looks won’t matter much. You’ll both work hard to build a life together, get a pet, maybe start a family if you both are up to it. Life is crazy and I’ve been married for 15 years! I’m ugly, my spouse is ugly, our dog is ugly. But life is too damn good. Don’t know if I would be this lucky had I been born beautiful.”

Redgrewen82 commented, “I didn’t have a girlfriend until I was 27. I’d rate myself a 3, but she thinks I’m the most handsome man in the world. And while I don’t think she’s the most gorgeous woman in the world, she’s still WAY more attractive than I am and most importantly, the best person I’ve ever known. Anywho, we’ve been married for 9 years now. The best relationship is the one where you each feel lucky to have the other.”

go_go_ghost responded:

“‘The best relationship is the one where you each feel lucky to have the other.’

January 2022 <

[https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/seob4w/people_who_h
ave_been_incorrectly_accused_of/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/seob4w/people_who_have_been_incorrectly_accused_of/)>.

“Oh, man! Be right back, gotta go and give my husband a big hug and tell him how lucky I am to have him. Hope you get to do the same to your wife soon!”

Snoo74401 commented, “I might be a 6, but throw in my personality, sharp wit, and sense of humor, and I’m a solid 2.”¹⁵

16. “What’s Your ‘Gotta Take One For The Team’ Story?”

1) TBbtk wrote, “Kind of a ‘gotta take one for the team,’ but it’s a pretty shitty one. I was a freshman in high school, and it was homecoming. Our class pulled a shitty prank on this girl who had a learning disability and voted for her to be the freshman rep. as a joke and she won. Well, the guy who got voted to walk with her backed out the day before and I was 2nd in line. Being a freshman, knowing it was a joke and knowing I’d have to walk her down with everyone watching, I was mortified but I did it. I remember my step-brother giving me shit and laughing at me and then my step-father found out what I was going to do. He chewed my step-brother out and was immensely proud of me. I don’t think she ever figured out it was a joke, and she was so happy that night. It was probably the highlight of her high school years honestly. Some 25 years later, my dad ran into her parents and they still thanked me to him. You just never know whose life you might touch, be kind.”

BeachCop commented, “Solid. I had a friend who revealed how terrible a person he is by messing with a mentally disabled girl. She would come into the bar we frequented

¹⁵ Source: zer94, “How do you deal with life when you find out that you’re ugly?” Reddit. AskReddit. 28 January 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/seuf5m/how_do_you_deal_with_life_when_you_find_out_that/>.

because she worked at the supermarket next door. She wouldn't drink, just go from table to table saying hello. Completely innocent and sweet. The thing is, she wasn't always disabled. She was hit by a drunk driver while walking across the street and suffered a traumatic brain injury, rendering her disabled. So my friend knows that she's got a crush on the bar owner and during one of her visits, he tells her that he wanted to take her on a date. Apparently she was so excited that she started crying. He told her to meet him later that evening in the parking lot and to dress really pretty. Later that night, her dad drops her off in some fancy prom dress thing. She's there waiting for this guy who isn't going to show, and my friend walks out of the bar filming her and laughing at her with a bunch of other assholes. I lost all respect for him after hearing about this and had I been there, I probably would've punched him square in the face. I never talked to him again. Unfortunately, she never came around again and she stopped working at the supermarket immediately after."

wirklichnein commented, "That is absolutely fucking horrible. What the hell is wrong with people."

m_chutch commented, "My sister has cerebral palsy and had no one to take her to prom. One of the most popular kids in the school took her (not as a joke), and she legit had the best night of her life. I still look back on those pictures and haven't seen her smile that big ever since. The dude passed away this summer in a car crash, unfortunately, but that's something our family won't ever forget."

TBbtk commented, "That's an upstanding young man and great move on his part. Sorry to hear of his passing because those are the ones we need around."

Poem_for_your_sprog responded to "Sorry to hear of his passing because those are the ones we need around":

“All the best of life is fleeting,

“Unexpected, unrepeating.

“Make a person glad to find you.

“Leave a better place behind you.”

NahWey commented:

“I’ve been here a while, Poem_for_your_sprog, I’ve read your things many random times, and this is the first time you’ve made tears roll down my face.

“Beautiful. I’m keeping this.”

00TooMuchTime00 commented:

“Dude, that’s so awesome, good on you.

“My first job at 15 was working for dirt money at a preschool / daycare.

“The job was mostly playing with kids in the playground, sorting out some bullshit and then having snacks.

“I was fortunate enough to come across a beautiful human. This girl had hardcore sensory and speech issues. If you touched her hair, it was over ... sometimes. Which confused the ill-equipped and poorly paid teachers.

“She could speak about 22 words at age three, close to four years old.

“One of the phrases she could speak, was Annew. Andrew. My name.

“My job at that preschool basically became me handling her at all times.

“All of this leads up do me seeing her and her family years later as a waiter.

“I ask the parents if they remember me; they tell me no.

“I look at Makayla and see little to any recognition in her eyes.

“But then she spoke: ‘Can I have some bbq sauce?’

“I near fucking lost it. I had to hide in the walk in and cry to myself for a bit.

“None of them at all remembered my part in her development, but I was so happy to see her speak and be normal.

“Truly floored me.”

clucks86 commented:

“My daughter was a four-year-old like that but a lot fewer words. Like at three and a half, at home she spoke about 20 words but at nursery / pre-school she said ‘no’ and that was it. So behind verbally and shy. And I will never forget going to pick her up from nursery and her teacher having the biggest grin on her face greeting me. And before I could ask how her day had been her teacher went, ‘SHE SAID, “YES, PLEASE” TODAY!’ And then on another day she said the teacher’s name and we got a similar response from the teacher.

“As a parent seeing others joy in your child finally doing something like talk is just as heart-warming as you witnessing it.”

msm9445 commented, “Speech-language pathologist here. Thank you for taking the time to communicate with Makayla. People like you, who provide caring and meaningful interactions, are the ones who help these kids the most! While they didn’t remember you specifically, the effects of your time spent with Makayla were made clear.

Communication is a human right, and you helped provide that to her as she developed! :)”

Dr_Chops wrote:

“It was more of a moment and not a whole event, but in my first year of high school, I was the fat unpopular kid who had about two people whom I could comfortably talk to. I was pressured into going to the social dance that year and did my thing of standing aside or making idle chatter with some of the teachers and making every effort I could to be on the other side of the room from the kids who would make life difficult for me at every opportunity.

“Then some slow music came on and after a few seconds, some very lovely-hearted girls darted around the room and grabbed any solo boy whom they could find and gave them the privilege of dancing with them (or, more accurately, simply having someone to dance with). One of them came right for me, and it wasn’t even that I was the only one left to pick. For that one song I knew kindness and friendliness and I haven’t forgotten it to this day.”

SadOccasion commented:

“For my middle school we had to vote for ‘best of.’ Best hair was a bald kid, best dressed was a kid who wore a full body covering like middle Eastern type of clothing, best friends were two guys who hated each other and had gotten into fights and ultimately didn’t get to walk at graduation. Most athletic was the biggest kid in our grade, most likely to succeed was a mentally challenged student, most festive was a girl who was a part of the Mormon church, I think, or a religion that isn’t allowed to celebrate a lot of holidays.

“The principal made all grades due [know?] through a meeting in the auditorium about how he was ashamed to even look at us because we were horrible kids and that they had told the company that makes our yearbook that we

would have 80 pages or something and he can't change the number of pages because it was in a contract so he's just going to remove the 'best of' and 'most likely' sections and leave them blank, so our yearbook had like 15 blank pages at the end."

imac132 commented, "Weirdly enough, my high school would do similar things in the fact that they'd elect socially awkward people to positions but they didn't do it as a joke, they were actually genuinely trying to be nice. One kid used to hold the door to the hallways open all the time for huge numbers of kids to walk through. Weird dude but everybody loved him and he had like a social immunity."

leetsmedingen wrote:

"My brother has autism and went to a regular high school. He was the most popular guy there. Everyone loved him because he was friendly to everyone. He's really social and can make awkward jokes that are actually really funny. There was so much rivalry between cliques at that school, so much bullying and hate going on, but everyone loved my brother. I had fully expected him to be the butt of so many jokes and hurtful behavior, but because he had this innocence in his friendliness he was actually loved by everyone. It still warms my heart to this day.

"I found out about this when a kid who transferred from our school to my brother's came over to visit his friends at our school one time. When he heard that this kid was my brother, he was talking all about how awesome he is."

2) newest-low wrote:

"A bit of backstory, I was a paid staff at a well-known UK charity's furniture shop, most of our volunteers were disabled in some way from not noticeable to pretty obvious.

“A lot of the customers were low income / eastern European immigrants which is never an issue but a few tried to take the piss.

“One volunteer in particular was absolutely lovely and such a sweetie but somehow he always ended up in trouble and was on the brink of being asked not to return. He wasn’t a bad guy he just got taken advantage of and didn’t see bad in anyone. By this point I kept him close to me so I could help him out, also he was the only volunteer who was 100% reliable and guaranteed to turn up every day.

“Anyway, one day he was on the till while I filled out paperwork for delivery / collection of the customer to get through the queue quickly because it was a rare but busy day where we were non-stop, a eastern European man came up and it was a large order for us (£500~) and he paid cash but he kept swapping the notes about, so he gave it in £20/10/5 notes but then would swap the £5s for a £10 or £20 for £5s etc., and eventually finished fucking about and volunteer must have lost track somewhere and because by that point it was stupidly busy and the queue had built up from this dude pissing about he didn’t double check and just accepted it was still the correct amount.

“That night we (paid staff) were cashing up and we’re £100 short, fuck. There’s five of us and we all take turns counting out just to make absolutely sure because this is a big amount that would need to be reported.

“Everyone’s sitting there wondering what the fuck happened and as I was on the desk pretty much all day because I was the one with legible handwriting even when rushed so of course it fell on me. I could have thrown volunteer under the bus but instead I told them a half-truth about the guy fucking about with payment but instead of saying volunteer had dealt with it, I said I had, I explained what dude was doing and said about how we were so rushed that I must have just

counted wrong when he was finally done because we were so busy and I just wanted to get the queue down.

“Luckily, we were all pretty close and always covered each other within reason, I told them I’d be right back, went to the bank, took the £100 out and put it in the till so we didn’t have to report it and get investigated and reamed a new one by the area manager.

“I also never let that volunteer near the till again just to be on the safe side.”

SuperFLEB commented, “Motherfucking quick-change scammers. Scumbags of the next-to-lowest order. Not even respectable enough to be the lowest order.”

newest-low responded:

“Especially to do it to a charity, I can’t stand scammers but the ones who prey on the vulnerable and charities are the lowest of the low, same with thieves.

“The number of times I stopped people shoplifting from us was ridiculous. Like, seriously, you can’t afford £3 for a lamp that’s seen better days?”

3) OMC78 wrote:

“Buddy was married with two young children, who was unable to get away from his job, wife and kids. His wife is also a bit of a helicopter wife if that makes sense. My buddy and I have a bond over baseball; I hadn’t seen him in a long time so we went to a Blue Jays game. During the game his wife constantly texted him reminding he had to come straight home and asking when was the game going to be over. My buddy stated, ‘It’s a Saturday afternoon, I haven’t seen you in ages or been out in a while, I want to go to a pub after for drinks but need an excuse that will give me an extra hour or two.’

“On Saturdays, the Jays would have Jr. Jays Saturdays, where 45 minutes after the game, if you were 12 and under, you could wait in a long line and run the bases. I told my buddy to tell his wife that I was trying to hit on a hot single mom who had a baby but also a four-year-old who wanted to run the bases and offered to take the four-year-old around the bases with the intent to get her number. Mission accomplished as we headed after the game for a couple beers. A month later I was at his house and the first thing his wife says to me is, ‘You are such a pathetic f#%k’n sleezeball!’”

4) throneofthrones wrote:

“My friend picked out terrible bridesmaid dresses. If you can picture it: Structured goldenrod cheap transparent chiffon with a body clinging tank top slip the size of a napkin underneath. Sort of that twee shabby chic prairie style that was en vogue a decade ago. My husband called me an, and I quote, ‘Amish slut.’

“All the bridesmaids hated them but bride friend was type A and no one wanted to complain. I fell on my sword and begged her to let me pick something different because of my weight, as I was the chonkiest one in the party. I absolutely refused to stand in front of people in that handkerchief.

“She wanted everyone to match so she switched to a much more flattering one. I got a group hug from all the bridesmaids in secret. It’s been a decade and she still brings it up occasionally that the first dress was fine and everyone else liked it.”

5) Hatz719 wrote:

“I was at a concert in Waco with a bunch of buddies back when I was stationed in Texas. The music was pretty good, drinks were plentiful, and it was one of those strange days that good things kept happening. No traffic, awesome

parking spot, got a few free drinks, managed to get a nice spot close to the stage, and everyone was having a good time.

“So as the show continues, a lady next to me started complaining that she couldn’t see the stage. Her friend told her to ‘ask that tall guy to put you on his shoulders.’ To my surprise, this cute little five-foot-nothing girl turns around and asks if she could climb me. I laughed at how she asked and said sure, hop on. So this chick is on my shoulders for what feels like forever, we have moved over to the side of the crowd because I’m 6’7” and with this spider monkey on my back I knew people behind me would be pissed. I’m talking with my new backpack and her friend and we were hitting it off pretty nice, again, just one of those rare awesome days.

“Fast forward a bit, now it’s between sets and I’m really hitting it off with both of these women. They are elementary school teachers, cute, funny, and for some damn reason interested in me. The next band starts coming out and I ask if she wants to hop back up on my shoulders. She said no, she just really wanted to see the last band and that I can have a break. We keep getting further from the stage and talking the whole time. They ask where I’m staying and I tell them I live about an hour away. That’s when the short one says they have a room like 10 minutes away and I could stay there for the night. Of course my mind starts going a mile a minute but I try to play it cool and hit her with a maybe. Without missing a beat she comes back with, ‘Well, maybe we’ll give you a back rub since I was sitting on your shoulders for an hour.’

“Hold the fuck up. We?

“I’m sure my efforts to play it cool were not effective but it didn’t seem to matter at that point. I’m gonna cross some shit off the list tonight.

“Cue my buddy Reggie. He runs over to inform me that my roommate is about to get his ass beat by more than enough guys to successfully complete the task. I look over and yeah, there’s his drunk ass trying to walk away from four douchebags surrounding him. Fuck My Life.

“I begrudgingly ignore the devil on my shoulder and go help my friend. He gets hit, I punch one of them, I in turn get punched by someone else, Reggie is fighting another guy, it’s a good scrap. Security shows up and pulls everyone apart. Nobody got seriously hurt but now we are being escorted out. I am literally pleading with security to let me stay, even just for a minute to let these girls know what was happening but they weren’t having any of it.

“So there I was, in the parking lot, my face is sore, my drunk roommate is bitching about what happened, and Reggie is laughing his ass off. Reggie asked me how things were going with those girls I was talking to and I tell him the whole story. Now he’s in tears laughing at me and calling me a moron. I asked him what he thinks I should have done and he says, ‘I would have let him die.’

“Tl:dr. So that’s the story of how I missed out on a likely threesome with two elementary school teachers because I didn’t want my buddy to get jumped. Never got their numbers and never saw them again.”¹⁶

17. “What Is The Most Stupid / Awkward Way You Have Met A Best Friend / Romantic Partner?”

1) LilPancake77 wrote:

¹⁶ Source: Betanci0, “What’s your ‘gotta take one for the team’ story?” Reddit. AskReddit. 29 January 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/sfx773/whats_your_gotta_take_one_for_the_team_story/ >.

“When people saw my boyfriend for the first time, they would ask, ‘Where did you meet *him* at?’

“I’d awkwardly explain, ‘Well, you see, we met on Black Ops 2 on PS3 when we were 15-year-olds, and he just had to get my number after I beat him in a 360 quickscope match.’”

OverallIndividual772 commented, “That’s kinda legendary because a 360 quick scope is hella hard.”

2) KuaLeifArne wrote, “My fiancé and I didn’t really meet in a stupid / awkward way, but every time someone asks how we met, they turn awkward. ‘So, how did you meet?’ My fiancé and I say in unison: ‘Tinder.’”

3) Bilateral-drowning wrote, “I was sleeping with my soon-to-be-best-friend’s boyfriend. They had broken up and I sort of knew her but not really, and I didn’t know they had a long history of breakups and getting back together. She confronted me about it and I said, ‘Yes, that’s what’s happening.’ We talked about it, I stopped sleeping with him, and she and I became besties. It’s been 25 years now.”

4) Bayou-Moon wrote:

“I was with my brother (19m) and our friend Jase, (15m) and I (14f) were coming out of the woods and walking down a big hill that was a road in our neighborhood, and at the bottom of it I see this brown-haired boy in a blue jacket. Jase knew him and yelled out, ‘Hey, Chantler!’ — that’s always how he [Jase] said his name, so imagine a grown-ass man who’s dressed as if he walked out of a movie from the 50’s, suspenders and bowtie, cane and all, and another boy, Jase, wearing a Lego hat and also has a Lego cane (all of which he made) and finally me, a split-dyed-hair girl wearing mauve shorts, rainbow stockings, a blue crop top that has a rainbow on it saying ‘Damn Magical,’ running full speed down at this now-terrified boy. Once we reach him Jase shows him his Legos and I run up to him. He was much taller

so I looked up at him, I say, ‘Hello, my name’s Abby, what’s yours?’ He replied, ‘I’m Chandler,’ and then, without hesitation I said, ‘I like that name. What’s your number?’ He was so shocked he said he didn’t have a number, so I got his snap instead, and all of us hung out the next day for hours, and I fell for him. I could write a million stories about him and me and all we’ve been through; our one-year anniversary is next month.

“TLDR; I met my best friend / boyfriend by scaring him.”

5) ConfusedCuddfish wrote:

“I saw my fiancé in high school on the first day of my new English class (cue ‘awwwwws’) He was loud, making a smartass joke to the teacher, and because of school system stuff ,my schedule was being changed, so I was coming into this class later than everyone else. The teacher asked where I wanted to sit, right in front of my now fiancé or on the other side of the room next to the door. Looked at the loud kid and requested the chair as far away from him as possible

“In about another month or so, we officially met for the first time because we both took pity on each other for looking sad for different reasons.”

6) BzzyBzzy_Bumblebee_8 wrote, “I shared a few college biology classes with my now best friend, but we weren’t really friends until I held her hair back while she was violently ill during a formal we were both invited to. And I mean like LOTS of puking. Drunk-girl bonding! The next day she took me to breakfast at a nearby diner as a ‘thank you,’ and we’ve been best friends ever since!”¹⁷

¹⁷ Source: Low-Consequence376, “What is the most stupid/awkward way you have met a best friend/romantic partner?” Reddit. AskReddit. 6 February 2022 <

18. “What Was Your Wittiest Comeback That You’re Still Proud Of?”

1) kjerstih wrote:

“A friend of a friend was trying to lowkey insult me, saying something along the lines of ‘Your mom likes when I do that.’ My friend was not paying full attention and asked him, ‘Do you know kjerstih’s mom?’ to which he smugly replied, ‘Oh, yeah! I meet up with her frequently.’”

“My comeback: ‘I sure hope so. She’s a psychiatrist.’”

2) Scxriib74 wrote:

“Guy at college grabbing his crotch: ‘You can’t handle this.’”

“Unimpressed girl: ‘You’re totally right. I don’t have a degree in microbiology.’”

3) Kytty_Korner wrote:

“Dad: ‘I’m always right.’”

“Me: ‘Then why did you get a divorce?’”

“He laughed at it: It was a good burn.”

4) Bewbz2020 wrote:

“I’ve had this one in my pocket for a long time, and it never stops being hilarious:

“Man after getting rejected: ‘Fat, ugly whore! You should be grateful anyone is willing to talk to you.’”

“Me: ‘So you’re saying that you’re so desperate and pathetic that you’re forced to hit on fat, ugly whores only to find that

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/slr32d/what_is_the_most_stupidawkward_way_you_have_met_a/>.

even they won't have you? Wow, imagine telling on yourself like that. I mean, I'm the whoriest whore who ever whored. I'll fuck damn near anything that moves, yet I still draw the line at **YOU**. Ouch! That's gotta sting, right? I can see why you're so bitter.'

“(Obviously this is much better online when you can be fairly certain that the dude's not going to murder you.)”

5) No-Confusion1544 wrote:

“Not me but my buddy during his divorce when his ex was picking up her stuff from the house. I was there with some other people just as a buffer / witness to prevent any shenanigans.

“His wife wanted to keep their dog, which he didn't have a problem with, but she'd phrased the demand by insinuating he didn't care about the dog and that it loved her more.

“He said something along the lines of ‘Oh please, the only reason that dog looks up to you is because it sees how many bones you're catching.’”

6) Back2Bach wrote:

“I was riding as a passenger in a college friend's car when he got a flat tire.

“He immediately started to call a towing service. I asked, ‘Don't you have a spare?’

“He said, ‘Yeah, but I don't know how to jack it and get the nuts off.’

“I simply replied, ‘I’d offer to give you a helping hand, but it’s probably better to call a pro for service.’”¹⁸

19. “What Do You Want From Men But Never Ask Them?”

1) Confetticandi wrote, “Compliments on things other than my looks.”

Cometmothe commented, “I told my partner this within the first couple weeks of dating and he has continued to compliment me on things that have nothing to do with my appearance. It’s so nice and I’m glad I communicated it.”

Mindless-Midnight247 commented:

“Yes! Honesty is key, I have voiced out everything I felt and hid from my partner. Hiding this from my partner was a very childish thing to do. Like you should know how I feel kind of thought.

“As soon as I started communicating, things have been a lot better.”

diet_coke_cabal commented:

“I’d be happy if the guy I’m with complimented me on anything that isn’t just a response to something I say to him. I.E.: I tell him he looks cute that day, he’ll respond: ‘Not as cute as you!’ And that’s it. No other compliments. Anywhere. About anything. I’d wonder if he likes me, but he keeps asking me out so....”

¹⁸ Source: bookkush, “What was your wittiest comeback that you’re still proud of?” Reddit. AskReddit. 7 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/smtz98/what_was_your_wittiest_comeback_that_youre_still/ >.

diet_coke_cabal added, “Also, he’s not a bad guy, just awkward as all fuck.”

diet_coke_cabal also added, “I think that he thinks he IS complimenting me, but he isn’t. Just like I struggle with understanding whether he actually likes me. I’ll say something specific about what I like about him, and he’ll just respond, ‘I like you, too!’ And once I kind of chuckled and said, ‘Someday I’ll get you to tell me how you feel about me!’ in a joking way, and he was so confused like, ‘but I just told you I like you?’ I wanted to scream THAT TELLS ME NOTHING!”

Rillist, a female, wrote, “Some of us need not-so-gentle reminders and direct communication, especially us awkward ones. For myself, it wasn’t until my girlfriend at the time had a talk with me about what she wanted and *needed* out of me. I had no idea, utterly clueless, so the feedback was appreciated.”

ScarletAsh21 commented, “I try to tell this [compliment me about something other than my body] to my husband all the time. He doesn’t understand that I don’t appreciate the ‘compliments’ about my butt all day long. It gets old real quick. I feel like I’m getting cat called in my own home 24/7 for the last 11 years.”

2) half_blood1 wrote, “Cuddles, without it leading to sex.”

Expert_Ad788 commented, “Massage, without it leading to sex.”

arctic_chard responded, “Oh, my god, yes. I just want a fucking back rub without the fear of something entering me.”

sell soul4dumplings wrote:

“I’ve decided to ask for things with no subtext in 2022.

“Listen, I need some physical intimacy right now. I want us to spoon in bed / hold each other for X minutes while we talk about Y. I don’t feel like fucking yet, so if you feel horny, we’ll discuss it in x mins after my needs are met, please. I like it when you kiss my hair, gaze into my eyes, kiss my back, hold my head, rub my hips, etc.’

“Not very romantic, but everyone’s expectations are met.”

r4t2022 commented, “I find this to be a great and pragmatic way to manage expectations. Both partners benefit. We are not mind readers.”

JoMamma_80 commented:

“I understand that feeling, too. I felt strange asking for these types of things because I felt like they weren’t genuine if I had to ask him to do it ... but I’m glad I did because I don’t have to anymore. He knows what I need and is more in tune with my feelings and what I need in general *because* I was awkwardly open for a short amount of time. It really didn’t take much ‘training’ time to get to this point.

“He truly just didn’t understand what I needed and thought he was doing what I wanted, but we were just not connecting on these things. He was relieved when I talked to him about it, even though it WAS an awkward conversation at the time.”

3) searedscallops wrote, “Take initiative. Find the chores that need to be done and do them.”

Meganatorrr22 commented, “Yes! I was literally talking to my boyfriend about this earlier. If it’s small enough and you’re doing nothing while I’m out all day working, or if I’m always cooking and he doesn’t do the dishes, etc., it drives me crazy. Like they’d rather make excuses or be lazy when it takes five minutes.”

llilaq commented:

“My husband is standing around the kitchen chatting with me while I cook (nice!) WITH HIS HANDS IN HIS POCKETS (not nice!) almost every night. I have to remind him to clear / set the table, feed veggies to the toddler, do some dishes, fold the clean laundry that’s standing right next to him every %\$#@&* time. I’m starting to get ridiculously annoyed whenever I see him with his hands in his pockets.

“I wonder if it’s one big conspiracy: Maybe this is why they have pockets and we don’t. It forces us to work!”¹⁹

20. “What Do Girls ‘Never’ Tell Guys?”

1) MalssPretty Bonnet wrote, “The tampon box in the closet is where I hid the good chocolate.”

zuck_my_butt commented:

“On this topic, a rule of thumb to help my fellow men reading this:

“If she asks you to go to the store for tampons, buy her favorite junk food, too.

“Just some wisdom I’ve picked up from a few years of being married.”

CatLadyGrip commented, “Tampons should just come with the good chocolate already in the box.”

2) Rahallahan wrote, “When I found my favorite bra, I bought five of them. That way you can switch them out,

¹⁹ Source: ImNotProIsTaken, “What you want from men but never ask them?” Reddit. AskWomen. 9 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/sokhu4/what_you_want_from_men_but_never_ask_them/ >.

which helps them keep their shape and you can wash them less often.”

LairaKlock commented, “That kind of wisdom only comes with age. Anyhow, I ordered three variations of my favorite bralette on Monday. Should be here soon enough. :3”

Rahallahan replied, “I have so much chick wisdom I could never pass on, as all of my children are boys!”

LairaKlock replied, “Pass it onto me, wise one! I might spawn some in the future.”

Rahallahan replied:

“Oh, man. Off the top of my head:

“ALWAYS pee after sex (alone or with a partner).

“Cold water to remove the blood from fabrics. Heat will set it in.

“Your body is yours and not weird. It may not look the same as others, but who cares. Find what you enjoy about your body!

“A partner who loves you WILL NOT demean, abuse, sexually repress, belittle, etc.

“Your body will do things you may not like, but every woman’s body does these things. Therefore, it’s ok. Don’t be ashamed of normal bodily functions.

“DO KEGELS! For numerous reasons. Just do them. They don’t take that long and nobody knows you are doing them.

“You should definitely know what your vulva looks like. If you don’t, grab a mirror and check it out. Make sure you keep an eye on any moles, or discolored spots.

“Antibiotics can mess with your birth control. Use a backup while on them.

“Do not use soap on your vulva. Use water, or a specially ph’d soap for that region.

“Men can get yeast infections, too. If you get one and are sexually active with one person, it’s possible that he has one too and you will just get one again.”

3) secrethedgehog5 wrote, “We hold our boobs when running down the stairs.”

4) Defiant-Insectoid wrote, “Sometimes we think men are pretty. Pretty as in ‘the way your eyes are shining in the sunlight reminds me of fireflies’ or ‘your lips look plump and soft and the way your brow furrows when you’re concentrating makes me smile.’ But we also know men don’t typically like being called pretty because they’ll think we don’t see them as men. Like we’re feminizing them, but I cannot express how much I wish I could call men pretty without upsetting them.”²⁰

²⁰ Source: datadelivery, “What do girls ‘never’ tell guys?” Reddit. AskReddit. February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/soh7u2/what_do_girls_never_tell_guys/ >.

CHAPTER 2: Questions 21-40

21. “Women Of Reddit, What’s The Stupidest Thing That’s Ever Been Mansplained To You? How Did You React To It?”

1) badb-crow wrote, “Got told by a man that the female orgasm is a myth. Told him that he’d basically just admitted to being shit in bed.”

2) lillypadlola wrote:

“A man told me that women can just push down on their stomachs to ‘push the period blood out’ to end their periods quicker.

“Yes, he was serious. He was 24 years old.”

reallynotsohappy wrote, “Once [my?] boyfriend saw me squeezing my stomach. I was in pain and pressure felt better. He thought I was trying to squeeze the blood out. ‘I can squeeze better if it makes it end quicker, but I really doubt it will work,’ he said really innocently.”

3) Joy2bhapa wrote:

“A guy once argued with his girlfriend (who’s a friend of mine) in front of me and others that birth control is his girlfriend’s responsibility because she is the one who gets pregnant. I said, ‘Well, she produces only one egg per month while you produce 250 million sperms per ejaculation so stop being a selfish jerk and put on your f**king condom.’

“Got a round of applause from everyone who heard it.”²¹

²¹ Source: Love_by_light, “Women of reddit what’s the stupidest thing that’s ever been mansplained to you? How did you react to it?” Reddit. AskWomen. 11 February 2022 <

22. “What Do You Do When You Catch A Stranger Looking At Your Breasts Or Butt Or Any Part Of Your Body In An Uncomfortable Way?”

1) ProvocativeCactus wrote, “In high school, I got suspended for carrying a spray bottle for this reason. I had a group of guys who did it shamelessly. I decided to start reacting after I got my ass grabbed. When I raised hell over it, nothing was done. (I shouldn’t say nothing; the guy who did it called me a psycho bitch and he and his friends started barking at me in the hallway when they saw me.) I started spraying them with a bottle every time they did. If you’re gonna act like an animal, I’m gonna treat you like one.”

2) Chickencooppaint83 wrote, “If it’s just a glance, I don’t really care. People look at things and I do have big and nice boobs, and they’re prominent even when I wear a polo neck, so I get it to some degree. When it’s actually *staring*, I usually stare them out, or just say, ‘My eyes are up here.’”

3) PinkLollipopLicker wrote, “I think it’s just natural, instinctual behavior for others to look at women. I’m pretty average so I could see how it may be a different experience for those who are considered conventionally attractive. I don’t think it happens often to me, but then again some of my friends have told me I’m oblivious so there’s that.”

4) Keekee-88 wrote:

“I’m extremely torn by this. We are conditioned and taught that it’s ‘natural’ for men to look at women. We are classed as jealous if we don’t like our partners checking out other women when with us, yet we are supposed to be offended when people check us out?

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/spr0wy/women_of_reddit_whats_the_stupidest_thing_thats/ >.

“I don’t understand it. If a man checks me out, I am flattered, but I don’t wear low-cut tops as I know I’d feel uncomfortable if a man was to look at my boobs. For some reason I don’t care if a man looked at my ass; stare away, it doesn’t bother me, ha.”²²

23. “Build A Man A Campfire, He’ll Be Warm For A Day. Set A Man On Fire, He’ll Be Warm For The Rest Of His Life. What Are Some Real-Life Examples Of This?”

Extension_Drummer_85 wrote, “Have him use a condom and you won’t have to worry about becoming pregnant for a night. Don’t have him use a condom and you won’t have to worry about becoming pregnant for nine months.”²³

24. “What’s The Most Romantic Thing Someone Has Ever Done For You?”

1) Just_Red_00 wrote, “My family wasn’t very financially stable when I was a teenager. My boyfriend at the time would sneak some of the food from his family’s home and bring it to me. What made it more romantic was the fact that his parents were extremely strict and assholes altogether. But the guy still risked it to feed me. Never been so grateful.”

²² Source: catwearingredsocks, “What do you do when you catch a stranger looking at your breasts or butt or any part of your body in an uncomfortable way?” Reddit. AskWomen. 11 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/sptuoz/what_do_you_do_when_you_catch_a_stranger_looking/ >.

²³ Source: RandomIdiotHere, “Build a man a campfire he’ll be warm for a day, Set a man on fire he’ll be warm for the rest of his life. What are some real life examples of this?” Reddit. AskReddit. 11 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/spsimk/build_a_man_a_campfire_hell_be_warm_for_a_day_set/ >.

TheineandTheobromine wrote:

“In my first year of medical school, I was struggling to take care of myself, pay for my dog’s surgery, and afford healthy food that I needed time to prepare on top of my bills. One day, after my partner left after a visit, I noticed a bunch of healthy snacks in my pantry. The next time there were more snacks and some MiO packs [water flavorer]. After the third time I called him crying because he had filled an entire drawer with my favorite protein bars.

“Even now when he comes over to stay for a day or two, he’ll buy and prepare chicken and veggies and quinoa the way I like it while I’m away at school. I usually don’t see it until he’s gone. He’s helped me get through this so much.”

2) lillypadlola wrote:

“When my husband and I got together, he did plenty of romantic things but nothing that ever just *stood* out to me if that makes sense.

“About three months into our relationship, I noticed he was buying me flowers. A LOT. And specifically sunflowers, which were my favorite flowers. I never told him that either, I just assumed he picked a flower and assumed it my favorite. No big deal as I love flowers in general. At my job at the time, I had Tuesday’s off every week. Every Tuesday he would bring me a different bouquet of flowers. Mainly sunflowers, but he would switch it up. I’ve never had a man do that for me so it was definitely questionable but in a good way. I eventually asked him, why are you buying me flowers so much, and why only on my off days? Am I missing something basically?

“He explained to me that he noticed a necklace hanging in my car that my father bought me when I was 18. It was a sunflower lock necklace that opened on the inside and said, ‘You are my sunshine.’ I remember him asking me about the

necklace and I explained to him that my father gifted it to me and I hadn't removed it since. I didn't think anything of it, but that's how he figured out that sunflowers were my favorite.

“He then explains how he noticed all, and I do mean ALL of my tattoos had flowers incorporated into them. As somebody with 13 tattoos, you can imagine that's a lot of flowers. It became clear to him that I genuinely loved flowers, even outside of the romantic stance on them.

“Why did he buy them for me only on my off days? He said he noticed with the first bouquet he bought me, that I spent a lot of time trimming the leaves and stems and arranging them in a vase, basically putting a lot of care and time into them and he wanted me to have time to set up my flowers without rushing so he felt off days were the best time to do so.

“I cried for two days. He didn't understand why it was such a big deal to me, but coming from somebody who was an abusive relationship before him, I'd never had somebody pay *that* much attention to me and apply that much effort to show that he pays attention to me and all my little things.

“When I get angry at him, I think about that exact conversation with him and remember how genuine and kind he is and how thankful I am to have somebody like that in my life.”

j_tothemoon commented, “Marry him.”

lillypadlola responded:

“Oh, I wasted absolutely no time. I almost proposed to him first, but he beat me to it.

“We are married and due with a son in April. :-) I am unimaginably blessed. I sometimes feel like I sound arrogant and brag on him too much, but he deserves it and then some.”

3) Brainsonastick wrote:

“For my 24th birthday, she got me a small Play-Doh tub and where it says ‘ages 2+,’ she added a line to the + to make it a 4. That’s it. That’s all she gave me for my birthday and I had never expressed any interest in Play-Doh.

“I LOVED IT!

“I’ve never been big on material goods, but I love jokes, especially dumb ones. In giving me nothing but a single dumb joke for my birthday, she showed me that she knew me and my quirks and accepted me as I am and was willing to ignore tradition and social pressures in favor of what actually makes me happy. I know it seems small, but it meant a lot to me.”

4) Suspicious-Elk-3631 wrote, “I had a really shitty prom back in high school. No date, my ‘friends’ ditched me, cried the whole way home, etc. My boyfriend learned of this after we got together a couple years later and threw me a prom redo at his apartment. He decorated, moved all his furniture out of the living room to make a dance floor, bought my favorite food for dinner, came to my door with a corsage, everything. We’ve been married for 14 years now.”

5) AdApprehensive4732 wrote, “My girlfriend never told me but she used to knit blankets, and she knitted one for me a couple days ago. It’s literally the comfiest blanket I’ve ever slept in. I fucking love it, and I’m pretty sure she’s gonna be my wife because of this thing.”

6) TeaThymeAlchemisst wrote:

“I was suffering from my wisdom teeth and one of my teeth was broken because of one of them coming in sideways. I couldn’t afford dental work at all or save up because I lived paycheck to paycheck. I suffered for many years.

“Very early in our relationship, he learned about it and realised just how bad it was and without hesitation told me he was going to help me. Soon enough I had appointments and a surgery to remove all four wisdom teeth plus the broken one. He paid for all of it. I was shocked and extremely grateful. Still am. For someone to simply care about my well-being was / is astonishing.

“He held my hand while I was being put under because I was so afraid. Took care of me for the entire recovery process. Helped change my gauze, made sure it was healing okay, got me the best-tasting Frosty I’ve ever experienced some time after the surgery — he was just so sweet the entire time.

“Over time, I’ve gotten more work done. All cavities dealt with and my mouth and myself as a whole is so much healthier. Something that I cried about and struggled with since a teen finally, FINALLY not a problem anymore. Not feeling some form of tooth or mouth pain or discomfort was so strange at first.

“He cares about my quality of life just as much as his own and that for me is the most romantic thing I think I could ever experience.”

7) Zerly wrote, “My then-boyfriend drove 45 minutes to my house late at night to basically push my head into the floor because I had a migraine and the external pressure of him leaning on my head was a massive relief. Nothing else was working. He sat like that, on the floor with me, for a couple of hours and then drove back home in the middle of the night. It was a weird request, and he didn’t even blink, just helped.”

Zerly added:

“As I was writing, I knew it would sound bad, but it was that or ‘I had him sit on my head,’ and that felt more wrong.

“I felt so loved and cared for and it was just so weird. It worked, though!”

8) jaelythe4781 wrote:

“My husband is great at romantic gestures.

“There was the time he randomly surprised me coming home from a dinner with my friends by meeting me in a suit with flowers, wine, and our song playing to dance to.

“Or our first wedding anniversary when he planned a full vow-renewal ceremony at the resort we originally planned to get married at (which had to be canceled due to Covid) including several friends, an officiant, and a photographer and a plan to get me dressed up and distracted until it was time for the ceremony. He managed to keep it all secret. When my friend was trying to get me to the ceremony spot, I was worried that we were crashing someone else’s wedding photos until my husband stepped out of hiding!”

jaelythe4781 added:

“I cried a lot, lol. I was teary through the whole ceremony.

“The other thing he did that hit me in the feels was creating a happy birthday video for my last birthday. He got as many family and friends as he could find and contact to send him video clips with birthday wishes and put them all together in one 10-minute video. He managed to get videos from family members and friends I haven’t seen in years. It was beautiful and I totally ugly-cried through the whole thing. Hell, it makes me teary to remember now!”

9) gigglybubbles wrote:

“When I was 15, my mom and I were losing our house. We sold a lot of our furniture so it was pretty empty and close to Christmas. My mom decided to not put up a tree because well, honestly we couldn’t afford it. I remember during this time I was seeing a neurologist for random seizures I was having, and my mom and I had just gotten back from the appointment. There were Christmas lights on the roof turned on that weren’t there before. I was freaking out but my mom was like go on! I go in and there’s a Christmas tree with lights and 2 presents. And a note on the ceiling fan. My ex (then-boyfriend) installed the lights and tree while my mom and I were away at the appointment. He wrote, ‘It’s not Christmas without a tree, so ta-da!’

“My heart swelled.”²⁴

25. “What Do You Say To Your Partner After Sex?”

1) Gladsorex wrote, “We high-five. It started as an inside joke we’d do sometimes, but it’s become a habit now.”

Anonjohn311121 commented, “Yup. ‘High five, good sex’ started as a joke for me. But it’s becoming more permanent.”

theycallmeamunchkin asked, “Is it bad I can see Borat saying that?”

2) AMindBlown wrote:

“‘Towel?’

“‘Towel.’”

²⁴ Source: Trxxi, “What’s the most romantic thing ever done for you?” Reddit. AskReddit. 11 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/sq3ua2/whats_the_most_romantic_thing_ever_done_for_you/ >.

EclecticDreck commented, “Also, discussing the mechanics of retrieving the towel, which is somehow never in arm’s reach without resorting to a forced mid-week linen change.”

big_papagale commented, “The towel is in the bathroom, but my shirt is right next to the bed and I have to do laundry anyways.”

winston198451 commented, “Pro-Tip: Keep towels always within arm’s reach of the bedside. Put them in a nice basket so they even look decorative.”

MediumSizedMedium commented, “Fiancé’s top drawer in his night stand is our towel drawer.”

3) Idontseenipple commented, “Call me old fashioned, but I always say, ‘I love you.’”²⁵

26. “Twenty-Six Percent Of Men Are Celibate And The Number Is Getting Higher. What Do You Think Of This?”

1) Confeticandi wrote:

“To be honest, I think it’s how both genders are responding to technology. I think men are isolating themselves in their rooms with solitary hobbies like videogames more, so they don’t socialize as much in general, let alone with women. Meanwhile, heterosexual women are focusing more on career, friendships, and self-actualization than ever before and so are having fuller single lives and are not as interested in looking for a male partner.

²⁵ Source: jadedyoungster, “What do you say to your partner after sex?” Reddit. AskReddit. 14 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ssb6cf/what_do_you_say_to_your_partner_after_sex/ >.

“From a female perspective, I and all my female family and friends who are single and celibate by choice are just happy being single. Your time, money, and decisions are all your own and you don’t have to take on the extra physical risk of dating and sexual relationships or the emotional labor of trying to teach yet another guy proper communication and emotional intelligence as a result of that social isolation.”

popeyessbeansandrice commented, “Exactly. We have no reason to settle for a man who can’t be bothered to really make us cum or contribute to the maintenance of a home. I think men haven’t grasped how to actually be emotionally intelligent and present partners yet.”

Allegutennamenwag commented:

“I think you’re onto something. Women’s liberation did a speedrun since my mom’s childhood. A few decades ago, all you had to do as a man to ‘find a good wife’ was having money. She couldn’t work or vote, so it’s not like she had much of a choice. Women were dependent on men so men didn’t have to be good husbands.

“Nowadays, we can fully choose how to live our lives. We can sustain ourself, we can prevent pregnancies, we can get a divorce if he turns out to be a shithead. Men lost their power on us and now need to put in the work to be a good partner. Many are still struggling in the emotional intelligence department, but at least in my country, dads do more work in raising their children than ever and pride themselves in doing so.”

Orange_julius commented:

“Thank you for addressing this as what it is: a real society-wide problem. Incels are not just a few assholes whom we can ignore, and the ‘who cares if they’re not getting any? They don’t deserve it if they’re sexist slob’s attitude doesn’t help anyone.

“The reality is that human connection — whether sex, relationships, even just friendships — are essential for a lot of people, and our growing social isolation is making a lot of people very sad. Now, Incels are catastrophically wrong in their worldview; they are wrong about both the causes of their problems and the solutions to them, but they’re not wrong that there is a problem here. It’s one that exists at a societal level and can only be addressed at a societal level.”

katwoodruff commented:

“Dating has caused so much emotional turmoil, without delivering anything positive. I shan’t waste my time with it anymore.

“I work a good job, I have my cats, I try to travel as much as I can. All good.”

jpgrandsam responded, “This! Described the idea of trying to date while in grad school and working full time to my friend as ‘needlessly adding what is for all intents and purposes stress and anxiety on top of my existing stress and anxiety.’ Does not compute. Don’t need that.”

2) Kemokiro wrote, “Tired of hearing about men not having sex. So many have been whining about it online for years, and saying the most heinous, vile, entitled things about women. Their lack of ability to have sex at will is no one else’s problem.”

blastedflower006 commented, “Exactly, I know plenty of guys still getting after it, so ... it’s their problem, not ours.”

Not-A-SoggyBagel commented:

“Right? My male pals don’t complain about not getting any.

“These guys who aren’t, well maybe they should be a bit more competitive? Romance is unfortunately a lot like a free market. You have to have qualities people are looking for.”

3) insertcaffeine wrote:

“Not my problem.

“They can take responsibility and improve themselves (best answer). Or, they can blame Covid or whichever political party they don’t like or their jobs or their childhood, there are plenty of excuses.

“But this is in no way, shape, or form women’s problem. It’s not our responsibility to solve. We must make it clear that those of us who have sex with men are going to continue doing so because we want to have sex with them, not because men as a whole are not getting enough sex.”

That’s_a_BaD_LiMe commented:

“Exactly, I love it. We have sex because we want to have sex with them, not because they are owed sex.

“If women don’t want to have sex with you, that is a you-problem. It’s not our responsibility to hand it over because you feel like you are entitled to it. Do some self-reflection and self-improvement.”

4) AtTheEnd777 wrote, “I’m totally happy about it. It’s proof that fewer and fewer women are being trapped by undesirable men.”

foxabdraccoon commented:

“Tell the truth.

“It’s not women’s job to fuck men.

“I’m celibate. By choice. For years.

“I ain’t complaining.”²⁶

27. “What’s The Funniest Date You’ve Ever Been On?”

The Original Poster of this question added, “I’ve seen a bunch asking about the worst, but how about the funniest? Funniest place you’ve been taken, funniest thing to happen on a first date, whatever suits you, just give me your funny and / or embarrassing stories.”

1) Viibrations wrote, “On one of our first dates, my boyfriend took us to an event called Acro Cats. It’s like a traveling circus for house cats. The cats are pretty well trained, but from the beginning they make it clear that cats will be cats and do whatever the hell they want. It was pure chaos and several of the cats were just wandering around the audience. It was so funny and awful but amazing.”

2) MidnightFireHuntress wrote:

“Guy I met on OkCupid brought his MOM TO THE DATE!
LOL.

“It was sooo awkward, funniest shit ever.

“Edit: So he told me in DMs that his best friend was his mother, and that they spent a lot of time together; at first I thought, ‘Awww that’s sweet!’ And he talked about her nonstop, her work, her hobbies, the things she did, he even shared her picture to me, which I thought was kinda funky. We agreed to meet at a cafe in town, he hopped out of his mom’s car, and she waved and drove off. Like 20 seconds later she shows back up and pulls up a seat, turns out she was

²⁶ Source: Afraid-Requirement70, “26% of men are celibate and the number is getting higher. What do you think of this?” Reddit. AskWomen. 14 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ssv7vx/26_of_men_are_celibate_and_the_number_is_getting/ >.

parking the car to come join us, LOL The entire date was just her talking about her work and showing me old photos of when she used to play baseball, they sat REALLY close together and kept hugging and kissing each other's cheek, it was so fucking awkward.”

3) lizzy_in_the_sky wrote, “I went on a date, and the guy just didn't want to talk. I seriously think he said 10 words the entire date. He kept giving one-word answers to anything I said or asked and would not initiate conversation at all. I finally quit trying, and we sat in complete silence as we ate. On the way home, I imagined him trying to kiss me after literally not speaking for 40 minutes, and I burst out laughing. He didn't ask me why I was laughing, so I started laughing even harder. I feel so mean for laughing, but I seriously couldn't stop.”

4) HumbleBell wrote, “My high school boyfriend took me to the mall to see his other girlfriend's high school band perform. We all went to different high schools, so we didn't know about each other. I was so upset at the time, but looking back, it's a hilarious story. What was he thinking? Who has two girlfriends and decides to initiate a group hang-out session after his other girlfriend's flute performance at the food court!”

4) Selinakyle91 wrote, “We had already been on a few dates. It was a Valentine's Day. And so we had already had lunch. And we went to Starbucks and I don't know, maybe I looked really hot that day. But we were waiting for our drinks and I was laying my head on his shoulder. And he tells me that he has a boner. And I look down and he's covering his package. And I'm just laughing to myself in my head. I'm like who

gets a boner at Starbucks? Apparently he does. It was cute. I felt flattered.”²⁷

28. “What’s The Smartest Decision You Have Made While Drunk?”

1) [kia_shahriyari3923](#) wrote:

“Finally getting the courage to call up and ask out a girl I really liked one Friday night by asking, ‘What’s a pretty girl like you doing home on a Friday night?’

“Turns out it was Wednesday and I was incredibly drunk. We are now married.”

2) [Godzilla_fan1233](#) wrote, “Years ago in college, after many, many drinks, I hit on some dude’s girlfriend in front of him at a party at my apartment complex several times, even after my roommates tried to steer me away from them. Eventually the boyfriend punched me in the face (I really deserved it), and I collapsed into and through a glass table. Went to the hospital to get patched up, and I met an RN there and it turns out we lived in the same apartment complex. We dated for seven years until she became my wife. Hitting on another guy’s girl is still the best drunk decision I’ve ever made.”

3) [gaabbsri](#) wrote, “I sent an ex-girlfriend who hadn’t talked to me since freshman year of high school a Facebook message one night while drinking with a friend. (It had been probably 9 years since I had talked to her.) She was bored and also drinking, so she came over and hung out with us. (We lived within walking distance — no drunk driving.) It

²⁷ Source: [Alive_In_Hell](#), “What’s the funniest date you’ve ever been on?” Reddit. AskReddit. 16 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/stkluh/whats_the_funniest_date_youve_ever_been_on/ >.

was awkward, but not as bad as you might expect. We've been married three years now."

4) Crazy_Inflation_9088 wrote, "While I was drunk at a bar, a girl there was trying to get rid of her cat, needless to say, I told her I'd take it. I gave her my address and phone number. Next morning I was wakened by a knock at the door, it was the girl from last night and she had the cat. I vaguely remember the conversation, but I remember not telling my wife. We have had Tubbs for eight years now; we got his partner Crockett two years later."

5) Realistic_Elk_448 wrote, "Decided to buy a dog from a hippie outside a burrito stand. Eleven years later and the dog is lying right next to me, wagging her tail a little when I look down at her."²⁸

29. "What Is The Best Response To 'I Love You' If You Don't Love Them Back?"

1) jhangel77 wrote:

"I'm gonna go with the serious answer and say that the person who says 'I Love You' first should understand that there may be the risk that they don't say it back at that point when you say it.

"If you're in a serious relationship, the other person who receives the I Love You should be honest enough to say if they don't feel it just yet.

"I started a relationship with my now-husband and about four months into our relationship, I told him I loved him.

²⁸ Source: tonorosales, "What's the smartest decision you have made while drunk?" Reddit. AskReddit. 18 February 2022 <
https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/svbn3x/whats_the_smartest_decision_you_have_made_while/>.

Yes, it was early, but I wanted him to know how I felt and be honest. He was honest and said that he was not there yet, but he appreciated me telling him and that he wants to be totally sure before he told me. About two months later, he told me he loved me.

“Later on in our relationship when I asked him when he realized he loved me was when he was at work and zoning out and his mind went to thinking about me. That answer even now (ten years later) makes me feel all warm and giddy inside.”

GrumpyCatStevens wrote, “When I told one of my previous girlfriends I loved her for the first time, her reply was ‘Hmm.’ And the next time, her response was, ‘I have to know — do you really love me? Most of the guys who’ve said that to me said it right before they broke up with me.’”

2) Long_Error_5153 wrote:

“Had a roommate respond with ‘I’m ... not there yet.’

“She got there eventually and they’ve been married for 15 years.”²⁹

30. “What’s The Quirkiest Stuff Your Partner Does?”

1) SJHCJellyBean wrote:

“I game with my husband and our friends a lot. Husband often mutes because the cats hang out near him and are talkative.

²⁹ Source: redditor6940, “What is the best response to ‘I love you’ if you don’t love them back?” Reddit. AskReddit. 19 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/swg0vj/what_is_the_best_response_to_i_love_you_if_you/>.

“At LEAST once a session he will pop on and say, ‘I’m muuuuuted!’ Because he was talking but no one heard him.

“I told him if he goes before me the headstone will just be

“First last name

“‘I’m muted!’

“Get it?

“I love him so much.”

2) stellalunawitchbaby wrote, “We have a pet cam and if I’m on a trip without him I’ll tune in to see the cats. I’ve caught him dancing with the fat orange one (as we call her) multiple times. It appears she prefers a waltz.”

fluxxhunter000commented, “I dance alone all the time like no one watches. I also do it when everyone watches. I have a dance for making toast, hot chocolate, and showering — for everything. I get it from my mum. She’s fucking amazing.”

3) Louisianimal wrote, “My husband is really hard to read. He has an intense demeanor like he’s never comfortable because he’s waiting for something to happen. That being said, he has zero hesitation when it comes to making me and our little girl laugh. I come home from work one day and there’s nerf darts everywhere. They come down the hallway, and she arrests me at nerf gunpoint while he mirandizes me. Or when he pied me in the face, yes, like in cartoons, while she distracted me by showing me her drawing. They’re so cute it makes me wanna throw up.”³⁰

³⁰ Source: fluxxhunter000, “What’s the quirkiest stuff your partner does?” Reddit. AskWomen. 19 February 2022 <

31. “What Screams ‘I’m Attracted To You’?”

1) Captain Tryk wrote:

“My dad made many attempts to catch my mother’s attention. Everyone at work knew what was happening but my mom was dense as a brick on that front because she had a lot of shit to deal with at the time. One of my dad’s attempts were him coming to work and showing her a picture he had taken of a window in an old house where someone had scratched a heart into it. He asked my mom what she thought and she was like, ‘Oh, that’s nice,’ :) and had no clue what he was trying to communicate. It was pretty funny. I don’t remember what finally made her put two and two together, but I’m happy she got it eventually else I wouldn’t exist.

“I was also very dense when my boyfriend started flirting with me. He had to spell it out for me before I understood that he wasn’t just sending me letters with dried flowers, quotes about love and romance and watercolor paintings of teddy bears to be friendly. Dense as a fucking brick.”

2) uwiu-lmao-xD wrote, “Apparently my fiancée dropped a whole lot of hints before we got together. A big standout was complaining that she didn’t have any plans for our Junior prom, and then asking me what my plans for that night were. My dumbass responded with something to the effect of ‘Fuck prom, I’ll be home playing *Mario*.’”

3) pronouns-r-they-them wrote:

“I sat next to a guy back in high school who would speak to literally every girl in the class except me. Didn’t think much

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/swk77b/whats_the_quirkiest_stuff_your_partner_does/>.

of it, figured he didn't like me or that I was too shy and awkward to strike up a conversation with.

“Met up again in college, sat at the same table again, but this time he dared to talk to me.

“A couple years later we're married with a two-year-old boy. So I guess ignoring your crush can be effective.”³¹

32. “What’s The Most Fucked-Up Thing You Did In A Sleepover?”

1) zar42 wrote:

“Got a bloody nose. It was dark and I didn't know the house, so I stuck near the walls and went down the hallway and found the bathroom. Got the bleeding to stop, cleaned up, went back to sleep.

“In the morning, the mom came in frantic making sure everyone was alive after she saw smeared, bloody handprints all the way down the hallway.”

2) MKE_likes_it wrote:

“In the mid-late 90's, my brother got really into the anarchists cookbook and learned how to tap into neighbors landlines from a box on the pole using a touch-tone phone and some connectors from RadioShack.

“We'd have friends sleep over (we are close in age), and we'd sneak out and he'd hook a phone up so we could call phone sex lines from outside a neighbor's house in the bushes.

³¹ Source: IsellKidneys2356, “What screams ‘I’m attracted to you’?” Reddit. AskReddit. 20 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/swyu74/what_screams_im_attracted_to_you/ >.

“I still wonder if they disputed the charges or if the wife just thought the husband was calling 1-900-big-tits at 2am.”

3) VTMike802 wrote:

“More embarrassing than fucked up.

“Accidently clogged the toilet at friend ‘X’s house. There was no plunger and the toilet was filling rapidly. I panicked and ran to my friend who promptly called for his dad. His dad takes one look and yells from the bathroom, ‘Jesus, [VTMike802]! How big of a shit did you take?’ It took years before I went back to his house.”

CaptainDunkaroo commented:

“I clogged the toilet at a friend’s house in the middle of the night. It started to overflow and there was no plunger. I woke up my friend, who then woke his parents. Turned out that the water that had overflowed had soaked through the floor and was dripping into the kitchen. His mom started trying to collect the dripping water downstairs while his dad was on clog duty.

“I never saw a plunger that night. What I did see was my friend’s dad elbow deep in shit water pulling out a wad of shit and toilet paper. The floor was covered. We had to get that cleaned up. More shit water. By this time his sister was awake and came to investigate.

“I haven’t talked to them in over 20 years.”

phenomgooba wrote, “LMAO. I have a friend who lived through this ... except worse. I had no idea about it either. One day my friend went home and I didn’t know why and he stopped coming around. I ran into him and invited him over. He said, ‘Nah, man, pass. Last time I was there I took a shit and it wouldn’t flush so I told your dad and he took a look, said it was the most massive shit he’s ever seen and

that I need to go out back and pick out a stick to cut my turd up with. I was mortified, so I just walked home. I can't face him ever again. Sorry.' And I laughed and we hung out elsewhere for a while till he got over the embarrassment."

VT_Squire commented, "I did the same ... but they had a cat box with the cover in the bathroom and the scooper was right on top. Scooped out what I could, chucked it in the box, buried it, tried to flush the toilet, and it worked! I just acted like nothing happened and went back to playing video games. Fast forward to the next day at school, dude was an absolute wreck and worried about his cat."

4) brreckelhoff wrote:

"In Boy Scouts, I was the morning cook, meaning I woke up before anyone else to chop wood, make fire, and get water boiling. I grab the hatchet and start splitting a log into little splinters for kindling. It was cold and dewy. The hatchet slipped from my hand mid upward-swing and went flying ... to the tent circle. It seriously flew 10-15 yard and fell straight down through the roof of a tent, where 4 scouts were sound asleep.

"I'm not sure how long I waited to hear someone start screaming. I probably sat there in terrified anticipation for over a minute. Then I was worried someone might be hurt so I crawled over to that tent where the hatchet landed. I super quietly unzipped the flap, and saw it landed in a bag of clothes very close to some kid's head. I snuck in, grabbed the hatchet, left the tent, zipped it back up, and finished breakfast.

"I heard them at breakfast complaining that 'the raccoons' had ruined their perfectly nice tent by clawing a hole in it."

5) 00TooMuchTime00 wrote:

"I bathed my friend.

“Two of us stayed at a friend’s house in our early teens.

“We raided their parents liquor cabinet and proceeded to not understand how alcohol works.

“We drank every kind of liquor under the sun, very quickly, over the course of a few hours. We chased shots with Popsicles and ate animal crackers to get the taste of gin out of our mouths.

“One of the three of us stood atop a small staircase into the living room. Maybe four steps, a few feet in distance.

“He swayed, grabbed on to the railing, turned pail and then projectile vomited so violently that it all landed and splashed at the bottom of the staircase, leaving the steps clear, minus a few drops.

“He then immediately fell down the stairs and began to laugh in a pool of his own vomit.

“We picked him up, dragged him to the bathroom, stripped off all his clothes and shoved him in the shower. He had thick curly hair that was filled with bright red Popsicle-colored animal cracker paste.

“I told him to put out his hands as he kept yelling to not tell everyone he had a small dick. Once he finally complied, I poured shampoo in his hands and told him to clean his hair.

“He slapped it all into his face, causing him to gag and his eyes to burn. At this point I had to get him cleaned up. So I did.

“We had no spare clothes for him barring our friend’s brother’s clothes. He was quite obese.

“We had to get a belt and tightly tie what I can only describe as parachute shorts around his waist.

“We went to sleep afterwards and convinced ourselves no one in the house heard us.

“I remember this story so well because that friend shouting about his dick had a bigger dick than me, and you never forget finding out your dick is small.”

6) AlwaysMooning wrote, “I don’t remember what we were looking for, but another friend and I went through our buddy’s parents’ bedroom drawers and found a VHS tape. We were curious and idiotic so we popped the tape in to see what was on it. Our buddy walked in while we were watching his parents have sex. His scream was the most shocking / horrifying thing I have heard to this day.”

heilyourself commented:

“Some of the boys came over when my parents aren’t home. Trying to be the cool friend, I showed them my dad’s porn stash. Only this time there’s a VHS tape I didn’t recognise and it’s unlabeled. Unlike the others.

“Yep. Got a reeeaaal close look that took me a good long while to forget. The boys are actually solid friends, realise how fucked up it is, and don’t take the piss. After the initial reaction they never brought it up. Some solid bro code right there.”

7) catsrufd wrote, “I pissed on the air mattress and my friends mom asked if a raccoon broke in.”

LearningIsTheBest wrote, “Props to that mom. She totally knew you pissed all over her mattress yet she offered you some cover. A real WWJD [What Would Jesus Do?] moment.”

8) Gamesgar0 wrote, “One of my ‘buddies’ in high school would bully me all the time and he treated me like shit when I was staying over his house with other friends. One time he

told me to go and get him a glass of water so I went upstairs, poured him a glass of water, dipped my nuts in it for a few seconds then gave it to him.”

9) midter wrote, “So my house never had junk food when I was little and when I slept over my friend’s house I ate an entire Chips Ahoy container while everyone was asleep and then put the container under her little sister’s bed who then got blamed for it and in trouble.”

AlanaK commented, “My best friend was never allowed junk food either, so every time she came over we said goodbye to all the Pop Tarts and cookies! I would also send her home with some in secret. This is what happens when kids aren’t just taught about moderation! (Though I know, I definitely didn’t help with that either.)”

More_Examples6153 commented, “My family also never had junk food, so my sister would just eat anything unhealthy she could get her hands on at kid’s birthday parties. She always threw up and my parents had to pick her up. I just had a weird obsession with toast and Nutella. One time I ate 20 slices of toast with Nutella for breakfast, but my stomach was better at handling it. Lol.”

10) HoossierKittyMama wrote, “Played with matches. For years afterward thought I’d burned my aunt and uncle’s house down. I was staying with them, my cousin and I were lighting matches in the kitchen and throwing them in the sink to put them out. The head of one flew off and landed in the shelving unit by the sink, still smoking but when we looked for it, we couldn’t find it. It was the 80s so all those ‘kids, don’t play with matches’ ads were everywhere. Hours later we were awakened by my aunt telling us to get out of the house because it was on fire. Watched their house burn to the ground and was terrified to tell them what we’d been doing earlier. I just knew we’d done it. Carried that guilt for years. When I was around 15ish, which was many years

later, I finally told my aunt. She started laughing and after realizing I'd been thinking this the whole time, hugged me and explained it had been wiring in the back bedroom. I was an adult before I finally understood, after learning about how fire marshals investigate fires that it wasn't just an assumption they'd made and could let go of that guilt. So I guess, technically, the most screwed-up thing I did on a sleepover was traumatize myself for years."³²

33. “What’s One Thing Your Partner Doesn’t Know?”

1) GoGoNJDevil wrote, “That her mom called for her the moment before she died. When her mom was dying, she was in the room with her for almost 24 hours straight and left for 30 seconds and I was there and in those 30 seconds her mother died but not before calling for my wife. I don’t know if it will haunt her or not, but I just don’t think it’s something she needs to know.”

2) -Tibeardius- wrote, “My kid had made me a heart-type thing at school and wanted to give it to me. I told him it was great but that I always get the stuff he makes from school. Instead he should put my girlfriend’s name on it because she’ll love it. He gave it to her and she melted. She’s got it on the fridge and has been showing it off for two weeks to friends and family. She keeps saying stuff like ‘It was so nice he thought of me and he spelled my name right and he’s so sweet’ and on and on. It’ll just be my and his secret.”

3) shutterpunts wrote, “She suffers from depression, and when she hits a slump she feels like lying in bed and doing nothing, even though 99.9% of the time just getting out of

³² Source: skep_JoJoFan, “What’s the most fucked up thing you did in a sleepover?” Reddit. Ask Reddit. 16 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/suaovo/whats_the_most_fucked_up_thing_you_did_in_a/ >.

bed and doing something, ANYTHING will make a dramatic difference in her day. So usually when she hits a slump I'll manufacture some fake emergency that only she can help me solve, like, 'Hey, babe, I think one of the cats has a scratch on his face but he won't hold still for me to look.' Of course, the cat is fine, but I just tricked her into getting out of bed and doing something, and that's always the hardest part."

4) gerryf19 wrote:

"That I have a folder of photos on my computer called "Places I have found my wife's shoes" that is legitimately filled with thousands of pictures of my wife's shoes that are neither in the closet or shoe rack

"I started it years ago as a joke and it has gotten out of hand."

Shwanna85 wrote, "This is hilarious and I also have a folder of my husband doing projects around the house. They are all with his back to me because he refuses to bend to my will and I have just learned to be sneaky about being proud of him and now I hoard all my love to myself. Serves him right."

5) candinos wrote:

"That most of the times I ask my wife for a hug are when she's feeling down or upset, because she doesn't like to be 'clingy or needy' so she internalises and goes quiet.

"I tell her I need a hug because of one thing or another, so I can comfort her without making her feel like she's inconveniencing me."

6) JBroski91 wrote:

"My wife is the biggest softie for animals, and we have birds that nest right in a column on our porch. One day a baby bird fell out and she saw. Well, it ended up dying, but I buried it

and told her that I saw the momma bird come down and get it. It made her day so much better that I haven't had the heart to tell her it died and I probably never will.

“I also distract her whenever I see roadkill coming up or tell her it was just a plastic bag or something.”

7) No-Metal2605 wrote, “My wife doesn't know her Kindle is connected to my Amazon account and I can see the many alien sex novels she's read.”

bolthrower57 commented, “Man, you gotta read some of those and tell her about this weird dream you had.”

8) Randomizer73 wrote:

“That I know our daughter's Reddit account, and that I check in on her regularly.

“I feel deep, profound guilt about following her because while I respect her privacy, I know that she has significant physical and emotional issues. She's at college out of state, and she battles with clinical depression and an unusual and incurable chronic illness, and she really, really tries not to let on to the world when she's going through a rough patch.

“She'll make a comment or post something that lets me know that she's feeling crushed or broken, and I'll coincidentally reach out to her the next day and give her an opening to talk about anything that's bothering her. Most of the time it works and she'll vent for a while and feel a little better. Some of the time we just trade pictures of cats. Either way, she knows that she's loved and that someone is thinking of her.

“If I told my wife about this? She'd blow the whole thing up and like a bull in a china shop she'd make it pretty clear that she knew our daughter's account and immediately interject herself into our daughter's life so she could fix everything. I

understand that because my wife is brilliant and protective and only sees the world in black and white. But I also understand that my daughter has to fix her own life — and that she’s doing it every day, but that it doesn’t hurt to have someone text her out of the blue and tell her a dad joke and try and make her laugh while she’s doing it.

“I wrestle with the idea that I’m simultaneously a bad parent and a bad husband because of this. I’ve been married for almost thirty years, and this is the only thing I’ve ever kept from my wife. I hate it, but it’s a hole I dug for myself, so I have to sit in it alone.”

9) NecromanticGarden wrote, “Whenever we get fast food to go, she enjoys eating the extra fries which have fallen out of their carriage and into the bag. I’m not really sure why she enjoys them so much but whenever there aren’t any, I drop a few down when grabbing my fries secretly and then give her the bag. It’s been eight years. Haha. I always grab my fries last and she’s never noticed.”

svenjolly wrote:

“I went on a field trip once and we stopped at McDonald’s for lunch. One kid ordered two large fries to go, and he asked for extra salt.

“He removed the fries from the bag, dumped them back into the bag, added salt, then shook it up.

“That was his entire lunch.

“Bag fries.”

10) xbone42 wrote:

“When we watch movies together we always snack. One of our favorites to munch on during the movie are the Sour Punch Bites. She takes all the blue ones because I don’t like

them and they are her favorite — always says how lucky she is that worked out like that.

“The blue ones are also my favorite, but she can have them.”

11) WeRip wrote, “I dated a girl in college and we both enjoyed buffalo wings. I always thought it was rude to eat too many drummies (clearly the superior and preferred part of the chicken wing), so I would make sure I’d go after the wings first and she would too. Off-handedly, one time she mentioned to me she thought it funny that we both liked the wings more ... damn, so many wasted drummies.”

12) Nemdolas wrote:

“Very early in the relationship after the second date, his monitor broke right on Sunday. I knew he was an avid gamer.

“So I quickly bought a 27” monitor on eBay and told him I had that lying around. While he was on the way to me, I power walked through half the town to get it and quickly changed clothes because it was drizzling.

“He had low income and no money and I didn’t want him to feel like he’s in my debt. We’re over two years together now.”

13) dream_weaver35 wrote, “My husband’s birthday is Christmas Eve. Unfortunately, his birthday gets forgotten a lot. The first year we were married almost no one remembered, and although he claimed it didn’t bother him, I could see that it really did. So now I send out a text first thing on the morning on Christmas Eve, and tell everyone to take a moment to wish him a happy birthday, and explicitly state that no one is to let him know that I’ve sent out the text. Almost 12 years in, and he hasn’t found out.”

14) CrispiandCrynchy wrote:

“If he’s out of town, I go completely feral for the first one or two days. Candy for breakfast, falling asleep in the couch, beer with dinner on a weekday, clothes on the floor, recycling bag overflowing

“Then I shape up. When he comes back, everything’s back to normal. But, man, does it feel good to be a sloppy pig sometimes.”

Typical_Example wrote:

“Yup! First I clean the house really well, then I pig it up with MY piggy little mess, then I clean it again before he comes home. In the meantime I’m bingeing all of the trash TV, hair and face masks, crackers and cheese for dinner, boxes of wine, takeout, weed inside, zero pants ... the bachelorette works.

“He’s not even controlling (at all) or particularly clean, it’s just FUN. Reminds me of when my parents would leave for a weekend when I was a teenager.”³³

34. “How Did You Lose Your Virginity?”

1) DenmarkGoodNorwayBad wrote, “Very awkwardly, as most people have.”

2) Federal_Employment45 wrote:

“Romantic evening with candles. 06,17,09

“Lasted about 30 seconds.”

³³ Source: alvl70charizard, “What’s one thing your partner doesn’t know?” Reddit. AskReddit. 15 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/st45m5/whats_one_thing_your_partner_doesnt_know/ >.

awesomeflowman commented, “How did you cope with that (if you needed to). I feel being prepared for that will come very much in handy. Any advice?”

Gwthrowaway80 commented:

“If you do orgasm quickly at first ... so what? Your orgasm doesn't mean sex is over. Just laugh it off, say something lighthearted like ‘Huh ... I guess that means I think you're cute,’ and the focus on your partner until you're good to go again. Ten minutes of oral sex is always appreciated and gives you time to recover for round 2.

“Good luck! Just remember that sex is supposed to be fun for everyone involved. Patience and a sense of humor about how gross it can be goes a long way to keeping the mood fun.”

arrocnroll commented:

“Second the oral sex advice. I had the opposite problem when I started having sex where I was so nervous I couldn't keep it up. The side effect of this happening was I got REALLY good at oral.

“The party don't stop just because you cross the finish line.”

3) pronouns-r-they-them wrote, “Well, I lost mine on a race car bed. He was 17 and his room was decked out with hot wheels.”

beeph_supreme wrote, “Done In 60 Seconds.”

KarateTeach89 commented, “Fast and Furious.”

Agent223 commented, “Herbie: Fully Loaded.”

4) h05927159 wrote, “In college with a good guy friend. We both had a crush on each other; one day we were making out and I told him I was a virgin and wanted him to teach me. It was a surprisingly comfortable and amazing experience.”

5) Creepy_Body_8807 wrote, “On a Tinder date. I told the girl that I was not a virgin. In hindsight, she most definitely should have realized I was lying.”

SpodyPants commented, “I did the same thing. I ran into the girl a few years later and told her I lied and that she was my first. She said that she also lied and I was her first.”

6) take-a-ride wrote, “Met a girl on Tumblr, talked for a few months, I visited her in Canada after saving for a while. (I’m from England.) Lost my virginity with her. A year later we’re still together and she’s living with me now. :)”³⁴

35. “What Are Some Effective Ways To Get A Man To Stop Hitting On You?”

1) captcraigaroo wrote, “I’ve seen girls say, ‘Do you have a tampon?’ to her friend as a guy approached before. Guy spun around faster than I thought possible.”

2) virgilhall wrote, “Ask him to buy into your MLM [Multi-Level Marketing] scheme.”

3) JustinChristoph wrote, “My sister learned this strategy from a friend and started doing it as well: She carried a couple of issues of *Watchtower* in her purse and when the guys started hitting on her, got a very earnest look on her face, pulled them out and started saying, ‘Have you been saved? Have you accepted Jesus Christ as your personal savior?’ It worked better than mace.”

³⁴ Source: youhavenoheartt, “How did you lose your virginity?” Reddit. AskReddit. 20 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/sx87el/how_did_you_lose_your_virginity/ >.

laflamabIanca commented, “Damn, I live in the Deep South. I’m almost certain this genius idea would have the opposite effect for me. Lol.”

Lake_Business commented, “Same move, but Church of Satan.”

4) ibeemer86 wrote:

“Ask if he’s ready to be a daddy to the unborn baby you carrying.

“Later: Why thank you for all the likes. This unfortunately happened to me at the embarrassing age of 17, and I was awkward and unsure about being a teen parent and this was how I hid my insecurity. My baby girl is almost 18 and I’m blessed for how she has changed me.”

olivine1010 commented:

“I was very obviously pregnant, and I went to a furniture store alone for some reason. One customer super liked that I was pregnant, and hit on me, even followed me out to my car.

“So I cannot endorse this method — it may make it worse. Also made it so I wouldn’t go anywhere alone anymore while pregnant.”

5) chaos_elemental wrote:

“Speak in a foreign language like you don’t understand them. Thanks, Dutch.

“Describe the procedure for bull castration in vivid detail. Thanks, Animal Science degree.”³⁵

³⁵ Source: weird-n-nerdym “What are some effective ways to get a man to stop hitting on you?” Reddit. AskReddit. 20 February 2022 <

36. “Children Of Pornstars — What Was It Like Growing Up?”

1) the cretinee wrote, “My dad was in a nude magazine that circulated in the 90’s all around Australia called *Picture Magazine*. He was no porn star by any means. But he did have a nude picture inside of a magazine. People brought the picture to school and would show it to me like I haven’t seen my dad walk around the house naked. I was less embarrassed when I managed to wrangle this comeback, ‘Why you got a picture of a naked guy in your backpack, dude?’”

2) lilsnuff69 wrote:

“My middle school banned my parents from coming to my graduation / promotion because it was ‘inappropriate’ to have them there.

“Edit: lmao yes, this really happened. This was like 2005/2006. Yes, religious, private school. Administration knew who they were because another parent recognized them at drop-off and told the school they didn’t feel comfortable having porn stars (whose movies they clearly watch) around their kids. School agreed. Definitely did not make me popular in school.”

3) mrafinch wrote:

“My sister was in the adult industry, and the last time something like this got asked my inbox was filled with people telling me to kill myself.

“So having a relative in the adult industry ripped our family apart, my mum still cries at the lack of relationship she has

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/swyrkc/what_are_some_effective_ways_to_get_a_man_to_stop/ >.

with her daughter, and we all live so far apart from each other and hardly talk.

“Kids at my school would try and trick me to watch the movies, print stills and give them to me ... basic bullying.

“It wasn’t good and it still all hurts.

“Edit: Please stop reporting me to Reddit as being a suicide risk. That’s really not funny.”

mrafinch added:

“It’s been around 15 years since we found out and everyone in the family has lived lives since ... just not quite back to having everyone talk.

“I’m getting married this year, so hopefully that will be the catalyst to start again.”

4) 30-40_feraldoogs wrote:

“It was not that memorable. I didn’t know until I was older that she did old-school *Playboy*-type stuff. I was shocked when I learned about it but since I never really knew as a kid it didn’t affect me all that much.

“Since everyone always asks:

“No, there weren’t abusive boyfriends all the time. She didn’t really date, but one boyfriend was nice and fairly normal. They broke up for the usual incompatibility reasons, not because she was in porn.

“She was not a drug addict.

“She was just struggling as a single mom when my dad died and had to do what she could.

“No, I’m not embarrassed. Most everyone I tell thinks it’s cool and then I have to explain childhood was normal, she was a good mom, she wasn’t a drug addict, etc., etc.”

ShiftSam commented, “You get my upvote for actually fitting the always incredibly narrow criteria for being able to answer a post like this. And, for it being normal and wholesome despite the obvious reasons for this question. Glad to hear you and your mom turned out just fine!”

30-40_feraldoogs responded, “People expect her to have been some kind of dirty terrible person but she just simply wasn’t. If there weren’t lines of perverts buying the VHS’s and magazines, the job wouldn’t have been as lucrative as it was. Sure beats a ‘real job’ at minimum wage where she wouldn’t have been able to be as good of a parent, to be honest.”

boo_boo_lala commented, “I know a ton of people in sex work who are not drug addicts or terrible people in the least bit, just trying to get by like the rest of us. It kinda blows my mind that there is still so much stigma around it.”

5) derpyderpy22 wrote:

“Does porn artist count?”

“My dad has been drawing furry art for 30-something years. Growing up he was just the art dad for my sister and me. When I was much younger, he worked at a few different studios, but eventually he started staying at home and drawing in his art room. He of course drew a bunch of funny cartoon animals, and we loved it. Our house was very furry. Both he and my mom are deep into it.

“Once we got our own laptops with parental controls off (home computer always had strict controls for obvious reasons) at around 14 or so all bets were kinda off. Of course the first thing we’d do is google his art, so instead of keeping

it a secret he and my mom sat us down and told us what he was doing for a living now. Straight up furry porn.

“Truth be told, 14-year-old me was pretty fucking shocked. Like I remember my initial reaction wondering if my parents were into bestiality or something. I liked furry art but didn’t think it would be pornified.

“Turns out it’s a pretty sweet gig, though. Around this time, he and my mom started doing conventions, flying around selling art since my sister and me were old enough to be left alone. Of course, most of his workload was commissions.

“These days he has a massive Patreon. Of course I fully accepted furry stuff over time, too, just being bombarded with it so much, though I actively avoid his porn just because it’s a little weird since it’s *his*. I blocked him on e621. He draws anime, Pokémon, video game characters, My Little Pony, Hazbin Hotel, and just about anything else popular at any given moment. I sub to his clean Twitter since I still love his regular art. The best part about an artist dad is all the free art. I used to play WoW with him and he’d draw our characters for phone backgrounds and stuff.”

6) mumblewrapper wrote:

“Not a pornstar and not me as the kid. But, small town local woman posed for a nude picture in a porn magazine. (I think it was something she sent in to the amateur section or something) Somehow, the entire town found out. Her son was a couple years older than me. Everyone absolutely tortured him about it. Literally taping the picture from the magazine to his locker.

“And she was a very visible community member. She walked for exercise all around town every day. There was a very easily rememberable caption on the picture so everyone just called her that. Think ‘slide’ if she was going down a

slide naked. So people would drive by her and yell ‘Slide!’ when they saw her.

“I was in junior high when it started. But it went on for years and years. Before I moved away when I was 30, she was a mean lady who yelled at people on the street and even yelled at my mom a couple of times for having her dog out in her own front yard.

“Back then I just thought she was crazy. Now, I realize that that one picture and that crazy small town ruined her. Of course, she was mean and angry. The backlash she and her child received was disgusting.

“I have no idea what happened to her son. I don’t even remember him being in high school with us. But I think he probably was.

“I haven’t seen her in many years so I don’t know what happened to her either. It makes me sad now when I think about what they went through. And how it was probably some asshole dad who bought that magazine regularly, saw her in it, and told everyone. Including his kids. It’s just cruel. I’m ashamed that I ever thought it was funny. Those poor people didn’t deserve that.”³⁶

³⁶ Source: harambe4life69, “Children of pornstars - what was it like growing up?” Reddit. AskReddit. 22 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/sz4p6m/children_of_pornstars_what_was_it_like_growing_up/ >.

37. Women Of Reddit, When You Were In Middle School, How Many Chairs Would A Boy Have To Carry In Order For You To Notice And Be Impressed?"

1) elisespence wrote, "Once a guy carried eight chairs and did that 'sup' head nod to me while carrying them. Two days later, I was his girlfriend."

mcookiemaker asked, "Are you still together?"

elisespence answered, "We are not. Haha. This was in middle school. Our romance lasted six months and then he started carrying chairs for other girls."

its_raining_scotch commented:

"Oh, I thought you were going to say another guy walked by carrying 12 chairs and did the sup nod so you had to upgrade.

"Sorry about chair guy."

ouronlyplanb commented:

"Damn those boys carrying chairs for other girls!

"I hope you've found yourself a better chair lifter or are content to lift your own for now!"

elisespence replied, "My current boyfriend lifts all the chairs for me."

beesbuzzer commented, "Six months is long for a middle school relationship. I guess carrying chairs really does work."

elisespence replied, " "It was my longest middle school relationship by far. Something about those chairs just got to me."

2) ravnneet wrote, "In elementary school, I fell asleep before the bell rang and it was time to stack the chairs at the end of

the day so this kid didn't want to wake me up so he carried the chair WHILE I was in it. We are dating now."

ravnneet added, "He just shoved me in the corner of the room surrounded by the other chairs."

3) Whiskey-on-the-Rocks wrote:

"That was a thing?"

"If I'd noticed guys carrying lots of chairs at once at school, I'd have assumed they were trying to show off to the other guys.

"But then, I had a crush on the guy who wore glasses and brought a briefcase to school."

4) avisitingstone wrote, "Zero. I was the one carrying the chairs. Being a preteen I was mad that only the boys were being asked to do it when I was taller and more capable."

wanttotradebrains commented, "Ah this brought back memories of my middle school art teacher asking for 'some big strong boys' to carry these full-size easels across the school and my 5'2" 130 lbs ass stubbornly dragging an easel I definitely couldn't effectively carry across the campus with all the feminist rage 13-year-old me could muster."

OptmsttcExstntist commented, "I have 100% been out to prove to every person who said they needed 'strong men' that I can beat most of them. I ran track in college and squatted more than most of the guys on the men's team. I once beat four guy friends (successively) at arm wrestling with my right arm, got challenged by a fifth but my right arm was tired so I beat him with my left. I am damn proud to be strong!"

5) NoeTEllusson wrote:

"It's not the quantity of the chairs, it's the QUALITY.

“When he brings a throne and beckons me to sit — then I’m impressed.”³⁷

38. “Have You Ever Told Someone ‘Pretend We’re Friends, I’m Being Followed’? What’s The Story?”

1) teeny_gecko wrote:

“A couple of years ago I was with some friends at a bar and dancing around, and a girl came up to us yelling ‘Charlotte! Laura! Can’t believe you’re here!’ so we went along with it because she gave us such a look. We just included her in the group because obviously, something was off. After a while, she told us that she was on a Tinder date that went wrong and since the guy had picked her up and brought her to the bar, he assumed they were both going back to his place. But she got a weird feeling from him and the comments he was making, so she told him she’d make her own way home and after like 15 minutes of back and forth she decided to act as if she knew us until he left.

“Another time, this guy was groping this very clearly VERY drunk girl (she couldn’t even open her eyes), so I went up to her and pretended I knew her. The guy told me he was her boyfriend and to leave them alone. But I just knew (you know when you just *know* something is off?) he wasn’t her boyfriend, so I asked him to show me pictures of the two of them together and after some arguing and me pulling out my phone to record him, he literally RAN away. Using her thumb, we were able to unlock her phone and she had so many missed calls from her actual friends. Apparently, she

³⁷ Source: “Women of Reddit, when you were in middle school how many chairs would a boy have to carry in order for you to notice and be impressed?” Reddit. AskReddit. 23 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/szgmwm/women_of_reddit_when_you_were_in_middle_school/ >.

got so drunk and just ran away from her group. This club is MASSIVE and loud (5-story building with one type of music / dj per floor), but we eventually got her back with her friends. This girl couldn't even talk or walk. Her eyes were closed, and she couldn't keep her head up. A friend of hers took her home. (And yes, they were friends because the girl's lock screen was a picture of the two of them together. Lol)."

2) Banana_boof wrote:

"I haven't, but I have been the friend!

"It was a few years back and I went to the shop with my little one. On the way home, I noticed two very young girls at the bus stop being bothered by a grown man. I watched them as we slowly walked on the other side of the road. As I got closer, I shouted across something like 'I haven't seen you guys for ages.' They were receptive so I crossed over and pretended to be a friend of their mum's and started 'catching up' with them. The guy skulked off and I waited with them until they got on the bus."

3) BandLover1234 wrote, "So I was at the grocery store with my niece. At the time, I was 18. I'm 5'10 and gothic chick and my niece was 4. So we are going up and down the aisles at the store and I notice this older gentleman is pretty much on every aisle I am on. It didn't hit me until about the 6th aisle that something was off. Well, I then heard a click of a photo being taken and I didn't know if it was of me or my niece. So I quickly made my way to a couple aisles over acting like I remembered we needed something. I then saw someone who worked there and was actually someone I went to high school with. He was in band snf played bass guitar, I think. He was a grade above me and was someone I actually had a crush on but never approached. I think he was actually older than me by a year and we had already graduated at this point, but he looked much older. I then took my niece out of the cart and told him to act like this was our daughter. Being

that we barely knew each other, he was a bit weirded out. But I hurriedly said I was being followed and I needed help. So he immediately took hold of my niece and started dancing with her so she would laugh and people would look at her (great idea on his part). He really could have passed as her dad they both had olive skin, dark brown hair, and hazel eyes. So the creepy guy backed off once he saw us all together. The high school dude held my niece while I paid for groceries and walked me to my car. I had never been so thankful in my life. I don't know what could have happened to me or my niece. I messaged him and offered him money for helping me but he didn't accept it. And he reported the guy to his boss."

4) rranyard wrote:

"I walked up to a girl and said, 'It's been so long. How are you?' to get away from a guy who had been stalking me as I walked home in the dark from the train station. She took approximately 0.5 seconds to catch on and started leading us away and chatting until the guy gave up and then I cried and she hugged me and offered to walk me home, but I was too embarrassed (why?) and said, 'No, thank you, but thank you for all your help,' and went off home.

"Guy had been following me trying to grab my coat, my bag, saying I should go home with him, get in his car round the corner. I truly believed she saved me from some shit happening."

5) esmerelda10 wrote, "I was at the beach with a friend and we were wading in the water. A group of guys came up to us and were trying to talk to us but giving a weird vibe. Eventually they surrounded us and 'wanted to see us swim underwater.' Somehow we pushed through and said we were going back to our beach spot and when they asked where it was we vaguely pointed down the beach (opposite direction of our actual spot). We left in that wrong direction and

noticed they were following us (as we anticipated) and saw a big group of girls. We walked up to them and were like ‘Oh, hey, friends, water is great! Time to sit down and have some lunch now!’ They got the hint and moved towels for us to look like they were ours and chatted with us until the guys eventually walked all the way away.”

6) PersonalityFar567 wrote, “It’s not exactly that, and I don’t really remember clearly, but I have this memory of a girl talking very enthusiastically with me when I was drunk as hell. I was at a hostel, about 20 years old traveling alone, and the owner who easily was 10-15 years older gave me so much alcohol and started to make a move. I wasn’t completely coherent, but I was vaguely aware that this wasn’t a very good situation. I was about to just pass out, but her talking to me woke me up. I don’t remember what we talked about, and what I said couldn’t have been interesting, but she kept nodding enthusiastically and asking me questions. My head cleared up a bit, and I basically stood up and gave that disgusting man a kiss because he wouldn’t let me go otherwise and stumbled away to my room.

“Someone else had taken my bed and I wonder today if the owner had given it away so I would have to come to him. I still managed to find a place to sleep and booked it out of there the next day. I sort of blocked out that memory for some time. I don’t know if that girl knew what she was doing, but I think she really helped me.

“I still wouldn’t discourage women from traveling alone, though. But there is a need to be careful with your surroundings, with alcohol and knowing the benefits of making female friends in new places. I feel like a lot of advice I got was just telling me to never do anything or take any risks, but I don’t want to just stay at home.”

7) kaitie_cakes wrote:

“I went to a casino with my now-husband. It was a fairly small and local casino, so I wandered over to the slot machines as he did his own thing at the blackjack tables. If you’ve been to casinos before, you know that cell phone usage at table games is not allowed. After I was at a few slots, I just start walking around as I enjoy watching others gamble more than I like spending my own money.

“Out of nowhere, a man about 20 years older than me comes up and starts talking to me. Asks me questions about if I go to school nearby, what games am I playing tonight, what’s my name / age, mixing personal questions in with random questions. Each time I would turn to walk away, he would step closer and try to keep me in conversation.

“I go to turn and leave again and notice that behind me, further off, was another man, about the same age as the guy talking to me. They both kept exchanging looks as the man by me kept trying to keep me in conversation and the other man was progressively getting closer to us.

“I felt my stomach drop and realized they were probably there together and running some kind of scheme, or worse. I knew I could [not] call my husband as phones weren’t allowed at the tables and this was before smart watches for notifications. I saw a group of 3 ladies a little younger than me by the craps tables and immediately told the man, ‘Oh, those are my friends!’ I went up and hugged one of the women and whispered what was happening. She gave a look to her friends and all 3 started cheering that I was there and formed a circle around me.

“They walked me back to my husband. I was shaking so badly they had to help steady me. I looked around and saw the two men standing next to each other, talking and staring at us as we walked away.

“I don’t know what those men would have done to me if I hadn’t found those women.”³⁸

39. “What’s Something Wholesome Someone In A Relationship Told You That Changed The Way You See Relationships?”

1) someoneknown wrote:

“I want to share one.

“At Christmas I met my sister’s boyfriend and at the time she was dying her hair pink. When we were alone, I asked him what he thought about her hair, sort of expecting a toxic response like one of my exes would have said to me. I was also curious because he’s pretty straightlaced: He has a government job and an affluent, high-status family, and he dresses pretty ‘normal.’

“He just gave me the biggest smile ever and said, ‘I love her pink hair because it makes her happy and I love to see her smile. She’s beautiful and every choice she makes for herself is beautiful.’

“Made me realize that spending years choosing partners who just wanted to change me and didn’t support my fashion choices was insane.

“Also, that simple answer changed the entire way I see my own relationships and helped me to begin setting actual standards for myself.”

³⁸ Source: Sniperman_, “Have you ever told someone ‘Pretend we’re friends, I’m being followed’? What’s the story?” Reddit. AskWomen. 25 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/t0z9cq/have_you_eve_r_told_someone_pretend_were_friends/ >.

2) emjajajajajajajajajajaj wrote, “This isn’t super profound, but I was with a client and she was asking about my dating life and I said I’d been on and off with a dude for a few years and she said in the most country accent, ‘Honey, if it’s off and on, it ain’t right, so move on!’ He and I broke up for good within six months, and I still think about her.”

3) RoEdheel wrote:

“I work with a guy who’s been with his wife since they were 15 (they’re 50 now), and they’ve both done some intense stuff to support the other’s career. To make ends meet and help pay her tuition, he followed her to her college town and worked as a diesel mechanic, quite literally living at the shop to save money. She helped fund his tools when he moved to dealership work, and she helped move his stuff from place to place at the drop of a hat to chase money. Sometimes more than once a week. They’ve both picked up hours and second jobs to help the other change careers or get more schooling.

“I found most of this out over the last two years in bits and pieces, but they are so ride or die / GO TEAM and best friends that it’s admirable. I hope my SO [Significant Other] and I believe in each other that much for the rest of our lives.”

howtheturntables commented:

“As a newlywed who is struggling to accept my husband’s help while I get my master’s degree, this made me ugly-cry. Sometimes I feel so much shame around ‘not contributing,’ and he’s always there reassuring me that this isn’t forever.

“It’s so amazing to have a supportive, encouraging, and uplifting partner.”

4) isahellarad wrote, “I was in a very emotional relationship a few years ago. My friend took me to dinner and prom on prom night and told me that she’d treat me the way a

boyfriend was supposed to. She spent the night complimenting me and made me feel genuinely loved.”

5) ladygrey48130 wrote, “I read once about a college class on love and marriage. And one of the assignments was to shadow a real couple and take notes on how they treated each other. One example that always stuck with me was a couple that would bring each other a glass of water without being asked. Just made me realize that love is about the little things in life, small sacrifices that show you are thinking of them and you care.”

tvbookpastaworm commented, “I was doing some paperwork all day, and I heard a little knock on the door. I opened it and found a glass of water and a granola bar waiting for me from my guy. Filled me with love feelings more than flowers could’ve.”

6) donuts-waffles wrote, “Remember to keep building your relationship even with children. People get lost on the way and then when the kids are out of the house, they find that they no longer have anything in common and divorce.”³⁹

40. “[Serious] Mr. Rogers’ Advice During Times Of Crisis Was To ‘Always Look For The Helpers.’ Which ‘Helpers’ Have You Witnessed In Your Life That Made You Realize Humanity Isn’t So Bad After All?”

1) Tiny_Rat wrote, “I’m from a mixed Russian / Ukrainian family, but I’ve been living abroad for decades, ever since I was an infant. My family speaks Russian, so that’s what most people around us know as our country of origin. I’ve

³⁹ Source: someoneknown, “What’s something wholesome someone in a relationship told you that changed the way you see relationships?” Reddit. AskReddit. 27 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/t2v9ll/whats_something_wholesome_someone_in_a/ >.

been incredibly upset with what's been going on this past week [February 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine], and honestly expecting people around me to be cold because they know me only to be Russian. In fact, within 24 hours of the invasion, people started reaching out to check in and offer support. Around the third text, I literally broke down and cried. I can't believe I'm so lucky to be surrounded by people who genuinely want to listen to my troubles, and judge me by my own actions, not those of a cold bastard who happens to share my hometown."

2) BarracudaImpossible4 wrote:

"In 2018, my partner and I had to evacuate our home at 2AM because the wildfires were rapidly bearing down on us. We drove for hours trying to find a hotel that wasn't full and finally I looked up Red Cross evacuation shelters nearby. We wound up at Pierce College in Woodland Hills, staying in their gym for three nights. It was a shitty situation, but the kindness of so many people made it bearable: the volunteers, the people and businesses who donated food / toiletries / clothing — seriously, by the time we left my partner and I were calling it the Room of Requirement because they always had ANYTHING we wanted, even reading material and earplugs — even people who came by to offer their guest rooms to anyone who wanted to leave the shelter. (And of course the college for letting the Red Cross use it.)

"Paramount Pictures also moved the premiere (including the food) of *Instant Family* to the shelter, and Tig Notaro and Octavia Spencer were there. It was surreal to be eating tuna tartare wearing donated clothes with Octavia Spencer five feet away! (I didn't actually get to meet her, but she tweeted about the experience later and I thanked her for coming, and she asked if I was okay. I will always love her for that.)"

3) flyingfoxtrot_ wrote, "I'd just heard some very upsetting news on the phone and was crying sitting outside a bus

station. It's very rare I cry in front of anyone, never mind in public, which shows how upset I was. A woman I'd never met stood beside me, silently handing me tissues while I was sobbing on the phone. She didn't say anything, didn't ask what happened (probably for the best as I'm not sure I could have got a proper answer out), just silently stood beside me, handing me tissues. This was a good few years back and I still think of her often. It's unlikely she'll see this, but if she does, I want to thank her. I'll never forget that simple act of compassion towards a stranger."

4) BarefootandWild wrote, "I ran out of money for my groceries and a guy behind offered to pay for everything. It was an incredibly thoughtful gesture, and he had no idea how much it meant to me since I was having a really traumatic experience in my life."

5) Botroid2000 wrote:

"My ex and I had kind of an ugly breakup, but eventually we came to be distant friends — we help each other out now and then.

"One of my friends, Blake, lost everything in a wildfire. His whole house went up in a few minutes.

"He was a passionate guitar player and said the only thing he regretted was losing his guitar. Blake is a super guy, always helping out the homeless, doing good quiet work in the community. I decided to buy him a replacement guitar. I found out what he played.

"I called my ex to see if he could help me source a good used guitar of the same general type and style. He is a guitar expert and his hobby is buying and selling guitars, doing minor repairs, etc.

"He found a like-new exact same guitar as Blake's 30+-year-old guitar. It had been sitting in a case, unplayed and in

excellent condition. I told him to buy it and I would pay him back.

“He bought the guitar and refused payment. He spent hundreds of dollars on a guitar for a guy he had never met. I was just so amazed at his generosity and kindness. It inspired me.

“That was in 2017 and Blake still tells me how much it meant to him.”

6) JeffTheComposer wrote:

“When I flipped my car on the turnpike at 70 mph, I landed upside down on the shoulder of the road. As I was crawling out of the remains of the vehicle, I saw a half dozen or so cars had already pulled over with more cars in the process of doing so and the drivers were all running toward me as fast as they could, yelling questions about any other passengers still in the vehicle (just me, fortunately) and them all telling me to stay still so they could look me over.

“I was on a road full of heroes and just didn’t know it.”

7) Shells_and_bones wrote:

“I tried to kill myself earlier this year. I went to a big footbridge in my city late at night, and I almost jumped off. Tried once, lost the nerve, sat leaning against the bridge and thinking about trying again, or just curling up there, going to sleep, and hoping I freeze by morning.

“Someone riding by on a bicycle saw me sitting on the bridge. Not trying to jump, just sitting there. But he noticed something was off, and he stopped to see if I was okay. He ended up talking me down and then calling me a cab to get me home.

“I think the reason I’m alive right now is because a complete stranger saw someone sitting alone and unhappy and decided to stop and make sure they were okay.”

8) gothicig wrote, “I received a helper [mentor?]. In my early 20s I struggled badly with my gender identity and sexuality. An older gay man I worked with, Gerald, took it upon himself to show me what a happy gay adult looked like. He and his husband had been together 30+ years, worked together always, had a farm together, and raised 3 kids. Gerald saved my life.”

9) becausefuckmydick wrote:

“The two Swedish guys who pulled Brock Turner off of the woman he was sexually assaulting and pinned him down until the police arrived and arrested him.

“It made me realize, for all of the opportunistic people out there who victimize others whenever they get the chance, there are also a lot of other people who are willing to help and defend those who can’t defend themselves — even when they have nothing to gain from doing so.”

10) cgtdream wrote:

“When in the military, the ‘helpers’ were the ones joking and staying calm, in gunfights, in bombings, among rockets and mortars.

“Always made sure to look after them, after the fact, as that is truly hard to do!”

11) Sir_Distic wrote:

“I was driving from New Mexico to Memphis in March of 2002. It was cold and snowy, and I just had a small car with all my belongings. I pulled into a truck rest stop in Oklahoma to ride out the storm. It was the first non-food / non-bathroom stop since leaving New Mexico.

“I pulled in behind a tractor-trailer and kept my car running while I covered myself with clothes and prepared to sleep in the driver’s seat of my car.

“A Canadian driver was driving to North Carolina from somewhere out west and he walked over and tapped on my window to invite me to sleep in his truck cab. So I spent 9 hours resting and sleeping in his truck and getting breakfast before heading the rest of the drive. He didn’t need to help a guy in a car. But it was snowing and cold, and he allowed me to sleep in the cabin with him. It was really nice of him.”

12) przyyłowicz wrote:

“A weird, small one, but working retail, I had to ask people if they wanted to sign up to receive emails from our store. I obediently did, and mostly people just said yes or no, but one guy hesitated and asked, ‘Do you get anything for it?’ I replied with the usual company spiel, and he said, ‘No, I mean, individually, do you get a bonus if I do or a negative repercussion if I don’t?’ I answered honestly: No, whether he signs up to receive emails has no impact on me. And he went, ‘Okay, no, then.’

“It’s quite possibly the most considerate thing a customer has ever said to me.”⁴⁰

⁴⁰ Source: letmebe03, “[Serious] Mr. Rogers’ advice during times of crisis was to ‘always look for the helpers.’ Which ‘helpers’ have you witnessed in your life that made you realize humanity isn’t so bad after all?” Reddit. AskReddit. 28 February 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/t3q56b/serious_mr_rovers_advice_during_times_of_crisis/>.

CHAPTER 3: Questions 41-60**41. “What Should Being Desired Feel Like, According To You? What Are Some Things That A Romantic Or Sexual Partner Can Do To Make You Feel Desired This Way?”**

1) lucid-delight wrote, “Every time I take off my clothes, my partner exclaims excitedly, ‘Boobs!’ He also compliments my looks / sexiness pretty much every day. That definitely makes me feel desired and sexy. And I compliment him often as well, of course.”

theatrekid77 wrote, “Mine gives a big ‘woo-hoooo!’ when I get undressed. It embarrasses me in the best way. Lol.”

MerakDubhe commented:

“I have a pj that says ‘Sparkle and Shine’ over my chest.

“Guess how my boyfriend decided to name my boobs.

“I’ve never liked my boobs, honestly. But since I met him, they look ... perkier, better. As if they knew they are adored by an awesome man.”

2) Gooncookies wrote, “This has changed significantly for me over the years. It used to be my now-husband putting songs on a CD for me (yes, I said CD) but now it’s things like when a few weeks ago, for the first time ever in 19 years, he deep-cleaned the kitchen. He cleans up and loads the dishwasher every night, but this was a pull everything out and get every crumb and lump of unidentifiable goo on every hard surface. I was over the MOON. So yeah, those things tend to change over time for sure.”

3) girlperson2001 wrote, “One of the biggest things is just random compliments: It shows me that no matter what the situation is, my partner could be secretly thinking about how amazing I am. Lol.”

4) PoetIsolated wrote, “Wanting to know about me, wanting to hear what I think and respecting when I say no ... Yes, the bar is that low, but all the guys I’ve been in a relationship with tend to play limbo with it.”

Tokijlo commented:

“That’s not a low bar; that’s like a life goal of mine to find. Haha. Feels impossible at this point.

“Someone who asks me questions before AND after I ask any because they’re genuinely interested in who I am?? Someone who respects a no without taking it personally and is happy to work with it like I am with their noes? Wanting to share experiences and interests *with* me rather than want me to just mold into theirs? Where are those ones hiding?”

5) ErieTempest wrote:

“I divorced a man who never once told me I was beautiful, and we were together for 20 years. I didn’t realize the toll it took on me until I started dating and men wouldn’t just say it — they’d also express it in other ways.

“Couple examples off the top of my head:

“One would notice when I used different soaps because I smelled different. Any time he’d hug me he would sniff my hair or neck and when we slept he’d bury his head in my hair. He would undress me instead of sitting there awkwardly staring at me while I undressed. He would also flat out say things like I can’t let you go yet. I need you. Please come closer to me.

“Another guy didn’t speak English as a first language. He could read it, and he could speak a little. We always went out with groups of people and it was cold when we met so we were always bundled up and didn’t really know what to expect of each other once we got alone and undressed. When

I took off my top he literally stood back and said, in perfect English, ‘What the fuck,’ and just stood there a second in shock. It was so funny and so genuine.

“And that excitement didn’t go away. He would just make the sweetest face any time he saw me. We would FaceTime each other sometimes and I always loved when he would answer because there’s that half-second delay and then he’d see me and he’d get a big goofy smile.”

6) highasfructose wrote:

“At this point with my partner, I am just really vain and need compliments, lmao. Not just when I dress up, not just when I am sans clothes. Makeup, etc. makes no difference. I feel like it is this nice feedback loop to spark things. It’s like an expected surprise every so often how my guy will wolf whistle regardless of whether I’m in sweatpants or something fancy. When he wraps his arms around me or leans in close at a party for a sec and tells me into one ear quietly but surely what he thinks of me, my insecurities go away for a bit. When I am engrossed in something and he has to catch my attention to tell me how good I look ... I melt every time. Sometimes it’s just a show of leaning back and taking me in visually, slow and appreciative. Almost the best thing, there.

“I like when he wants to take selfies with me, says how good we look together. When I do makeup and he has to cup my face and tell me to my eyes how nice he thinks it is. I like when he buys me clothes: to have imagined what I’d look like in it. When he makes multi-step plans with me in mind, knowing me a little better than I do sometimes. When he cracks one sleepy eye open and expresses admiration first thing. Booty squeezes all day every day. He never lets me forget his favorite parts of me. How sometimes when he says he’s the luckiest, it’s soft and awestruck, and other times it’s all brash and smug. I do try to give all that back in my own

ways and words all the time, too. We get in these mutual compliment loops that carry my ego straight to bed.”

7) LeighofMar wrote, “I have amazing lingerie and always feel and look really good in them. However, I will be in a regular fleece pajama pant set with my bunny slippers and my partner is still just as turned on as when I wear my lingerie. I can’t explain it, either, but it makes me feel very desired.”

8) Craft-Ambassador779 wrote:

“Kiss on the forehead randomly, rubbing the stomach when I’m poorly, telling me he’s done a chore ahead of time, running a bath with candles, comes up behind me and literally tries to dry hump me while my head’s in the oven, what a bloody pest!

“Oh, when pregnancy is over, I am going to shower my man with love. Such a good egg.

“Lots of simple things, I think random is the key factor. When he does it randomly, it means x1000 more. It means he loves you no matter what, just can’t help himself basically.”

9) jasmine-blossom wrote:

“Being desired should feel like being seen, and appreciated, completely, inside and out, for everything that you are.

“My boyfriend can make me feel this way just by looking at me sometimes. One time, I was cooking in my kitchen, in my sweatpants and not done up, just throwing a little something together, and I was grooving to some music we had playing and picking out spices and feeling really in the moment. I looked up to see my boyfriend sitting in a chair in the living room, gazing over at me with this big goofy smile and puppy dog eyes. That look just made me feel so seen and

loved and wanted, just to know that this little moment where I was being so myself, so unselfconsciously, was something to adore and appreciate.”

9) beefasaurus wrote, “When he asks if I want to go for a walk. He doesn’t care for walks much (he enjoys them but it isn’t on his mind), but I absolutely love them and love going with him, so when he brings it up, he knows it means a lot to me ... simple things like that.”⁴¹

42. “Redditors Who Are In A Relationship, What’s Something Your Partner Does That You Absolutely Can’t Get Enough Of?”

1) Future_Imperfect_ wrote, “Making me laugh. She’s fucking silly.”

2) HGMIV926 wrote, “My partner is great with kids and animals. I fell in love with her over time watching her interact and care for animals, and then I watched her teach little ones about wildlife. Now she’s in daycare and my heart warms when I hear about her stomping around the playground like a dinosaur with a bunch of kids.”

3) sam64228 wrote:

“When someone does something bad to me and she gets angry on my behalf.

“She looks like an angry chihuahua, but I still feel loved and safe.”

⁴¹ Source: Agile-League6614, “What should being desired feel like, according to you? What are some things that a romantic or sexual partner can do to make you feel desired this way?” Reddit. AskWomen. 2 March 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/t4bzz08/what_should_being_desired_feel_like_according_to/ >.

4) Billbapoker wrote, “Every time she sneezes, I believe it’s love.”

5) ShufflePlay wrote, “She does an excellent New York chainsmoking lady voice, and it’s my favorite.”

6) _austinm wrote, “Exist. She’s such a wonderful, beautiful, silly being and I am continuously grateful that she’s in my life.”

7) HargorTheHairy wrote, “The dishes.”⁴²

43. “What’s A Slang Term For Female Genitalia That Made You Go ‘Lol, I’m Totally Calling It That From Now On’?”

muffins_allover wrote, “My kids call theirs a Bagina, so that’s what we all call it now.”

ClassicIcy182 commented, “My daughter used to pronounce ‘vag’ as ‘badge.’ I thought it was funny and so did my husband, until one day the local fire and police departments were putting on a water gun tournament fundraiser called, ‘battle of the badges.’ Poor husband cry laughed at that one.”⁴³

⁴² Source: KirukatoSenpai, “redditors that are in a relationship, what’s something your partner does that you absolutely can’t get enough of?” Reddit. AskReddit. 5 March 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/t78li3/redditors_that_are_in_a_relationship_whats/ >.

⁴³ Source: monsieurLeMeowMeow, “What’s a slang term for female genitalia that made you go ‘lol, I’m totally calling it that from now on’?” Reddit. AskWomen. 5 March 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/t7935n/whats_a_slang_term_for_female_genitalia_that_made/ >.

44. “What Is Something A Friend Has Done For You That You Will Never Forget?”

1) LowAfternoon8155 wrote, “He showed up at my grandmother’s wake with a cup of coffee made exactly the way I like it. I was around my toxic family all day and didn’t have any support at all. The moment I looked up and saw that friendly face, I fell into his arms and sobbed like a baby. We aren’t friends anymore (both married and his wife didn’t appreciate our closeness, I respect that), but I will never forget how he showed up for me that day. I’ll always love him for it.”

KeyProperty2134 commented:

“When I was nine, my own grandmother died in her early 60s from brain cancer. My friends came to the funeral even though we were all little and the service (a Catholic funeral mass) was brutally long and tedious, especially for kids. They then played in the pool with me at my parents’ house afterwards during the reception, which was so needed because I was too young to understand what was happening and seeing my mom devastated was too much to bear and I needed a distraction.

“As a kid you NEED to play to cope with whatever’s happening, and my friends gave me that even though they hadn’t lost a grandparent at that point and didn’t understand the extent to which death leaves everyone devastated. They gave me what I needed then and still give me what I need now without being asked.”

2) queenoreo wrote:

“After my dad died, a friend dragged me out of the house (called my husband and said, get her dressed, I’m on my way) sat me down at brunch, fed me bloody Marys and said, ‘Talk.’ We aren’t tight anymore, but she saved me.

“Same friend, everyone was so sick in my house. She texted me, ‘There’s food on your porch.’ She brought days [a few days’?] worth of soup, salad, bread, snacks.

“She’s moved away and is head pastor of four small churches. I can’t picture a better person to be leading like that.”

3) Sagasujin wrote, “Arranged for pizza to be delivered to my apartment the night my father died. What made it really impressive was that he lived in a different country at the time and managed to not only research a pizza place but had converted currency to pay for it. All so that I would actually eat instead of sitting around crying all night.”

4) Spiritruel-Topic-5760 wrote, “My daughter was at home dying and in Hospice care. I was taking care of her and sitting by her bedside and taking care of her three-year-old son. Plus working. I always have a hard time accepting help, but my friend came over and saw the mountain of laundry that had piled up and just did it ALL. Washed and folded probably 10 loads. Didn’t ask — just saw it needed to be done and did it. I was drowning and she knew it and came in like an angel. She’s always been like that.”

5) iwontbeherefor3hours wrote, “I was taking my daughter to visit college in another state, when my brother called and told me our dad had had a major heart attack and was in the hospital. My friend called that evening to say hi. I told her what had happened, but I didn’t think I’d be able to get there with my child needing to get to a different unit the next day. In the morning, my brother called again, dad wasn’t doing well at all. I asked if I needed to get there (PA to MI), he said, ‘Yes, and mom says don’t be slow.’ I started trying to find a flight, when my friend called and told me that my ticket was at the airport, paid in full. She had used her Amex miles to get it, god knows how many for a same day nonstop flight, and she refused my offer to pay her back. I got to the

hospital at around midnight, and my dad passed within an hour of my arrival. I will never forget it, and I will love her forever.”

6) Unexpected_Genius wrote, “My mom was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and the end was coming quickly. My wedding was supposed to be in four months, but she wasn’t going to make it. We decided to get married a few days later at the hospital. The dress my mom wanted couldn’t get here for at least a week. My best friend / MOH [Maid Of Honor] had a friend at the biggest online retail store that starts with an A. They pulled strings and got my mom’s dress in on time somehow. She got her dress and it was beautiful! Just perfect! Not only did they get her dress, but the wedding party also showed up to the hospital and we had a full wedding there in the courtyard. Including videographer, cake, etc. My mom chose to be buried in that dress.”⁴⁴

45. “What Can’t You Find Cute No Matter How Hard You Try?”

whore4happiness wrote, “Baby voice. I share a room with my sister and when she talks to her boyfriend like that I get genuinely mad and I don’t know why.”

ClownfishSoup commented:

“As a parent I NEVER used cutesy baby voice with my kids, even when they were babies. I had read somewhere that your kids are smarter if you always speak to them like you would an adult (within reason). So we did that. Not sure if it had

⁴⁴ Source: KeyProperty2134, “What is something a friend has done for you that you will never forget?” Reddit. AskWomen. 6 March 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/t8doih/what_is_something_a_friend_has_done_for_you_that/ >.

any effect at all, but I was glad we didn't do it because I hate it.

“THEN we got a dog and when I speak to the dog it's ‘Does Puppy Wupsies want a tweatie weatie? Who's my Fuzzy bubzy?’ But my dog is super cute and I don't care if she doesn't get into dog university.”⁴⁵

46. “What's The Best Mother / Daughter Or Father / Daughter Moment Which You Remember?”

1) gdffffin wrote, “After I gave birth, everyone ran to the baby's side, and while I was in recovery the only one there was my dad. It was priceless!”

2) CatrionaShadowleaf wrote:

“My dad has a favourite cupcake shop in the small town where they used to live. On a whim going past, my mom and I stopped in to see if we could get some for him. They had only two left. My mom bought both of them and said, ‘Let's not tell dad,’ and we ate them together.

“They were delicious.”

3) KnittinAndBitchin wrote:

“For dad — when I was young, my dad called up the house one day while he was at work and told my brother and me to be waiting for him at the kitchen table. Now the kitchen table was where Serious Conversations happened, so my brother and I spent all afternoon wondering what we'd done wrong

⁴⁵ Source: Indierlots, “What can't you find cute no matter how hard you try?” Reddit. AskReddit. 7 March 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/t8s9cy/what_cant_you_find_cute_no_matter_how_hard_you_try/ >.

now and wracking our brains with how we'd screwed up because we couldn't remember doing anything recently.

“When he opened the front door he shouted, ‘You kids better be at the table!’ and we called back that we definitely were. Then he walked in holding a little black lab puppy. It was our first dog and we were so excited that we knocked over all the chairs jumping up to go see our new puppy!

“For mom — Several years ago I took a passing interest in sewing and wanted to make a pair of pajama pants. God help her, she did her best to show me, but I fucked it all up completely. I remember sitting on the floor of her sewing room, discovering I'd accidentally made a tube instead of pants, and the two of us just howling with laughter about it because it looked so fucking dumb.”

4) DoubleDuke101 wrote:

“For mum — watching the *Mamma Mia* movie and singing along to all the songs together.

“For dad — catching him eating ice cream out of the freezer at 1am. Which ended in both of us eating ice cream at 1am and laughing about the ridiculousness of the situation.”

5) Kat_qit wrote, “My dad's family is Norwegian, and a few years ago my grandfather died, so my dad and I traveled to Oslo for the funeral. We stayed at my grandparents' place. One night around 3am, after a family dinner, I found I couldn't go to sleep, so I decided to go into the kitchen to have a glass of the leftover wine from dinner. Bumped into my dad and my grandmother, who walked into the kitchen at the exact same time for the same reason. We sat together drinking wine and reminiscing about my grandfather. It's one of my favorite memories.”

6) AmandaAnn582 wrote, “I was homeschooled for the majority of my life, but when I was about to become a junior,

I wanted to go to a private school that was a few miles away from the house. I wanted a better education, I wanted more friends, and I wanted more memories. We couldn't afford the schooling, and I understood that, so I didn't push it. But I prayed and prayed for a few months (privately, no one knew) for God to send me to that Private Christian school, until one day, my dad told me he sold his truck to send me to school for the rest of my high school career. He loved that truck. It was beautiful. But he sacrificed it because he loved me. I don't think any other moment will ever top that one. God made a way, and He used my dad to do it! My Earthly father loves me, and my Heavenly Father does, too."

7) Weneededtoknow wrote, "My oldest daughter holding her little sister when she was first born and then looking up at me while I was still in the hospital bed and saying, 'We are gonna be three best friends!'"⁴⁶

47. "What Are Some Street Smart Tips Everyone Should Know?"

1) overlypositive wrote, "If you use a baseball bat at home for protection, put a sock over it so if an intruder goes to grab it, the sock comes off and you can get another swing!"

2) Puzzleheaded_Age6550 wrote:

"If you're in a strange city and walking, do not stop and look at a map. Only do that inside a business.

"Be aware of who is behind you and on your sides as you're walking. Don't carry all your valuables in one place (such as a purse). Carry purses, even if you're not carrying, are great

⁴⁶ Source: DOnnyD, "best mother/daughter or father/daughter moment which you remember?" Reddit. AskWomen. 7 March 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/t8pbe4/best_motherdaughter_or_fatherdaughter_moment/>.

anti-theft bags because they typically have a metal cord inside the strap, so they can't be cut, like any other regular purse or cross body bag. If you're carrying, train, train, train. (If you're not shooting, you should be reloading. If you're not reloading, you should be running. If someone kills me with my gun, they're going to have to beat me with it, because I'm going to keep shooting until the threat is gone, or I'm out of ammo.)

“For women, it's much more dangerous, as women are almost never going to win in a hand-to-hand fight. Keep everyone at arm's length. No, that baseball bat isn't going to do shit. You'll step right into their space, he'll grab the bat, and now you're in a struggle.

“No one, but women especially, should not accept a drink directly from anyone. Only accept a drink from the barkeep. Don't leave your drink unattended.

“If someone grabs you, and you're on the ground, do whatever you can to stay on your back. Once you're on your stomach, you're helpless.

“Don't flash cash. Again, spread your cash over several pockets.

“Make a copy of your ID, passport, card numbers, etc.so if your things are stolen, it's easier to report.

“Tell your credit card companies if you'll be out of the country, so they don't stop your card use.

“Lock your car, even if you're right next to it while filling up. Don't stand behind the pump while you're filling up, use the little button / lever to keep the pump filling your tank and walk to the back of your car, or wherever others can see you. Keep your head on swivel.”

3) 1955photon wrote, “Always lock your car doors the second you get in.”

4) Purple_Routine1297 wrote, “ALWAYS back your car in a parking space. If you need to make a quick getaway, you can drive straight out, not have to constantly look back and see if anyone else is driving or walking behind you.”

5) Percicus-B-Pig wrote:

“Keep your head on a swivel and pay attention to your surroundings. It’s called situational awareness and whether you’re on the street or a parking lot, do not let anyone invade your space for any reason.

“Often ne’er-do-wells will approach you with a line of b.s. They’ll ask for the time, or money for gas, ask if you need help loading your groceries, or like my last incident, the guy said I was beautiful and wanted to ask me for a date in the Home Depot parking lot. Really? The common factor is they want to get close enough to steal your purse, or worse.

“Loudly and with authority, tell them to stand back because they are making you nervous. Draw attention to the situation and they’ll likely walk away.”

6) Valiantlycaustic wrote, “If you are walking alone, regardless of time of day, never wear headphones in both ears. You need to be aware of your surroundings and not being able to hear what’s happening near you can be dangerous.”⁴⁷

⁴⁷ Source: catwearingredsocks, “What are some street smart tips everyone should know?” Reddit. AskWomen. 7 March 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/t8trrd/what_are_some_street_smart_tips_everyone_should/ >.

48. “What Kinks Do You Have That You’re Kinda Ashamed Of?”

1) arctic_chard wrote:

“I’m an emotional crier and can start tearing up pretty easily — RSPCA advert, old people by themselves, a small disagreement — it could be anything.

“My partner and I went through a really stressful period a few years back and there was a lot of arguing, many of which I’d end up crying mid-fight. We’re also big fans of make-up sex. We’d shout at each other > I’d cry > he’d cuddle me > we’d realise it was a bullshit fight about money > have sex > repeat 1-2 times a month.

“Fast forward a year and every time I cry, he gets turned on. We have accidentally Pavloved my boyfriend into getting an erection when tears are falling down my face.”

2) StatusPhotograph6210 wrote, “Having my nipples sucked, I feel violated and satisfied at the same time.”

3) Jax_fml wrote, “I secretly love the sound of someone trying to hold their moans in. I find it so much more attractive than loud moans.”

Silver_Strawberry8 commented, “Living in a house with no privacy, I have trained myself to do exactly that. Lol.”

TooModest commented, “My female roommate was great at that when she’d bring her boyfriend over for the weekend. I pretended I never heard anything, but it was pretty obvious when I had the midnight munchies and needed to hit the kitchen. (Bedrooms were on opposite sides of the apartment layout.)”

4) v_for_vivacious wrote, “Watching girls rub their clits on the edge of a table or cabinet. The other edging.”

5) Noobticula wrote, “My girlfriend and I love to wrestle. We get very competitive, she has very strong legs and hips. We get sweaty and breath hard, a lot of grunting sometimes. It’s kind of like sex in our underwear. So sexy.”⁴⁸

49. “What’s The Most Hurtful Thing Someone Has Said To You?”

owlhandsondeck wrote:

“Everyone loves you until they realize how fucked up you actually are.”

“I still wonder how much truth there is to that.”

AspieComrade commented:

“Back when I first met my wife, she kept her issues largely hidden since she had a long history of people treating her like garbage if she was ever honest. Down the line as we got comfortable with each other, it leaked out in other ways, short tempers and emotional breakdowns and the like.

“I realised how much her unfortunate history had really impacted her, that the resulting damage it had done to her mind and emotional capability, and instead of running I rolled up my sleeves and got to work doing what I do best: making her smile and helping her feel better. Over the years we’ve grown a lot together as people and while the fractures will always be there, we hold each other up to be better as a whole than we’d ever be as two separate individuals.

“So if you’re wondering how much truth there is to that statement, let me correct it from experience; people will

⁴⁸ Source: negan_can_step_on_me, “What kinks you’re kinda ashamed of, you have?” Reddit. AskReddit. 7 March 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/t8juis/what_kinks_your_e_kind_a_ashamed_of_you_have/>.

claim to love you, and when they realise how fucked up you are (as we all are), you'll find out which ones were telling the truth, because some people actually are."⁴⁹

50. "What Would You Give Up Sex For?"

VioletSea13 wrote, "To have my husband back. Life is so empty without him ... even after 11 years."

labratcat commented, " I just finished reading a thriller where the main character's husband dies and I was unexpectedly struck by how sad I was. I would be so bereft without my husband, and these comments make clear how entirely possible it is that it could happen while we're still (relatively) young."

Magnaflourius commented, "Any time there's a storyline on TV / in a movie that involves a spouse in a true-love marriage dying, I cry and run to my husband to tell him how much I love him. He doesn't quite get why fake people on TV bring out such a response in me, but I think he appreciates the sentiment."

mememan2995 commented, "My grandpa passed away when I was very little. When I was around 10, my grandma got remarried to a man who understood that he'll never be able to replace my grandpa, but he still stood up to the plate and was the best grandpa he could be. Even after my grandma passed, he still thinks of us as family and he'll always be my grandpa. Anyways, all I'm saying is there's still someone out there for you, and although they'll never

⁴⁹ Source: Themadadealtin, "What's the most hurtful thing someone has said to you?" Reddit. AskReddit. 8 March 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/t9hnqg/whats_the_most_hurtful_thing_someone_has_said_to/ >.

replace your husband, they'll still love you as much as he did."⁵⁰

51. "Who Lost His / Her Virginity In The Most Ridiculous Way?"

anonymous21123 wrote:

"I was at a field party and a group of girls came out of the bushes and joined us. One of the girls walked over and sat on my lap. She shined her phone in my face and said, 'You'll do.' She grabbed my hand and we made our way over to a tent and we started kissing, which led to oral, and about five minutes later she asked if I had a condom. I didn't.

"I ran over to my best mate, belt unbuckled and probably the most frantic I've ever been in my life and asked him if he had a condom, he didn't either. We both then ran around asking everyone if they had condoms, and not a single person would give me one. My mate ended up going through some bags by the fire and found one in there and gave it to me. So I rushed back to the tent where I still thank god that she was waiting for me and we proceeded to have sex. The poles ended up breaking so we was just inside a piece of fabric. When I was finished there was a group of people stood around the tent just watching us. Extremely weird and awkward but hey, it was one hell of an experience."⁵¹

⁵⁰ Source: serrafinagal, "What would you give up sex for?" Reddit. AskReddit. 9 March 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ta8a8p/what_would_you_give_up_sex_for/ >.

⁵¹ Source: Zektispan, "Who lost his/her virginity in the most ridiculous way?" Reddit. AskReddit. 10 March 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/tavxnx/who_lost_hishe_r_virginity_in_the_most_ridiculous/ >.

52. “[Serious] What Questions Should One Ask Their Parents While They Still Have The Chance?”

1) CreativeEmotion wrote:

‘Seeing as I recently lost my mom (the closest person to me), I can give you a list.

“1 - If you like the meals they made for you as a kid (or even an adult), ask them to write it down for you. We always assume those great family traditions are written down. Since they were made so often, usually it is done by memory.

“2 - If you have old family photos or artifacts, have your parents write down what is what or tell you directly.

“3 - *And this is a big one.* Don’t be afraid to talk about death. The honest truth is that if everything works out, you will outlive your parents. Make sure to get specific directions from them on what to do if bad things go down, what to do with their possessions, and encourage them to have it legally written and kept in a safe place.”

2) puppymonkeybaby79 wrote:

“Ask them what life was like growing up, ask them to share experiences they had with their parents, and ask them why they made the choices they made (college, career, etc.).

“This will help you understand them better as human beings and the choices they made as parents while raising you.”

wilburstiltskin commented:

“Also, ask them for the family history as they remember it. Have them describe relatives on their side of the family, with names, birth dates and places that they lived. All the old stories about cousins, aunts, uncles and how they are related to each other. This is the information that vanishes and you can never recover it. You can look some of this up online

(i.e. immigration records, old US census data) if you are interested and have the basic facts to start with.

“Record this and save it. Mostly because the day will come that your parent dies or ends up with Alzheimer’s.

“You can listen to the recording after they are gone in Mom or Dad’s own voice.”

DoveShandy commented, “I second this. My dad had the idyllic (white kid) American childhood of the 1960s. The stuff he got up to with his friends is the stuff of nostalgic advertising. I really think it was the happiest time in his life because of how he lights up when asked to tell a story from that time.”

3) Throwaway583thisdumb wrote, “Dig into their life. You’ll be surprised. Same with grandparents.”

justa_flesh_wound wrote:

“This is how I found out my grandpa was a bit of a shit growing up. He and his buddies would regularly lock the 2-holer from the outside.

“He was born in 1922, so this would be the late 20’s early 30’s.

“He also told me about the 1st time he ever had a Mountain Dew, and a Coke, relayed to me that the greatest invention he witnessed in his time were screens for your windows & doors.

“I was always fascinated with his stories, and he loved to tell them.”

angeraray commented, “One of the best things I ever did in high school was ‘interview’ my grandparents on my mother’s side and recorded it. It was for fun, not for school or anything. I just made a list of random questions and sat

down with them. As I asked them the questions, more would pop up, and they would go in tangents with stories I never heard before, etc. It was one of the most memorable and wonderful experiences I have had with them. They are both still alive but aren't as 'with it' mentally and I treasure those videos so much. And it warms my heart watching them because you can just see how thrilled they were to be able to tell their stories and share with one of their grandkids."⁵²

53. "People Who Feel Truly Loved And Accepted By Their Partners, Tell Me Something / Anything About It?"

destria wrote, "It's like playing life on easy mode."⁵³

54. "Would You Abort Your Child If It Was Going To Be Born With Severe Disabilities? Why Or Why Not?"

1) nana_banana2 wrote:

"My close friend has a severely mentally and physically disabled child. It's thankless, exhausting, doesn't leave the parents any time to just be their own persons, and you don't get to experience all the joys of parenting, like watching your child grow, learn new things, build friendships and relationships, get an education and a job they enjoy.

⁵² Source: AmXianSheng, "[Serious] What questions should one ask their parents while they still have the chance?" Reddit. AskReddit. 14 March 2022 <

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/te0owu/serious_what_questions_should_one_ask_their/ >.

⁵³ Source: ManufacturedMonkeys, "People who feel truly loved and accepted by their partners, tell me something/anything about it?" Reddit. AskWomen. 20 March 2022 <

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/tisniw/people_who_feel_truly_loved_and_accepted_by_their/ >.

“Honestly — it sucks. It sucks for her, her husband, her other kid, and most of all for the disabled kid who is in constant pain and needs 20 medications a day to just survive and will just be sitting in a care facility for the rest of her life once her parents pass.”

MissChievouss8 commented, “It’s the things most people don’t think about that make parenting someone with a disability hard. Certainly the things you mentioned but you also get a very real and large fear of death because you’re scared of how your child will survive and who will help them when you’re gone. It causes a lot of sleepless nights.”

Altruistic-Order-661 commented, “I know someone with a 30-year-old disabled daughter. The mother was diagnosed with cancer a few years ago. I can’t imagine how she feels knowing she would be leaving her daughter in someone else’s care if she didn’t beat it. So far she is fighting and doing well, but I’m sure a lot of her fight is for her daughter for this reason.”

2) reasonablyprudent_ wrote:

“This is coming from a severely disabled person, battling a life-threatening illness:

“Severe, life-threatening, or basically any disability that would make my child’s quality of life extremely poor / non-existent? Yes, abortion, absolutely.

“Any other *less* severe version of the disability? No, they should be able to see the world if they have some quality of life to be able to do so.

“Not to be too morbid: but I *wish* my parents made the more humane decision and aborted me. I’m not even 30 and I’m already connected to tubes (Portacath) for the rest of my life. Treatment isn’t covered by insurance, so I have to pay out of pocket, and not even getting the full treatment I need because

I just *cannot* afford it. I don't know how much longer my body can handle. Fighting my life-threatening condition, day in and day out, and not seeing any cure in sight? I can't even begin to explain the type of burnout I have for life."

3) omally57 wrote, "Yes. I don't think most folks fully understand how much fighting the parents will be required to do to obtain the support services they need. Medical all encompassing, appointments, medication, adaptive equipment. Education, person-centered IEP. The endless need to justify the basics to bureaucrats whose job it is to deny services and cut costs. As soon as the child makes the slightest improvement, see how quickly services that may have been in place vanish, without warning. Private insurance exists to deny coverage. Not to mention as the child grows, the needs of the child may change and then you are back to square one of trying to justify everything. Housing, we all know this is a nightmare. Helping the child develop meaningful relationships and interests. If you do not have the financial resources, you are on your own and you will never get a break."

4) Exotic-Resident-3586 wrote, "I'd abort my pregnancy, no matter what."

Yeahisaidit commented, "I felt this in my soul."

randomcacti commented, "I came here to say the exact same thing."⁵⁴

⁵⁴ Source: matchless2, "would you abort your child it was going to be born with severe disabilities? why or why not?" Reddit. AskReddit. 22 March 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/tjyels/would_you_abort_your_child_it_was_going_to_be/ >.

55. “Women Of Reddit, What Are Your Thoughts On Kim Possible?”

1) MayaLAnderson wrote, “None of that alter-ego nonsense, this amazing young lady just goes, ‘Yup, mom, dad, gotta go save the world. Yes, I’ll take a sweater,’ and goes off to be awesome. 10/10.”

2) -whitebearr wrote, “Used to be one of my fav shows as a kid and I had a lil crush on Shego. Lol.”

snail_tactics commented, “Shego helped me fully realize my lesbianism. Lol.”

-whitebearr responded, “I remember my mom bought me a Kim Possible and Shego doll. I used to make them kiss. LMAO.”

snail_tactic commented, “Only time this will ever be relevant, but one time my mom caught me making two lady Barbies kiss and she punished me for it. Instead of thinking ‘gay bad,’ I thought ‘kissing bad’ and it made me the cuddliest lesbian ever. Lol.”

3) HRPunsNStuff wrote, “I love that show! Kim balanced typical high school drama with saving the world. Her family and friends supported her and the villains respected her. She never listened to those who tried to put her down due to her gender. (And I don’t remember it happening that often.) She had a great dynamic with Ron and Monique and her interactions with her classmates were believable. The villains and missions were creative, and it had a catchy theme song. 10/10 would recommend.”

4) familydishonor wrote, “Shego woke things in me.”⁵⁵

⁵⁵ Source: JannTosh12, “Women of Reddit, what are your thoughts on Kim Possible?” Reddit. AskWomen. 22 March 2022 <

56. “What Is The Most Embarrassing Thing You’ve Ever Been Caught Doing?”

1) SuddenTerrible_Haiku wrote:

“Best friend wanted me to get her bra unhooked because it was a zipper in the front and it broke and basically was impossible to unzip.

“Her mom came in just when I gave up trying and ripped the bra apart at the zipper.

“So basically her mom came in and caught her teen daughter’s same-sex friend ripping her bra off.

“On the positive side, we found out her mom wasn’t a bigot because she just told us to be quieter about it and left. I don’t think she ever really believed our explanation.”

Desperate-Metal8008 commented, “Lol. One time, I believe I was 16, before bed I did an elaborate braid and wanted to take a pic to try to reproduce it later. I was wearing a bra and panties and went to take a selfie and my mom barged in right then. She lectured me to never send nude or lewd pics with my face and didn’t let me speak.”

2) Itzdasimp-popo wrote, “So this happened like 3 weeks ago as of writing this. So during the afternoon, I was jerking off, nothing strange for a teenager. Now you know that moment where your brain is like *did I really lock the door?* I had that thought but didn’t bother to check since I was close to finishing. That’s when I hear my door open and my mother walks in. Out of sheer panic, I try to grab my blanket; however, it fell on the floor somehow so I grab a Sonic the Hedgehog plushie and I cover my sausage sticking out. I

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/tk76ai/women_of_reddit_what_are_your_thoughts_on_kim/ >.

didn't have time to turn off Pornhub on my phone so what my mom sees is her son watching porn, and from her angle, it looks like I'm banging the sonic plush. She had the most disturbed face ever and quietly and quickly walked outta my room and closed my door. My mom's pretty chill, though, and found it hilarious; however, she now refers to me as the SONIC SLAMMER. I can never live it down."

3) HirokiTakumi wrote:

"So ... My sister's and my room are upstairs, with a bathroom connecting them, with two doors, one leads to my room, one leads to her room. So with me being 20, and her being 7, I flipped the handle for my bathroom door so I could lock it from my room to not let her accidentally walk in on me doing young man things, or doing things with my girlfriend, but still letting her have access to the bathroom.

"My mom thought it would be a GREAT idea, to teach my sister how to use a flathead to stick in the hole on the opposite side of a door to unlock it. You know, in case she accidentally locked herself out of her room.

"So my tiny little sister had the brilliant idea to use her newfound skill on my bathroom door that was specifically flipped to keep her out and protect her young innocent eyes. And walked in happily announcing my name. Don't know what she wanted to say, as it was followed by 'ohmygod' and her walking out immediately. As she walked in on me being on top of my girlfriend

"Proceed to explaining what happened to my mother, only to find out it was all her fucking fault. Proceed to check up on my sister with my girlfriend, she was fine and showed us what she wanted to show us. Don't remember what it was, but that was definitely the most embarrassing thing I've ever experienced."

4) hudskeys32 wrote, “I was cutting some hay and decided it was time for a jerk break and when I came I opened the tractor cab door and let my load go outside in the field only to have my cell phone ring and it was my boss who was sitting on the road with binoculars and all he said was put your cock back in your pants.”⁵⁶

57. “What Is Classy If You’re Rich, But Trashy If You’re Poor?”

1) CompetitiveVanilla14 wrote, “Someone else raising your kids.”

SinibusUSG commented, “Definite exceptions, though. For instance, one of my employees is an immigrant who left his kids with their grandparents so he could send money back. (The mother doesn’t seem to be in the picture; he hasn’t mentioned why, and I won’t be the one to bring it up.) He says they live pretty well back home, but he gets to go back only once a year or so. His kids are definitely being raised by someone else, but God damn if that isn’t the furthest thing from trashy.”

rose-colored-lesbian commented, “Same with one of my coworkers — left his kids, wife, and parents in his home country. Works his ass off and sends every dime above his living costs back home to them. I’ve overheard him talking to his wife / kids on the phone in the break room a few times — I don’t speak his native tongue, but you can feel the love in the conversation and the joy just radiates off of him when speaking to them. I wish I could pay for a trip for him to go home and see them.”

⁵⁶ Source: Desperate-Metal8008, “What is the most embarrassing thing you’ve ever been caught doing?” Reddit. AskReddit. 23 March 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/tkvf9z/what_is_the_most_embarrassing_thing_youve_ever/ >.

Five_Decades wrote, “That reminds me of a documentary I once saw about China. A guy left his small rural town to move to a big city so he could earn money and send it home for his wife and his newborn. He did so and sent a bunch of money home, and then when he went back home his young son was scared of him because he didn’t recognize him.”

HalfMoon_89 commented, “This is a heartbreakingly common story around the world.”

2) The answer “Police escorts” ended up inspiring this comment by rhett342:

“I was walking out of school one day and my buddy’s girlfriend was standing there talking to her friend and complimented the friend on her new skirt. The friend said thanks but it’s really a skort and pulled up the piece of cloth in front to show the shorts underneath right as I was walking by. Knowing this was a chance to be weirdly inappropriate, I offered the friend a dollar to lift up the front again. She gave me a look that was part anger and part confusion, so I kept going to my car.

“And that, kids, was the first time my wife ever remembers me talking to her. Needless to say, we didn’t start dating until years later.”

rhett342 added, “And we didn’t start dating until someone angrily accused me of being part of a plot to break into their house to clean their carpets.”

UmbraIndagator commented, “True or not this story is interesting AF [as f**k]. I need more details.”

rhett342 responded:

“100% true. I was supposed to go to a concert with one of my platonic female friends, her boyfriend, and a few other people. I got the tickets and they were supposed to pay me

for them. Tickets come in the mail (this was back in 1997, a year or two after I got out of high school) and everyone says they'll give me the money at a party my friend was having that weekend. Cool!

“Get to the party and not too long after getting there the girl I was friends with goes off the deep end yelling at me and another girl we were friends with about how she knows we (and a third person who wasn't there that night) had tried to break into her house to clean her carpets while she was out of the country visiting a friend who used to be a foreign exchange student at our old high school. If that sounds crazy and confusing to you, imagine how it felt for me in front of a houseful of people. She kicks us out and I take the tickets because nobody had paid me, they were really good seats, and I still wanted to go but not with them.

“I sell the tickets to other friends, including a girl I was friends with in high school whom I happened to run into at a street fair. She wanted to bring a friend, and I still had 1 ticket left so I said sure. Turns out the friend was skort girl. I'd gotten much less strange and she'd gotten a little more strange in the passing years so this time we really hit it off. A few months later, we started dating. A year or so later, we got married and have stayed married 22 years so far.”

3) In a comment on the answer “Drinking,” DontFeedWildAnimals wrote:

“One time while walking with my friends:

“Friend 1: *Gives homeless guy \$10.*

“Friend 2: ‘You know he’s just going to spend that on drugs and alcohol.’

“Friend 1: ‘So was I.’

“And ain't that the hard truth.”

4) In a comment on the answer “Not working,” itspeterj wrote, “There was a place in Vegas that had 2 ATMs: one said the name of the strip club and had a lower fee, and the other one had the name of a Mexican restaurant that had like a \$40 fee. Genius.”

CrispiCorgis wrote, “I’m confused. How does that work?”

CallousedPhallus answered:

“The cheaper one would have the name of the strip club on your bank statement, while the \$40 one would have the name of the Mexican restaurant on your statement. Even though it was still located in the strip club.

“Highly assuming it was targeted at married men with joint bank accounts.”

cataclyzzmic commented, “That’s funny because there is a steak restaurant called Strip Club my husband’s company booked for dinner and Accounting Department lost their shit over it.”

clutterlustrott commented, “Sweetie, I love you, but if you spend another \$300 on taquitos, again I’m leaving!”⁵⁷

58. “Girls On Reddit, What’s Something Guys Shouldn’t Be Insecure About?”

1) Ok-Personality-95 wrote, “Sweating during sex. That shit is hot!”

justzke asked, “Are we talking human shower here, or are there limits?”

⁵⁷ Source: Seraphina_Renaldi, “What is classy of you’re rich, but trashy if you’re poor?” Reddit. AskReddit. 1 April 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/tu0ozf/what_is_classy_of_youre_rich_but_trashy_if_youre/ >.

Ok-Personality-95 answered, “Personally I don’t care; I just find it hot.”

PuzzledLight commented, “Your mileage may vary. As a profuse sweater, I can confirm some are into it, some are indifferent, some are repulsed.”

2) Real-Accountant840 wrote, “Quickly cumming. Sir, I am honoured.”

azure-danube commented:

“This! It’s honestly such an ego boost. It tells me I’ve done a good job. :)”

“(What we actually hate is when a guy finishes and assumes it’s all over without checking in on us to see if we’re satisfied. You have more tools to help us out than just your dick, you know.)”

MComplex commented, “The only issue for guys is that our sexual desires tend to SHUT THE HELL OFF most of the time when we are done. Not saying it’s an excuse to not help your partner or shouldn’t try, but it’s hard as fuck to get into the mindset again. I’m lucky to last long, and I like letting others enjoy themselves first, but in instances where I finished first, I tend to have to warm myself back up.”

SativaDruid commented, “That is why the real pro gamer move is to get them off before you even involve the dick.”

3) MeinEmanresu wrote, “Being a virgin or abstinent and not being ‘jacked.’ Something they *should* be wary of, though, is maintaining proper hygiene! That means washing properly back there, having cut and clean nails and washing your hair often enough that it doesn’t become a natural repellant.”

4) yissa26 wrote, “Bring shorter than the average height of men in your country. My husband is, and I’d still choose him a million times over.”

Think-Fox8662 asked, “Why do girls on dating apps / sites have this [a minimum height] as a requirement 99% of the time then?”

lexissslashay commented, “So you know who NOT to pick. She probably has no personality and isn’t interested in anything meaningful.”

5) ntaonai wrote, “Acne, voice cracks, showing feelings, being not tall, being inexperienced, being shy, being skinny or chubby (as long it’s healthy!). I just love these things! <3”

Gockel commented:

“From all of Reddit’s male population: Well, hello, there.

“Edit: clicked her profile and saw the age in the description. Abort mission, everyone!”

GSGBSamurai commented, “There was a huge clue in ‘voice cracks.’ She’s talking about pubescents, dude.”

Gockel responded, “Now that you said that it’s painfully obvious. In my mind, everyone on Reddit is automatically my age, so I just assumed having a voice crack, which can happen, is something considered unmanly and often ridiculed.”⁵⁸

59. “Guys On Reddit, What’s Something Girls Shouldn’t Be Insecure About?”

1) SecretSummerMidnight wrote, “A lot of those beauty trends. Thigh gaps, that weird bikini gap [bikini bridge] thing, stretch marks etc., I genuinely don’t care. Also,

⁵⁸ Source: OcelotWinter, “Girls on Reddit, what’s something guys shouldn’t be insecure about?” Reddit. AskReddit. 4 April 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/tvwovs/girls_on_reddit_whats_something_guys_shouldnt_be/>.

apparently some are self-conscious about freckles, I think they look stunning.”

2) The Big Pasta wrote, “Breast size. A good portion of us don’t give a shit about that.”

No_Manufacturer5641 wrote, “And we don’t care if they are different sizes. They all are.”

lululyons responded, “As in one boob larger than the other? This is so affirming to hear! Thanks, dudes!”

No_Manufacturer5641 responded, “Yes. I by no means have seen a lot of women’s breasts in person, but I’ve seen a few bare and every set was a bit uneven. Most men don’t even notice. My first girlfriend asked me about it and I realized it was a thing, but I didn’t notice for over a year. When your partner looks at your body, he’s enjoying it, not critiquing it (at least that’s how anyone worth your time will be). You have a different perspective on your body than your partner. We guys look at all the great parts and ignore the blemishes or unbalance you may have been focusing on for years. (Plus, we have a hard time thinking while there are boobs in front of us.)”

belaav commented, “My biggest insecurity is having itty bitty titties, so thank you.”

SkeeveTheGreat wrote, “About half of my friends who are into women (including myself) prefer small breasts, and the other half larger ones. Mostly, though, what they truly care about is ‘Can I see them?’”

3) phunkydroid wrote, “Almost everything they are insecure about, in my experience.”

BangBangMeatMachine commented:

“THIS RIGHT HERE!

“Girls: You’re great. Striving for self-improvement is fine, but fretting over things about yourself that you wish you could change but can’t is a huge waste of your very limited time in existence.”

sloowhand commented:

“I personally want to find the person who told women freckles should be covered up and ... I don’t want to hurt anyone, so I’ll just have a strongly worded conversation with them.

“Maybe it’s just me, but I have a serious weakness for freckles. From a dusting across the bridge of a woman’s nose to head-to-toe ginger freckles. I think they’re gorgeous.”

Rawsugar2 commented, “When I was about 13 years old, I read an ‘article’ in a *Cosmopolitan* magazine called ‘How to Cover Your Freckles.’ The author made it seem like freckles were nothing more than blemishes that needed to be covered by lots of makeup to even out your skin. For years, I used concealer, foundation, and powder to cover up my freckles. I’ve now grown to love them! I LOVE when I see other women rocking their freckles, too!

4) buffkirby wrote, “That little belly bump. Seriously, it don’t make you look fat — it makes you look human.”

stitchmidda2 commented, “I used to be SEVERELY underweight. Finally gained enough weight that I am healthy according to my doctor, but I now have a little pudge on my stomach. I like it because it means I’m healthy, but my last boyfriend was all over shitting on me, calling me fat, saying I can’t wear a bikini because I need to cover my fat. Fuck that shit. I’m a healthy weight. This is how I’m supposed to be.”

5) wankfan442 wrote, “Their credit card numbers. It’s okay girls, you can tell me.”

PhreedomPhighter commented, "I've noticed they get really insecure when you ask about the 3 digits on the back of their credit cards. Like that's my favorite part."

hi_i_am_steve commented, "Furthermore, they should understand I only want to know their mother's maiden name, what city they were born in, what their favorite book is, the name of the road they grew up on, the name of their first / current / favorite pet, the first company they worked for, where they went to high school / college, their favorite food, and their favorite place to go on vacation because I want to get to know them better as a person."

6) MQ116 wrote, "Frizzy hair! It's really fun to look at. Some women seem to try to straighten / curl but I think going with what your hair wants is best. Your hair refuses to be anything other than an afro? Rock it, sister! I know there's always those shampoo commercials with impossibly silky hair, and that looks nice, but there are so many different ways to have beautiful hair. I think genuine hair is often beautiful hair!"

Electronic-Cow7250 commented, "Okay, so one of my coworkers and I were having a casual conversation about my meeting his wife the previous evening. He told me that they had been married for 28 years and he 'still felt butterflies every time I see that frizzy head of hair walk toward me,' and I just melted at his expression. It was adorable."

CharlieTuna_ wrote:

"I noticed that. One girl I worked with straightened her hair every day. She was still stunning with straight hair but one day she didn't have time to do her hair and came in with wavy / curly hair. I let her know right away she looked great with her natural hair, and she started rocking it more often.

"Do whatever makes you confident, but letting your hair do its thing can look great! (And as a guy who let his hair go

long during the pandemic, I totally know how it will do whatever it wants at times.)”

-AmericanIdiot wrote, “OH, MY GOD, I’VE NEVER MET SUCH NICE MEN. You sayin’ I’m really fuckin’ insecure for basically no reason?”

moonaloona123 commented, “I know. How did all the sweet ones get here?”

itsatimewarp commented, “Right! Yeah, where do they exist in real life? That is what I’m wondering.”⁵⁹

60. “Women Who Stayed With Their Partner Despite Them Being Bad At Sex, Why?”

1) Lysa_Bell wrote:

“I was with very toxic people who were absolutely amazing in bed. It never lasted.

“After a while, your focus shifts. You want someone who loves and respects you. My boyfriend was in the beginning very clumsy but open to improve. It took a couple of years, and now he leaves me breathless.

“As long as a partner is loving and willing to improve and learn about your body, sex doesn’t have to stay bad. Just work with each other.”

2) MaiOthrWan wrote:

“They were open to feedback, had good communication, and willing to work on it. Plus, they were very keen to please!

⁵⁹ Source: naruturtle, “Guys on Reddit, what’s something girls shouldn’t be insecure about?” Reddit. AskReddit. 3 April 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/tvezhn/guys_on_reddit_whats_something_girls_shouldnt_be/ >.

“Sometimes, you need to get to know each other sexually, and if you’re both game and able to set the ego aside, then they eventually learn what you’re into.

“This also means that you need to know what you like, and you need to be open to trying new things for you and them.”

3) MissLexxxi wrote, “Because it got so much better! My husband was inexperienced when we met. I didn’t do the fake moaning and ego boosting. I was straight up like ‘put my legs here, move your tongue like this, grab me there, etc.’ He learned how to please me.”

4) Practical-Panda-6047 wrote, “In my case, we got married as virgins so we both sucked at sex. A person can always improve in bed; love should be the base foundation for a relationship. Communication, however, is the only way to improve someone’s skills in bed. If you never tell him what to fix or change, he will never be ‘good’ in bed.”

5) Chachinoodle wrote, “I stayed in a relationship with bad sex for five years and tried so hard to make it work. Finally broke up with him almost a year ago and do not regret it. Sex and intimacy is an absolute need for me in a relationship and I started to build resentment. If a partner is open to communicate and work on intimacy issues, I would likely stay. Otherwise, you just turn into roommates / friends who live together, in my opinion.”

6) tarot_tarot_bo_barot wrote:

“I stayed for 30 years because he was a good man, we were good friends, and we had come up together through pretty severe poverty, and hard times. We raised each other, in many ways. We also had kids together very quickly. Sex was not reason enough for me to break all of that up, or to deal with alimony, child support, custody, visitation, step-families, etc. Obviously, those are huge parts of many peoples’ lives, but I chose to not take that path.

“Once the kids were grown and doing their things, we quietly and very amicably divorced.

“It’s a success story, in my book.”

7) DiviFail wrote:

“Him being bad was due to inexperience, not an unwillingness to do stuff in bed. He was insecure about his performance to begin with, like he didn’t know any moves more than just pumping away, but eventually the stigma wore off and we could have an honest discussion about what felt good or what we wanted the other one to do.

“Would I have stayed even if he didn’t improve? I would like to think so. I love him.”⁶⁰

⁶⁰ Source: ElecTheHeeter, “Women who stayed with their partner despite them being bad at Sex, why?” Reddit. AskWomen. 5 April 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/twqui4/women_who_stayed_with_their_partner_despite_them/ >.

CHAPTER 4: Questions 61-80**61. “What Is The Best Kiss You Have Ever Had?”**

1) lithenblithe wrote:

“My now-husband and I talked online for a couple months before we met in person. On our first date ,things were going so well, we couldn’t stop smiling at each other, but I felt weird about kissing someone essentially one hour after meeting them, even though that’s what we both clearly wanted. So I told him I wanted to take it slow.

“The date lasted the whole day. We got lunch, went to a bookstore, walked around, got dinner, walked around some more, walked to my place. He kissed me on the cheek, the neck, the arm. We stayed up talking till midnight. At a lull in the conversation, he held up three fingers and I asked him what for. He put one down, then another. I said, ‘A countdown?’ and when he put the last one down it was midnight and he kissed me.

“It was such a good kiss that I couldn’t stop kissing him. We fell asleep around four a.m. and I woke up at seven for class and to kiss him again. He left his button-down shirt and just wore his undershirt out, and I wore his button-down shirt to class ... honestly, I had it so bad.”

2) sluttychurros wrote, “I had a second date with a guy who was 6’4“, while I’m 5’8”, about 180 lbs at the time. He walked me to my car at the end of the date and we kissed and started making out. As we’re making out, he picked me up under my butt — like grabbed my thighs and lifted me up — so we were the same height while kissing. It was seriously the hottest kiss I’ve ever had.”

3) phoenixwhodared wrote, “NSFW. Current boyfriend. Just got wet thinking of kissing him.”

4) freckled8082 wrote, “My glow-up hit a few years after college. I was out at a bar and ran into old friends who hadn’t seen me in years. We danced, had a couple drinks, laughed the night away — definite tension between me & one of the guys. As the night drew to a close, I was saying my goodbyes, hoping I’d leave with Mr. Tension’s number, and it started pouring rain. I said, ‘Oh gosh, I gotta go, you guys!’ Then I waved & ran for my car. I hit the unlock button on my remote, go to pull the door open, and Mr. Tension is there to push the door closed. He ran after me in the rain, you guys! Spun me around, full body crushed me between him and my car, grabbed me by the face and kissed me so good in that pouring rain that it left me panting.”

5) Ok-Reddit1 wrote, “We were dating and we didn’t kiss yet and it was both our first kisses and he didn’t know how, so I said, ‘I think it’s like this,’ and then we kissed. Lol. I was young.”

6) No_Coconut_1556 wrote, “A guy I met on Tinder. After a week of texting and feeling an instant connection, we went on our first date. It was nothing fancy: We had dinner, hit up a brewery, and then walked around downtown and near a lake. We sat next to the water at night and there were lights twinkling all around us and Christmas music playing. (It was right after Christmas.) We sat side by side with his arm over my shoulders and he held me close. A pause in our conversation and we looked at each other and he kissed me. It started off so soft and eventually turned passionate. I opened my eyes a couple times in between because the scene was like out of a movie. He smiled while he kissed me. His eyes opened a little, too, and the lights reflecting off his eyes plus his smile as we kissed is something I’ll probably remember forever. Everything in that moment was quiet. I didn’t hear the music or the water sloshing or the people walking by. It felt very surreal. We kissed a good long while before walking back to the car and eventually making out

some more. His lips were so soft and moved perfectly in anticipation with mine. Perfect first kiss.”

7) MayaLAnderson wrote, “The night I flew in to see my fiancé. (We are currently living on different sides of the country because it’s cheaper for me to stay here for school.) The kiss he gave me the minute I walked in felt like something out of a romance novel. It felt like the rightest thing in the world.”⁶¹

62. “Why Is It Assumed That Every Woman Likes Receiving Oral? If You Are A Woman Who Doesn’t Care For It, How Do You Tell Your Partner And How Did They Respond?”

1) FalconEmpress wrote:

“All of my exes insisted on doing it. All the time. I didn’t protest then, but I recently came to the realization that I just don’t care for it. I don’t need it for my satisfaction. It’s quite strange to me that it is even a thing between humans, and it doesn’t feel natural to me. I seriously want to know who came up with it and why it spread like wildfire and became a staple in the act of sex for most people.

“I told my current boyfriend that I don’t like oral and he must have taken it as a challenge like, ‘You just haven’t had me do it,’ and he just acted like I never said what I said. That is not the only form of foreplay there is. I asked another guy friend why men like giving oral sex so much. He said because of the enjoyment the woman gets. But if a woman says she doesn’t enjoy it, then the guy should just listen and refrain. What is he missing out on if he doesn’t do it? Most

⁶¹ Source: nikan69, “What is the best kiss you have ever had?” Reddit. AskReddit. 8 April 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/tzhoi9/what_is_the_best_kiss_you_have_ever_had/>.

times I'm just lying there, tolerating it, and thinking. 'Hurry up and give me the meat!'

"I may need to have another conversation with him about it."

Gwerch commented:

"I think it is really not ok that he does something to you that you already said you don't like, no matter how much enjoyment it might give him.

"He does not seem to believe you that you really don't like it. There are women who would like the feeling but are just too inhibited to enjoy it. He might think you're one of those.

"I would tell him in no unclear terms that you don't like it and he absolutely has to stop doing it. If he still insists then "I personally would dump him as he doesn't respect your boundaries then."

RainbowReindeer wrote, "They've literally all done the same thing and decided that it's clearly because THEY haven't done it before. The first time I normally humour it, the second time onwards I will actively read or something if they insist on it."

Trias84 wrote, "A girl I used to be with didn't get off from it, only from penetrative sex, but she still enjoyed it enough. She may have indulged me a bit, though, because I love it and it really got me going."

EpiphanyPHoenix wrote, "I didn't get the hype until several partners in. Being extremely in love with him, feeling incredibly safe, and having the right lighting to help me relax have made me crave it. That being said, I totally understand that everyone is different and it's okay not to like oral! In the past, I didn't enjoy it either."

2) Homers_daughter wrote:

“I’ve never liked it. I’m so glad I found this post because I thought I was a freak! It seems so ubiquitous in descriptions of sex, and I’ve always wondered what men must think when I say please not to do it to me.

“No man has ever insisted on doing it or even mentioned it again once I tell them I don’t like it.”

3) Glittering-Bridge-76 wrote:

“I just tell my partner what to do instead of telling him what not to do. He’s super chill about it.

“Edit: Might I add, I never had anyone before him so maybe I don’t know how I want it done, but I never hesitate to tell him. Also, the beard. IT IS SO UNCOMFORTABLE.”⁶²

63. “People Who Forgave Their Cheating Partner, What Was The Reason You Let It Go?”

1) Mrbubblesgirl wrote:

“A bit beside the question, but I wanted to tell a happier story:

“My mom cheated on her partner at the time — D — and became pregnant. D knew she cheated instantly because he couldn’t physically have kids. He left her but mum didn’t want grandparents to know I was a cheater baby, so D agreed to be put on the birth certificate. He came to pick me up and spend time with me every Sunday, he took up the roll of dad

⁶² Source: FalconEmpress, “Why is it assumed that every woman likes receiving oral? If you are a woman that doesn’t care for it, how do you tell your partner and how did they respond?” Reddit. AskReddit. 15 April 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/u44f5j/why_is_it_assumed_that_every_woman_likes/ >.

even though I wasn't his. I found out a lot later all this and I'm still so thankful he stayed in my life.

"D didn't forgive my mum for cheating, but he held no grudge or hostility towards the product of the cheating. Love you, Dad."

2) Raement wrote:

"She was an emotional wreck over it, and it seemed like she was genuinely remorseful and deeply regretted what she did, and she promised that she wouldn't do it again. After all, why get so hung up on a mistake if it's never committed again?"

"And then she cheated on me with someone else."

Shiny_Grapefruit commented, "My strongest core value I look for in a partner and hold myself to is loyalty after watching my dad cheat a lot growing up. My parents stayed together, but the cheating wreaked havoc in the family, and it still does. I don't think the cheating parent fully grasps how much it hurts their kids."

3) Pimp_Daddy_Patty wrote:

"Two of my former partners who ended up being cheaters. Not one showed any regret or remorse. Both made it sound like it was an accident and it was no big deal.

"The first one got in touch with me years later crying because she just bought her \$10k wedding dress and the next day caught her fiancé with his sister-in-law. So it had to happen to her for her to finally understand how it feels. They're still married, though."

Pimp_Daddy_Patty added, "He was banging his brother's wife."

4) gogojack wrote:

“Time. And karma.

“She left me for another guy because they were ‘soul-mates’ and were ‘meant to be together’ and a bunch of other excuses she gave me. We got divorced so that she could be with him and then — shocker — the romance of the century didn’t work out.

“She moved on to another guy. We’ll call him ‘Dave’ because his name was Dave ... and he seemed decent enough. His parents were very good to our daughter, and my ex and him got engaged.

“Then one night, I got a call. On the other end of the phone was my ex. Crying so hard she was barely able to form words, but eventually she said something like ‘I’m so sorry, because I finally know what I put you through.’

“Turns out Dave had met his ‘soul-mate’ and had been carrying on an affair. They were ‘meant to be together,’ and my ex heard all the excuses she gave to me repeated back to her — in some cases word for word. Through her tears, she apologized profusely, and it would have been so easy for me to say ‘serves you right’ and hang up the phone.

“I didn’t do that. It had been about 7 years since we split up, I’d moved on, water under the bridge and all that shit, plus we still had the kid together. So I talked her down off the ledge, told her that she was strong enough to get through this (true), and accepted her apology.

“Years later we reconnected for our daughter’s wedding. All is forgiven, and we’re okay now.”⁶³

⁶³ Source: ChildhoodPersonal225, “People who forgave their cheating partner, what was the reason you let it go?” Reddit. AskReddit. 19 April 2022 <

64. “What Surprised You In A Negative Way When You Had Children?”

gabbajabba3, the Original Poster of this question, added, “Hey, I was wondering if there are any moms out there who were willing to share which negative thing about life with children surprised you and you wish you knew before?”

1) your_moms_apron wrote, “How much unsolicited advice you get. And how exhausting the reality of prolonged sleep deprivation really is.”

2) Wont_Eva_Know wrote:

“That you’re never alone ever again!

“Even if you aren’t in a room with your kids, they fill your whole head. The mental weight of having tiny people to worry about is VERY heavy and constant. Worth it? Yes, definitely.”

MoonAmunet commented, “Private time in the bathroom? You wish! You never poop alone.”

Wont_Eva_Know responded, “Yep, it’s true! Even if you have a kid who would be happy to leave you alone to poop ... you have to drag them in with you because you can’t trust them to not wake up the baby, or give the dog a haircut, or paint the kitchen with yoghurt.”

3) DrgnPhoenix13 wrote, “Girl babies can pee on you, too.”

looseylewinsky wrote, “My daughter is almost four weeks old, and my husband has had every bodily fluid you can imagine on him ... including pee.”

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/u6yhfr/people_who_fo rgave_their_cheating_partner_what/ >.

4) Unl0vableDarkness wrote:

“It’s deffo the ‘mummy pouch’ mostly for me. Nothing makes it go away. No matter how much weight I lose.

“Also no matter how organised you think you are, you’re not. Babies constantly surprise you.

“How quickly I wanted to go back to work so I could speak something other than baby.”

5) polkasotteapot wrote, “How many friends you lose! So many just kind of vanish into the ether.”

5) MercyDivineOK wrote:

“1. You never catch up with laundry.

“2. The number of times you will whisper ‘what the fuck’ under your breath.

“3. You say things you would never in your wildest dreams imagine saying. E.g.: Please don’t put your chicken fingers in my water.

“4. How quickly they grow out of clothes.

“5. How children treat each other: Keeping up with schoolyard drama and new best friends on the daily.”

7) searedscallops wrote:

“Childcare was far more expensive than I had anticipated.

“I was thinking maybe \$100 per week. Nope, it was \$250 per week for an infant. And that was in 2005. I’m sure it has gone up since then.”

8) Psychological_Ad656 wrote:

“How hard postpartum is, both physically and mentally.

“Honest to god, my children are such a joy 95% of the time. Actually being with them and parenting is the easiest part of motherhood. They are 2.5 and 5 now and I love being a mom.

“It’s the physical and mental stuff that sucks. My body took so long to heal after birth (vaginal deliveries), and I was in pain and bleeding for over a month each time. The hormone shifts that first year after birth were brutal. The weight gain sucked. I had PPD and PPA. Childbirth was traumatic and I developed PTSD. I had to go to physical therapy to heal my diastasis recti and bladder prolapse. I had to go to regular therapy to manage my anxiety and PTSD. The chronic sleep deprivation doesn’t help. My youngest is just now sleeping through the night.

“I had no idea how much happened to your body and mind after birth. I was definitely unprepared for it!”

9) anxiyettie wrote:

“How incredibly exhausting it can be.

“What the hormones can do to a body. I’ve had such horrible mood swings for years now.

“Oh, and what all can happen during pregnancy and childbirth. How much can go wrong. No one ever speaks about how common miscarriages are.”

10) lbisesi wrote, “100% how much unwanted advice you get.”

11) anony987654 wrote, “Honestly, for me it’s been how hard it is to let go when they grow up. Nobody tells you that letting them go out into the world and figure this life business out is one of the unexpectedly hard transitions.”⁶⁴

⁶⁴ Source: gabbajabba3, “What surprised you in a negative when you had children?” Reddit. AskWomen. 22 April 2022 <

65. “What Is One Thing You And Your Partner Do That You Are Surprised Not All Couples Do?”

1) treemanswife wrote:

“Talk to our children like they are people. We don’t shy away from serious subjects, and we don’t use euphemisms. We’re age-appropriate but truthful and it’s really not that hard.

“I don’t understand why so many people work so hard to avoid telling their kids how the world works.”

LaScoundrellee commented, “My parents treated me that way to a large extent. On the positive, I think I definitely grew up more mature and intelligent than some of my peers. As a possible con, though, I did consider myself an intellectual equal to adults from a young age, and carried myself as such, and once I got old enough to hold opinions this seemed to sort of drive my parents nuts.”

2) Proof-of-existence wrote:

“Switch tasks.

“When one of our friend’s parents died, our friend was floored that her surviving parent didn’t understand basic things about their household.

“This really affected us. Every January and July we sit down, write a list of the household tasks that we somehow fell into doing exclusively, and exchange them. This way, we always know how to take care of all aspects of our combined life, whether it’s knowing which drawer to put the baking utensils in or how to renew our insurance policies. We don’t want to fall into this trap where we get so comfortable splitting

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/u9c3zq/what_surprise_d_you_in_a_negative_when_you_had/>.

specific tasks that we would struggle to take care of our lives if one of us was suddenly gone.”

3) Thick-Ass-Chloe wrote, “For the record, ours is sleeping with separate blankets. I can’t understand how any couple tries to share a single blanket all night.”

4) ubiquitousnoodle commented:

“We totally do this, too. My partner has this scratchy wool blanket that he loves, and he uses it as a first layer. I can’t stand it. I have a faux sheepskin on one side, velour on the other side blanket and I use a weighted blanket on top in the cold months.

“When one of us invites the other under our respective blankets, it’s a very clear signal that we want fun to happen.”⁶⁵

66. “Women Who Dropped Everything And Moved Far Away To Start Over, What’s Your Story?”

Excellesse wrote:

“I was living in California, where I was born and raised, and working 60-80 hours a week at two near-minimum wage jobs (\$9.50 and \$8 + tips). I slept on a futon in the living room of my mom’s house, paying the majority of rent / bills. I realized I’d die this way, my mom’s live-in free ride, if I didn’t make a change.

⁶⁵ Source: Thick-Ass-Chloe, “What is one thing you and your partner do that you are surprised not all couples do?” Reddit. AskWomen. 23 April 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/uama44/what_is_one_thing_you_and_your_partner_do_that/ >.

“My best friend, who I had met online years before, lived in the Midwest and was like, Why don’t you move up here?”

“The cost of living is AMAZING, and the job opportunities are plentiful.

“The plan was for me to crash in her spare room for a month or two, but my little brother decided to come with me at the last minute, so we got an apartment, which my best friend forever was kind enough to scope out for me.

“I got a job earning \$11/hour the first week I was there by hitting all the restaurants and hotels on a single street. Within six months I had gotten a job working overnights for \$17+ an hour and eventually worked my way through the additional tiers in the job to be earning \$20+ an overnight differential — can’t remember what it was exactly.

“Then I backslid after burning out in 2018 but now I’ve more than recovered, earning \$60-65k after commission and I’m about to move on to another company (cross your fingers), earning \$75k+.

“I’ve also met My Person in the past 6 months — we’re making plans to move in together in the next few months when my lease is up.

“I have never once looked back. My little brother moved back to California within six months of moving up, and my best friend broke up with her boyfriend after he cheated on her in spectacular fashion, so she moved in with me.

“I’ve been back to visit my mom and little brother and some other family twice and am planning my 3rd visit for this coming year.

“Zero regrets.”

havehaveehaveohno asked, “Pardon me for being nosy, but how did he cheat on her in a spectacular fashion?”

Excellesse responded:

“He went on a cruise with another woman after telling her he was being sent to another city for training for his job. He stopped answering his phone after just a day, and before deciding to start calling police and hospitals, she checked his email.

“That woman [my friend] scorched the earth. The utilities in her name were cut off, her belongings and furniture removed, and her name off the lease by the time that shithead got home from his week-long cruise.”⁶⁶

67. “What Is The Nicest / Romantic Gesture Your Current Partner / Ex Has Ever Done To You?”

1) talibob wrote, “My husband makes personalized crossword puzzles for our anniversary every year. All the clues are based on significant events, media, and in-jokes from the previous year. I’ve kept all of them. They serve as a sort of history of our relationship.”⁶⁷

68. “How Old Were You When You Met Your Lifelong Partner?”

1) Expert-Agent-1145 wrote:

⁶⁶ Source: betrayedcocount, “Women who dropped everything and moved far away to start over, what’s your story?” Reddit. AskWomen. 24 April 2022 <

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/uayllj/women_who_dropped_everything_and_moved_far_away/ >.

⁶⁷ Source: PinkChampayne, “What is the nicest / romantic gesture your current partner / ex has ever done to you?” Reddit. AskReddit. 26 April 2022 <

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/uc8z75/what_is_the_nicest_romantic_gesture_your_current/ >.

“I was 16, he was 18....

“Sadly, it was only lifelong for him.”

2) Anon-ni wrote, “25 — we’ve been married 41 years.”

3) katieleehaw wrote, “Hopefully 36, we’ll see how it works out. Lol.”

katieleehaw added:

“I think only emotionally healthy people who were raised by emotionally healthy people who modeled genuinely great relationships are able to get into an honestly healthy long-term relationship at 16-30.

“Most of us have a bunch of baggage and crap to sort out before we can have a chance at that, and most people never actually even work out their baggage in any real way, so most relationships are just houses of cards built on shifting emotional sand.

“This is the first romantic relationship I’ve ever had that legitimately feels healthy and right to me, and I still have a lot of old programming in my mind that crops up and has to be dealt with, especially when there’s a lot of stress circling me.”

4) Mapper9 wrote:

“35. By then I thought I’d be single forever. I had pretty much given up because the dating scene in my town was abysmal. Then I moved 45 minutes away to a bigger city, decided to try again online, and the first person I matched with turned out to be the love of my life. We’ve been together 8 years, and we’ve gone through some insane — really, really insane—shit together, and it’s only made us stronger, made us love each other more.

“For anyone out there, keep waiting, keep trying. My mom found the love of her life when she was 45. Your person is out there.”⁶⁸

69. “Honestly, What’s The Pettiest Thing You Ever Did With Your Partner Or Ex?”

1) winteerbaby26 wrote, “When I left my ex, I took the toilet paper. I left him everything else. But he didn’t have a way to get to the store, so I thought it’d be funny.”

PM_ME_UR_JEEP wrote, “I did this, too, when I moved out in a fit of rage, but I went a little further and didn’t leave a single paper product. The toilet paper, napkins, tissues, paper towels, Swiffer pads ... I didn’t leave a single thing for him to wipe his ass. I also took all the little things that I had bought, like the shower curtain (and the rings so he couldn’t just hang something else) along with the bathmat. The tray that divides the cutlery in the drawer. The remote for the tv I had bought but couldn’t fit in my car. I just wandered through the apartment like ‘how can I fuck up his day?’”

cammmp commented, “I took the toothpaste so when he woke up for work, he’d have nothing to brush with.”

2) G_Ram3 wrote, “I found out that a man I thought I had been dating for about 8 months had gotten another woman pregnant, and I was actually the side chick. He wouldn’t leave me alone. I went out for karaoke with my friends, and he knew I had a habit of going to that bar every Wednesday. He walked in while I was singing, got a beer and just stared at me, obviously waiting for me to finish so he could bother

⁶⁸ Source: Radiant_Pay7187, “How old were you when you met your lifelong partner?” Reddit. AskWomen. 26 April 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/ucgmgx/how_old_were_you_when_you_met_your_lifelong/ >.

me some more. I immediately stopped, mid-song, called yelled out his name, told him to get the fuck out and did my best impression of his weepy ‘apologetic’ voicemails. My friends were DYING. He downed his beer and ran out. I finished my song. Never spoke to him again.”

3) LegitimateMix472 wrote, “He cheated on me with a girl from his workplace that I got him a job at. We were living together at his parents to save money for a place. When I found out, I hid cat shit all over his room, in places he would find, and places he’d never find. I poured out his expensive liquor and replaced it with water and flat coke. I packed up all my stuff in my car (which he also needed because his car got totaled). I left while he was at work, didn’t text him, didn’t call him, just left. Blocked him with no explanation.”

Berlin_Blues wrote, “That’s not petty, that’s epic.”

4) Rololly wrote:

“My ex and I had been together for four years. We went apartment hunting so we could move in together. I had already had my own flat by this point. We picked one out and moved in.

“Two weeks later, he moved his best friend in. I ended up doing all the cooking, cleaning and laundry for all three of us while working full-time. He dumped me three months later and told me I had two days to get my stuff out the flat. He didn’t realise that the flat had been furnished with mostly my stuff from my previous flat. I left them with no kitchen supplies, not even cutlery. Just tins without a tin opener.

“I took the TVs, the bedding, everything that was mine. I still smile thinking about them two coming back to that.”

5) yomaam44 wrote, “We got into an argument, and I took all of the lightbulbs and left while he was taking a walk to cool down. I took the one in the fridge, the oven, I even took

the vacuum because it had a little light. I loaded up my bag of clinking lightbulbs and never went back.”

6) MadMadamMaddy wrote, “My ex cheated on me. When I left, I took the light bulbs, too. I bought them all, so they were technically mine. And my logic was he could have fun sleeping with his co-worker in the dark. Also unfolded all of the laundry I’d religiously done for him for years and threw that around before walking out the door. Could get off his lazy ass and fold that shit himself. He called the police, and they called me laughing.”

7) EssayVegetable6861 wrote, “He cheated on me, so I caused him to lose his job. Then he got evicted. He called me to yell so I told him to live with the chick he cheated with. He then got arrested because she was a minor. Guess who called the cops and her father?”

8) idnabthat wrote, “My best friend and I had a bad fight once. After we made up, she said she was watching how far into a Hulu show I was getting; she planned on changing the password just as I got to the last episode. Fucking savage.”

9) T-Flexercise wrote, “My mother credits the success of her marriage with the fact that every time she gets super mad at my dad, she flips him off behind his back. That way, she gets the satisfaction, and he never knows.”

Pizzacanzone commented, “I always do it in my wife’s face. She then tries to bite my finger and we get all giggly.”

10) theforce6 wrote, “He would listen to my playlist on Spotify, and I couldn’t find a way to kick him out of it. So I removed every single song one by one (mind you I have over 700 songs) and added them to another playlist. Locked it. And now he just has an empty playlist. He doesn’t get access to my good-ass music anymore.”

11) queenoreo wrote:

“An ex? Fucked his best friend.

“My husband, who I love dearly but sometimes drives me completely insane? We were on a road trip, and I have an Altoid addiction. He also loves Altoids, but he prefers two at a time. The whole drive every time I got one for myself, I also gave him one. About 30 minutes from home, after being in the car all day he said, ‘You know I really prefer two mints.’ I just said, ‘I know.’ He was speechless, then said, ‘That was on purpose?’ ‘Yep.’”⁶⁹

70. “What’s The Worst Compliment You’ve Ever Received?”

IceCream355 wrote:

“Not directly to me, but I was in Vegas with my girlfriend (now-wife), and we went out to the club one night. Of course, being Vegas and a club, she was dressed half sexy / half slutty and we were spending the whole night drinking, dancing, and overtly flirting.

“Well, a few hours into the night I went to the bar to get us another round of drinks and a guy came up and asked me how much I had paid for her. Not as an insult or a joke, he had just looked at my wife and me and decided there was no way she was anything but a prostitute. He was genuinely just curious how much she cost.

“I definitely married up in the looks department.”⁷⁰

⁶⁹ Source: shri032, “Honestly, what’s the pettiest thing you ever did with your partner or ex?” Reddit. AskReddit. 29 April 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/uem0jc/honestly_what_the_pettiest_thing_you_ever_did/ >.

⁷⁰ Source: Keigolevicorpus_2063, “What’s the worst compliment you’ve ever received ?” Reddit. AskReddit. 2 May 2022 <

71. “USAmericans Of Reddit, What Are Your Thoughts On Roe V Wade Being Overturned By SCOTUS As Per Draft Reports?”

1) crypticalcat wrote about late-term abortions, “‘That’s right,’ responded Buttiegieg, ‘representing one percent of cases. So let’s put ourselves in the shoes of a woman in that situation. If it’s that late in your pregnancy, then almost by definition, you’ve been expecting to carry it to term. We’re talking about women who have perhaps chosen a name. Women who have purchased a crib, families that then get the most devastating medical news of their lifetime, something about the health or the life of the mother or viability of the pregnancy that forces them to make an impossible, unthinkable choice. And the bottom line is as horrible as that choice is, that woman, that family may seek spiritual guidance, they may seek medical guidance, but that decision is not going to be made any better, medically or morally, because the government is dictating how that decision should be made.’”

Hueco_Mundo commented, “Very eloquently said. I’ve always wondered why can’t people have simple MORAL objections to something they deem wrong WITHOUT forcing others to suffer your opinion? The legality of something doesn’t always have to align with your moral code.”

CodeBoyJace responded:

“This was my wife’s and my situation almost two years ago. Eli was named and we had a lot of hardship to finally get to having him. Then at 30 weeks we find out in the last 4 weeks he had developed a teratoma in his brain that caused

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ugnc7d/whats_the_worst_compliment_youve_ever_recieved/ >.

hydrocephaly and his head grew at an alarming rate. There was no way he'd survive. Then my wife developed an infection from a crushed urator [ureter] and was septic and had dangerously low blood pressure. Almost lost them both, but we lost Eli.

“Life’s not the same. Life is depressing enough after going through this. I’m so glad that these people decided I should lose my wife, too. Fuck them.”

Flipperlolrs commented, “I saw a stat today that said somewhere around 80% of Americans support abortions in the case of emergency but only about 16% support them happening during the 3rd trimester. Don’t they understand that the vast, vast, vast majority of abortions occurring during the 3rd trimester are done out of necessity for the person’s safety? Practically no one carrying a fetus to that time WANTS to have that abortion. They’re doing it out of fear for their own life. And ultimately this is what Republicans want. Dead moms. Not the rich ones they send off to Colorado for a ‘vacation.’ Poverty-stricken dead mothers.”

2) mlk2317 wrote, “You think our social services are overwhelmed now. Get out your wallets because there is about to be a generation of babies born where moms won’t have the means to feed, clothe, and care for them.”

GoingApeCostume wrote:

“Back in 1993, probably on the day of my high school graduation, I became pregnant. When I told my boyfriend, we took some time to decide what to do. At the time, an abortion was next to impossible. We’d have to travel across state lines. No pill.

“When we decided on marriage, it was because we did have some resources. We both had some access to funds for college through grants and the VA [Veterans

Administration]. I had a job that would work with me for the long term. We had a paid-for car. We could get Medicaid. Housing was relatively inexpensive. We're still married, had two more kids. No debt. Life is pretty decent.

“Are those things available for my now grown children? No. They are not.”

3) TheRiverOtter wrote:

“My wife miscarried (aka ‘spontaneous abortion’) at 12 weeks, after several ultrasounds. This was an emotionally horrific event that has left us both scarred. Seven years later, we still question ourselves: ‘Was there something we could have done differently?’ The thought of people experiencing that tragic loss and self-doubt having to be further subjected to a government inquiry and accusation of maliciously trying to terminate the pregnancy ... fuck absolutely everything about that.

“As it was, we’d been struggling with fertility for nearly two years at that point, and we nearly lost hope. (We are life-long Christians and were devastated at the thought of the death of the unborn child.) With the help of an excellent medical staff, we were able to welcome two incredible little boys into the world about 5 years ago after a very difficult pregnancy and a delivery that nearly cost my wife her life.

“I absolutely support all women who are struggling with the challenges of pregnancy, and fully support any women who make the emotionally fraught decision to terminate a pregnancy.

“I call on all Christians who claim to support ‘the sanctity of life’ to vigorously support the expansion of age-appropriate sex-ed in all schools, and the free availability of all birth-control methods. Those are the best solutions to reduce the number of abortions, and miles ahead of criminalization, in any case.”

4) bserum wrote:

- “As rich people have the means to cross state lines and get abortions, this will predominantly affect poor and lower-middle-class.
- “Some desperate women will risk illegal abortions. Many will die.
- “Poor and lower-middle-class women are the least likely to be able to afford daycare, housing, medical care, and hell, even everyday bills. And college? Hahahahahaahaha no.
- “With a rise of youth born into a future with bleak prospects, drug use and crime trends will get a bump in ~15 years.
- “This will embolden right-wing authoritarians to push for harsher tough-on-crime policies and further lessen the penalties for self-appointed ‘freedom-loving’ patriots to murder people they don’t like on the street.

“Mind you, all of these things are already happening today — we’re just going to be seeing a whole lot more of it.

“So not that we’ll fucking learn a lesson or anything, but I’m just going to say it again: [Presidencies last the length of a television series — Supreme Court seats are lifetime appointments.](#)”

5) broganisms wrote:

“My wife had a miscarriage last year. Because we were well past the point of most miscarriages (not quite to the stillbirth cutoff, but not far away), we were told the odds of my wife passing the fetus on her own were slim and that surgery was the safest option.

“We were required by law to acknowledge in writing that the procedure would terminate the (dead) fetus and that it came at risk of infertility and death. Our doctor was required to tell us the developmental age of the (dead) fetus and which developmental milestones occur around that time, as well as offer us an ultrasound to see the (dead) fetus.

“We cried the entire time. We desperately wanted this child. Our doctor cried, apologizing every step of the way that we had to go through this insensitive bullshit on top of losing the pregnancy. This fetus was dead in every sense of the word but because the procedure in question is also used for abortions, we had to jump through these goddamn hoops to avoid putting my wife’s health at risk.

“And it’s not like my state doesn’t offer alternatives for nonviable fetuses, conception due to rape or incest, or instances where health is at serious risk. This WAS the alternative. If we were actually getting an elective abortion, it would have been significantly more time consuming and soul-crushing. You literally have to take an online course.

“Abortion access in this country is already a joke. All this is going to do is get people killed.”

Searchlights commented:

“My wife and I also had to terminate a non-viable fetus that was a very-much wanted baby. We were 13 weeks and already at the point where we had announced the pregnancy and named him. It was a terribly sad situation.

“We had a healthy baby prior to that, and we went on to have a healthy baby afterward. But ending the abnormal pregnancy was one of the hardest things I’ve ever had to do and I wouldn’t wish that choice on anybody, much less the lack of choice.

“There’s a perception that abortion is a callous form of birth control. They aren’t all like that.”

6) ReddishWedding2018 commented, “One of my best friends took five years to conceive through IVF, and the fetus died at seven months in. She told me if she had been forced to wait to go into labor that she would have killed herself a week in because her despair was overwhelming.”

7) KungFuPup wrote:

“I’m in the UK, but this was very much the reason for mine: My son would’ve been born gasping for air and would not have lived long. He had a congenital diaphragmatic hernia and basically no left lung and half his right. His heart was also struggling to have the space to grow properly.

“Instead of putting him through medical intervention and me having to go to term, he was born at 21 weeks and died in my arms. Both my husband and I held him, cared for him, and our midwife treated him just like any other baby. He had as peaceful a death as anyone could wish for.

“No, I didn’t want this to happen. I would’ve given anything for him to be alive, but he would’ve suffered immensely for a few short hours: You can’t live with half a lung. I loved him so much I chose to give him peace and end his suffering.”

8) easyjet wrote:

“I had no idea (I’m not in the US) that anti-abortion laws also covered the medically necessary ones such as that. I understood it to cover elective ones. I didn’t realise you could legislate something so barbaric. Anyway, if they overturn R vs W then they (USA) will be joining quite the illustrious list:

“Abortion is completely illegal in the following countries: Andorra, Aruba (territory), Republic of the Congo, Curaçao (territory), Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Iraq, Jamaica, Laos, Madagascar, Malta, Mauritania, Nicaragua, Palau, Philippines, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Suriname, Tonga, and West Bank & Gaza Strip (Palestinian territories).

“How sad, religious extremism really taking hold. Why is the planet so backwards now?”

9) Jeramy_Jones wrote, “Roe wasn’t the start of abortions. It was the end of women dying from abortion.”⁷¹

72. “By The (Draft) Logic Of The SCOTUS In Overturning Roe V Wade, What Are Some Unintended Legal Consequences That Will Result In Other Areas?”

1) Gwtheyrn wrote:

“The keystone of Roe was the interpretation of the 9th Amendment of the Constitution that an unenumerated right to medical privacy from the government was implied.

“In overturning Roe, the court decrees that you do not actually have a right to medical privacy (or potentially any privacy at all), meaning that any government entity can access your medical records or even interfere in your medical care within its jurisdiction.

“This would effectively allow states to do things like ban prescription contraceptives or any that require medical care such as: tubal ligation, the pill, depo, implants, IUDs, or

⁷¹ Source: thisiscubes, “Americans of Reddit, what are your thoughts on Roe v Wade being overturned by SCOTUS as per draft reports?” Reddit. AskReddit. 2 May 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/uh4q9w/americans_of_reddit_what_are_your_thoughts_on_roe/>.

vasectomies. Really any medical procedure or drug they want will be able to be outlawed. The government will now have the right to have final say in your medical care.”

2) NUMBERS2357 wrote:

“Alito’s opinion’s idea about something not being a constitutionally protected right if it’s not ‘deeply rooted’ in history, if applied consistently, threatens a whole host of rights. He even lists them out (p 31-32 of the PDF) and argues why they are not good results. He then says that they don’t support Roe because they don’t involve the ‘critical moral question’ raised by abortion — but regardless his logic says those cases were wrongly decided. They include a right to:

- contraception
- interracial marriage
- gay marriage
- gay sex
- reside with relatives
- marry while in prison
- direct your children’s education
- not to be sterilized without your consent
- not to undergo involuntary surgery or be forced to take drugs

“He says that these appeals to a ‘broader right of autonomy’ ‘prove too much’ and ‘none of these rights has any claim to being deeply rooted in history.’

“Now I don’t think they’ll go after interracial marriage ... but they could go after some of these other ones.

“Another potential outcome is the Supreme Court arguing, not just that the Constitution doesn’t protect abortion, but that it *prohibits* abortion, even in states that want to allow it. They don’t say that here, but the raw ingredients to that ruling are in here.

“Other legal battles to come:

- States banning abortion in various circumstances. Missouri recently tried to ban abortion for ectopic pregnancies, which are nonviable and where not aborting carries a significant risk of death. Texas law would put doctors in prison for life if they performed an abortion on a rape victim.
- Exceptions will inevitably be too narrow. An exception for the life of the mother — what if it’s not certain that it’s necessary for the life of the mother? What if it’s like a 10% chance? An exception for rape — well, red states will suddenly have super narrow definitions of rape, and high burdens of proof.
- Most of the focus is on ex post punishment for people who have / perform abortions. What about a woman who is openly determined to get an abortion, e.g. stopped while trying to get one and says that the moment she is able, she’ll try again? Do they force her to give birth while incarcerated?
- Pro-lifers will swear up and down that they don’t want to put women in prison, but it will be the inevitable effect of the laws, and it will keep happening even as they keep acting shocked that it happens
- The federal government might say there is a federal right to an abortion, and the Supreme Court would probably strike it down, which would lead to all manner of issues.

- There will be a question of which state mandates abortion rules for which women. Red states will want to ban women in their states from travelling to other states to get abortions. Can they ban you from travelling *through* their state? Can they prohibit abortion if you *got pregnant* in their state?
- Similarly, blue states will want to act as safe havens and accept ‘abortion refugees.’
- Economic effects. Many women might reconsider moving to e.g. Texas and Florida, especially college-educated women who might drive businesses’ decisions to open HQs in those places. Might also affect where doctors choose to practice.”

im_learning_to_stop commented:

“*Alito’s opinion’s idea about something not being a constitutionally protected right if it’s not ‘deeply rooted’ in history, if applied consistently, threatens a whole host of rights.*”

“This argument just fucking kills me because of just how stupid it is. Culture and traditions are ever evolving. To really think we should limit ourselves to the standards from over 200 years ago is just ridiculous on its face.

“Of course, it’s fucking Alito, so that’s why it’s so fucking stupid.”

grapss commented:

“*Economic effects. Many women might reconsider moving to e.g. Texas and Florida, especially college educated women who might drive businesses’ decisions to open HQs in those places. Might also affect where doctors choose to practice.*”

“It won’t be just women. It will be all educated people. Red states already have a brain drain going and have for years. Business will pull out when they aren’t able to find qualified candidates beyond doing basic unskilled labor. No amount of state tax credits will matter because that money won’t be put back into those same states. Red states will sink deeper into poverty and their educational systems (already in the basement) will sink even lower. Unwanted children will overwhelm their non-existent social safety nets forcing them to go to the federal government for a handout. States that have been poor for generations will stay that way (and all on the eve of a recession). The unintended consequences will be endless and probably even a little funny.

“Senator Mike Lee of all people wrote a good little report on red state brain drain and how it’s picked up over the past few decades:

<https://www.jec.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/republicans/2019/4/losing-our-minds-brain-drain-across-the-united-states>

“They know this will hurt their states. They just don’t care. A Pyrrhic victory.”

Note by David Bruce: Some commenters argued that Alito’s opinion and argument was being incorrectly interpreted. See the initial draft here:

<https://www.politico.com/news/2022/05/02/read-justice-alito-initial-abortion-opinion-overturn-roe-v-wade-pdf-00029504>

“And check out the footnote for a link to the Reddit post.”⁷²

⁷² Source: tenthjuror, “By the (draft) logic of the SCOTUS in overturning Roe v Wade, what are some unintended legal consequences that will result in other areas?” Reddit. AskReddit. 3 May 2022 <

73. “What Is The ‘We Don’t Talk About That’ In Your Family?”

1) suddenlyreddit wrote:

“The brother who was born between me and my first sister. It was my mother’s second child. Apparently, he lived only about three days. Neither my mom nor my dad ever wanted to talk about it much. My sisters and I have seen the birth certificate, which my parents kept. We also know there were about three years where they waited before my mom became pregnant with my sister afterward.

“Both of my parents are deceased now and to be frank, I think I got only about a paragraph of conversation about it, ever, from either of my parents. Just a ‘he didn’t make it.’

“It’s not creepy or some strange thing; it’s just sad. You can tell it affected them both very powerfully, especially to go the rest of their lives and not really share it with current and future children they had. It must have been horrible.”

Somanyeyeroll commented, “I lost my oldest at 9 months, and this is something I’m really worried about happening with my younger kids. Neither were alive when their brother was, and I hope to raise them with the knowledge that he did exist and was awesome but sometimes I feel like with such a short life there isn’t much to say? And that makes me feel sadder.”

HotSpicyTaco999 commented:

“This makes me think of my grandma.

“My mom recently shared that before my grandma had my uncle and my mom, she had a boy who was stillborn. She

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/uhtwv9/by_the_draft_logic_of_the_scutus_in_overturning/>.

went for an appointment near the full term and there was no heartbeat. It was rural Iowa in the 1950's, so she had to wait a week with full pregnant belly before a doctor could do the procedure to deliver the dead baby. I can't imagine the pain of going through that with a first pregnancy.

"They named the baby Steven and both my Grandma and Grandpa are now buried next to him. Thinking back, it is pretty clear my Grandma had anxiety issues, and I can't help but wonder if it was related to that tragedy. Like your family my grandparents never spoke of it to my knowledge.

"RIP, sweet Grandma K. Your kindness and love to others are greatly missed."

AccurateAd551 wrote, "My second son passed away when he was two; we have had two more sons after that. We don't mention him very much at all, which makes me feel guilty, but it's too painful."⁷³

74. "What Are Stories That Your Grandparents Have Told You That You Never Forget?"

1) hononononh wrote:

"My grandmother's family fled for their lives from Austria to the USA. Her father had been an outspoken political opponent of Adolf Hitler and helped organize an anti-Nazi resistance in his hometown. Then Hitler invaded Austria, and somebody was kind enough to tip my great-grandpa off that his name was on a list to get shipped off to the concentration camps.

⁷³ Source: istrx13, "What is the 'we don't talk about that' in your family?" Reddit. AskReddit. 3 May 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/uhre8y/what_is_the_we_dont_talk_about_that_in_your_family/ >.

“My grandmother barely remembered Austria or the move to the New York City. But she never forgot a year or so later walking into a store with her father one day, only to have the shopkeeper curse him out and refuse to serve him as soon as he opened his mouth and spoke with a German accent. That incident made a deep impression on her. She credited it with teaching her quickly and saliently just how shitty prejudice can be, especially in times of war.

“She never taught any of her children her native language. An enormous number of German-Americans lost or refused to pass on their heritage language during WWII, because that wasn’t a great time to be visibly German in any way in the USA.”

2) slider728 wrote:

“My grandmother’s brother was drafted in the Army and was sent to fight in the Korean War. He ended up in the 2nd Infantry Division.

“His division was caught in The Gauntlet and he didn’t make it back home. To this day, he is still unaccounted for.

“Well, the day he left home the last time, my grandma went with him to the train station. She told me that the last thing he ever said to her was, “At least I made it back home for a home-cooked meal before I left.”

“She was probably well into her 70s when she told me that story. It still brought tears to her eyes.”

3) DToeeenForever wrote:

“My grandparents and all my relatives of that generation fled Germany after my great-grandfather was taken to a work camp. This was at the beginning of the Nazi / SS era, so he was actually returned to his home after some months, though

he never spoke of his experience. They were able to get a sponsor to come to the US later.

“My grandmother’s most haunting story:

“She was about 14, walking with a boy in their town square. She had blonde hair and would definitely ‘pass’ for Aryan. He apparently fit what the SS thought of as a Jew. (He may have been wearing a yarmulke or other garment, I never knew that part.) The officers stopped them and grabbed him, told him to stay away from Aryan girls. He tried to say something but didn’t get to before they handcuffed him and dragged him away. They wished my grandmother goodnight, and she never saw him again.”

4) Satures wrote:

“I’m a German. My surviving grandfather (the other one died shortly after the war from tuberculosis, untreatable given the circumstances) served in the Luftwaffe. He never spoke about it on his own, but I asked him. He told me he had a job in a war-critical company, so he would most likely have never been forced to serve. But he saw the early victories, was blinded by propaganda and ‘I wanted to be a hero; I wanted medals as well!’ He volunteered for Luftwaffe and was in training to become a fighter pilot when his Bf 109 was shot down by US day fighters. He parachuted ‘into the only tree in several kilometers around,’ which left a slight but permanent disability and forced him into hospital for almost the entire remaining war. He told me being forced out most likely saved his life.

“He wasn’t fully restored yet in early 1945 but the Battle of Berlin was about to begin soon, and he was in a hospital in the Berlin area. Luftwaffe picked everyone they didn’t need anymore (former bomber crews, surplus mechanics, convalescents like my grandfather) into last-ditch cannon-fodder units. The entire unit deserted and burned their

uniforms, including the officers. One of his buddies wanted to stay in Berlin, and my grandfather gave him a message for his girlfriend telling her where to find him. The message got delivered and she made it out of Berlin and reunited with my grandfather to be married with him for over 60 years later on.

“Returning home so early after war was suspicious and he claimed he was an already released POW. Given the distance between Berlin and his home and he was a deserter, the voyage took some days as he had to hide from everyone because deserters or soldiers seen as such were shot on the spot in the last weeks of the war. One woman didn’t believe him and told the British occupation forces. They visited my grandfather, he admitted the true story and they made him an offer:

“Either: Being captured as POW.

“Or: Being picked up daily or several times per week and carried to a nearby airfield where the British collected captured Luftwaffe equipment, and he would have to explain and tell them everything he knew about the equipment. In turn, he wouldn’t be taken prisoner and would return home every evening. He of course agreed to the deal, and they kept their part as well. He hated this woman for his entire life and refused to talk to her ever again.

“When I travelled to the US the first time, I knew this story. I was a bit scared how he would react given it was an US day fighter. He was totally happy for me and told me I got the youth he was denied by the Nazis and their war. He felt they stole his youth.”

5) symbaray627 wrote, “My grandmother was living in Italy as a child when their house became occupied by Nazis. They were forced to move to France where she had to learn to

“speak another language and was put in the first-grade class when she was around 6th grade.”

6) Remarkabl-Ad-1107 wrote:

“When my grandpa was 9ish, he and his friends were playing by the train tracks as people in their generation did.

“His friends and he convinced a four-year-old who was playing with them at the time to get on a random train carriage where they then closed the door and told him he was going to Blackpool; he tried to frantically unlock the door but was too small to reach the lock.

“He recalls watching this little boy’s face as the train pulled off from the station.

“After an hour the boy’s mother asked them all where her son was where, and they just said, ‘Oh, he’s off to Blackpool.’

“Luckily at the next train station, a train conductor found the little boy and took him back on the next train.”

7) CottaBird wrote, “My great-grandpa always told the story of how he grew up in a one-room, stone-walled, dirt-floor house with only a wood stove with his parents and 11 siblings (after two died of plague) on the island of Terceira in the Portuguese Açores, where he was rented out to a family to help provide for his own starting at age 6. He earned the equivalent of one American dollar each year, while the boys of the family would beat him up to make him do their work on top of his. In 1925, having never gone to school, he wrote (dictated to a priest to write) his uncle in California for a loan for a boat ticket from the Açores to New York and a train ticket to California. A woman in NY took advantage of him because he couldn’t speak English, and he was left with only a dime and a loaf of bread for his train ride to California. He worked for his uncle at his uncle’s dairy to

pay off the loan, worked for him afterward, and eventually started his own dairy. He finally learned to read in his fifties.”

8) FlokiTrainer wrote, “My grandfather was a kid during the Great Depression. He once told me they had raccoon one year for a special Christmas dinner. The way he caught it was incredible. So, first you find a hollowed-out fallen log in the woods with an open knot somewhere towards the middle. Place a button, coin, or other small shiny object in the knot (so you would be looking down through the knot into the log at it). Then, nail a nail down into the top of the log at an angle. As a raccoon is walking along the log, it will notice the button and reach down to grab it with its paw. It will make a fist and try to pull it out, resulting in its paw getting caught on the nail. The raccoon will want whatever the object is so badly that it will not unclench its fist to let go and escape. Check the trap regularly and smack the animal over the head with a blunt object. Voila, you have the makings of an elegant raccoon Christmas dinner on a budget.”

9) CLTalbot wrote:

“During one of my dad’s birthdays as a kid, he went to the restroom at the restaurant they were at. My uncle proceeded to get everyone into the bathroom to sing ‘Happy Birthday’ to him the moment he came out of the stall.

“Cracks me up to this day.”

10) DD163WALKER wrote:

“My grandfather and grandmother on my dad’s side were at a fair and were looking at an antique tent. My grandfather was looking at some gargoyles because he liked them and the person selling them said, ‘Something ugly to protect your home,’ to which my grandfather said, ‘I already got one of those.’ My grandmother from across the crowded tent

shouted, ‘I heard that!’ And the whole tent just burst into laughing.

“And on my mom’s side, my grandfather when he was younger and with friends / brothers back in Italy, almost died when they blew up a mortar. He and his friends / brothers wanted the scrap metal (1950ish and they were poor) so they lit a fire, put the mortar on it and hid behind a wall. Took a few minutes and the fire was almost out so they decided to get some more wood. Right before they left the wall it exploded sending stuff everywhere. The whole town heard it and within minutes parents and adults were there trying to find out what happened. The kids never spoke about it to their parents.”

11) Plantayne wrote:

“My grandmother got sick of living in her small town in Maine and woke up one day when she was around 19 or so and moved to NYC just on a whim.

“She ended up getting a job as a secretary and living at the YWCA for a while, but eventually got her own place.

“This was back in like the early 1940’s, so it was pretty uncommon for women to do stuff like that.

“After a couple years, she met my grandfather in Boston and the rest is history, but she was a pretty tough gal for her time.”⁷⁴

⁷⁴ Source: LorieEve, “What are stories that your grandparents have told you that you never forget?” Reddit. AskReddit. 4 May 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ui7bs3/what_are_stories_that_your_grandparents_have_told/ >.

75. “What Should Never Be Abandoned, But Always Upgraded / Improved / Fixed?”

spencer4991 wrote, “Any worthwhile relationships. They’re rare, don’t lose them.”

justacceptandmoveon commented, “So much this. A great long-lasting relationship is a choice. Not something that just happens to you.”

firenamedgabe commented, “That’s what’s funny about the relationship advice sub-Reddits. It’s always a story like ‘I’ve been in a completely loving amazing relationship with my husband for 25 years, but today he left his underwear on the bathroom floor. He knows this annoys me. What should I do?’ Top comment is ‘immediately leave and go no contact.’”

Utterlybored added, “Burn the house down as you leave.”

qatest commented, “The big problem with this, though, is that it’s often difficult to know which relationships are actually worthwhile. People tend to spend a lot of effort maintaining relationships that aren’t worth it, and realize that fact only once it’s over.”⁷⁵

76. “Women Of Reddit, Why Would You Not Marry Your First Love?”

1) Relative_Dimensions wrote, “Because we were four years old, and it wasn’t allowed.”

⁷⁵ Source: WillingnessSpecial61, “What should never be abandoned, but always upgraded/improved/fixed?” Reddit. AskReddit. 5 May 2022 <
https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/uiuzpm/what_should_never_be_abandoned_but_always/>.

iamaliz commented, “I was proposed to by two boys in my kindergarten with dandelions when I was 5 and I said yes to both of them. I have two fiancés out there somewhere.”

lultwolo commented, “I got married at 5 at the back of the school yard. I’m glad it wasn’t official. He wasn’t my type by 6. I would have lost my bike in the divorce.”

2) Rooster_Roll wrote:

“Inexperience, desire to do other things, desire to live alone and have that experience, wanting to travel alone a lot before settling, wanting him and me to have the chance to follow our dreams without the other having to follow or settle, wanting to know myself more, wanting to see if being single and alone is better and more freeing. Loads of reasons.

“Edited to add: I own my own place and live alone. I cannot see myself ever sharing a house with a man ever again. My life is so busy and full, and I cannot see myself giving something up to make time for a man and his needs. I cannot see myself spending my hard-earned money on a man, can’t see myself spending my emotional energy uplifting and being a therapist for a man. It would take someone who makes my life noticeably easier, better and more fun for me to want to be with someone let alone even think of living with them. It’s a high fucking bar. I am naturally giving, supportive, and kind. About time someone was all those things to me.

“Safe to say I do not regret breaking up with my first love. Or any man since.”

3) bunisaur1993 wrote, “I did it and here’s why I shouldn’t have: We really were too young to know ourselves as individual people before committing to someone else (everyone told us this and it made us stay together longer out of defiance, I think). We held each other back from experiences we now regret missing out on (university,

travelling, being reckless in our youth). We weren't old enough to know ourselves yet and grew up differently, which is common. (I grew and evolved, and he didn't.) We weren't mature enough despite being sure we were. Going through at least one heartbreak and several different relationships helps you figure out what is and isn't on offer in the dating market, that you can maybe have something more exciting and deep even if you think you can't (this goes for unsatisfied relationships) They can become uninteresting when you know every adulthood story, achievement, anecdote they have already and there's no hidden mystery or surprise story."

4) Disastrous_Airline28 wrote:

"Loving someone isn't enough for a good relationship. I had partners that I loved despite all the pain and all the betrayal. Love is blind and irrational.

"It took hard work to free myself from those relationships emotionally. I had to dump one of those men while still loving him. Luckily, I'm over all those exes. Now that I'm older, I'm more cautious with my heart. Certain conditions must be met before I allow myself to fall. Dignity, respect, and trust are a must.

"I didn't care before if someone saw me as a human being and respected me. I just was happy to be picked. Grateful to get attention.

"But then I learned to love and value myself. I realized I was worthy of respect, and I started raising my standards.

"I'm currently falling for someone new. They see me as a complete human being; they admire and respect me. We both communicate on the same wavelength. We believe in each other's potential and competencies. I trust him completely because he acts with great integrity. He has consistently shown up when I've needed him.

“This has been the best love so far.

“I used to love and yet be sick with worry all the time. Men lied, manipulated, and invalidated and it hurt so much. But I thought the relationship must be worth sticking with since I still felt love for them.

“Now my new love is peaceful. I don’t mind when he’s away on business because I trust him. When he doesn’t text back right away, I know he’s really busy and not avoiding me. I’m not scared about getting sick or hurt because I know he would stay and care for me. I’m not scared to show him every part of my soul because I know he will never judge me unfairly.

“I’ve typed too much. Time to end this. Find a love that is easy and marry that one. Love doesn’t have to be a struggle. It might take a few tries to figure that out.”

5) KingsRnsm wrote, “Because he was a cheating, gaslighting bastard who took advantage of my love for him every chance he got. I broke up with him a thousand times, but he refused to let me go. When he finally proposed (which is what I thought I wanted from the moment I laid eyes on him), all I could think of were my friends and family jumping up to object at our wedding. Cutting him out of my life was the worst pain I’ve ever experienced, but a few years later I reconnected with a friend from college. We were both in toxic long-term relationships when we knew each other, but this time around we were older and wiser. We fell in love and have been married for 7 years. I never knew a man who could be so kind, loving, or supportive. I’m thankful every day that I waited for him instead of settling for my heartless ex.”⁷⁶

⁷⁶ Source: RAMORAMORA, “Women of Reddit, why would you not marry your first love?” Reddit. AskWomen. 7 May 2022 <

77. “What Are The Dangers Of Being Very Attractive / Beautiful?”

1) Illustriouss-Fly9586 wrote, “Friendships falling apart when their partner is attracted to you.”

2) Immediate-Cow6875nwrote, “People will often mistake friendliness for flirting.”

faerie03 commented, “I work at a hotel front desk, and the other night a man came down to ask for something and said, ‘Every time I passed through here, someone else was hitting on you. Do you deal with that all the time?’ Yes, and it’s obnoxious.”

Poem_for_your_sprog wrote:

*“Oh hi,” she said,
and in his head,
the azure hues of day —
were bright and blue
and nice and new
and chased the clouds away.
He thought of dates
and futures, fates,
companions starry-eyed —
for life was light
and good and right,*

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/uk9rqn/women_of_reddit_why_would_you_not_marry_you/>.

*with her alone beside.
 The world was sweet,
 tomorrow neat,
 and tears had filled his eye —
 for love would stir,
 and that was her.
 In fact:
 she'd just said hi.”*

amazondrone pointed out, “Seems like there’s an inverse [reverse?] problem, too, then: How do you be friendly to someone attractive without them / others assuming you’re hitting on them?”

VirginRumAndCoke responded, “This is why I struggle to hit on anyone; people I find attractive are probably so tired of it at this point that I don’t wanna contribute to that, you know?”

punkpoppenguin responded:

“If you came up to me and said, ‘I don’t want to bother you, but I think you’re cute and look like someone I’d totally vibe with, so here’s my number’ (business cards are cool!) then went away, even if I wasn’t interested, I would feel happy and comfortable with that interaction.

“Unlike the man who shouted ‘AY’ [OI?] at me then, when I didn’t respond, chased me down the road screaming, ‘YOU THINK YOU’RE SO FUCKIN SPECIAL?’ Or the man who tried to stop me and then punched me in the back of the head when I didn’t stop, or the guy who I did stop for, but when I told him I had a boyfriend REFUSED to believe me and started hurling abuse.

“Being complimented is lovely; being harassed is upsetting. I promise you if you’re respectful no one will get upset with you.”

HeyZuesHChrist wrote, “When someone asks me in a real sarcastic and condescending way if I think I’m special, I just say, ‘Yeah, I do. Thanks for noticing.’”

jacksbox responded:

“Just legitimately be nice to people with no expectation and the sole intention of making the world a better place. If it’s genuine, then you don’t have to worry about what they think because you did nothing wrong.

“If you don’t have anything to say, then don’t say anything.”

ashamedprrotein commented:

“I used to work at the front desk of a hotel, and you run into some real weirdos. One time, this guy was checking in with his wife and kids, and pulled me aside and asked, ‘I assume the porn in the room is disabled?’

“‘No,’ I replied, ‘It’s just regular porn, you sick fuck.’”

Note by David Bruce: He probably just wanted to sure his kids did not accidentally see porn.

ImFartingRainbows wrote, “I’m really fucking ass ugly but very friendly; often it comes across as flirting and it freaks men out because they think ‘ew,’ which is frustrating because it’s just the way I act towards people.”

portajohnjackoff responded, “Umm ... not sure what your intentions are with this post ... but I’m married.”

ImFartingRainbows replied, “Hahaha! Thanks for the chuckle!”

3) Appropriate_Day_8721 wrote, “If you’re really attractive and also quiet, people think you’re snobby.”

partway-chrysalis commented:

“I constantly was accused of being stuck up and a prude when I was a teenager while I was most definitely neither. I was always nice to people, but I was super shy because I had painfully low self-esteem as a teenager and thought I was hideous and boring.

“My high school self and my grownup ego thank you for this lightbulb moment.”

atreyulostinmyhead commented, “This was my whole school career. I even had some random girls walk behind where I was sitting at the lunch table yell BITCH at me. It took one of my few friends to explain to me that everyone thought I was a snobby bitch. In reality, I was painfully shy and deeply depressed.”⁷⁷

78. “Women Who Have Undergone An Abortion, What Do You Think People Should Know About It?”

1) cdearie wrote, “That it was something that I never thought I’d have. I was 20 weeks pregnant with my very wanted baby and we found out that she had trisomy 13, so instead of 2 copies of chromosome 13 she had 3. And less than a week later I had a D&E [Dilation and Evacuation] in order to help my husband and I start our grieving process. She wouldn’t have survived labor and delivery, and if she did then she would have been in pain for her whole life here since she had a lot of defects. She didn’t have a stomach or a nose, one of

⁷⁷ Source: Zestyclose-Detail791, “What are the dangers of being very attractive/beautiful?” Reddit. AskReddit. 7 May 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ukszpe/what_are_the_dangers_of_being_very/ >.

the chambers of her heart wasn't as big as it should have been, and her kidneys were dilated. So my husband and I made the compassionate decision to end my pregnancy at 21 weeks. Thankfully there was no judgement from anyone. I live in a very conservative state and a very conservative county, and everyone just wanted what was best for my husband and me, and they supported the decision we made."

Viperbunny commented:

"I am very sorry for your loss. My oldest daughter had trisomy 18. My doctor lied to me. She didn't want me to know anything was wrong. She told me my baby was a little small and that she would send me for a level-two ultrasound at 26 weeks to ease my mind. What she was really doing was making sure I didn't know my child had a condition that was incompatible with life. She probably hoped I would miscarry and never know. But I didn't.

"At 26 weeks I was then faced with knowing something was wrong with my baby, it could be incompatible with life, and no one could tell me anything for sure. I had ten tests scheduled before I got home. Three weeks later, she was delivered. It was clear from the birth defects on her fingers and toes that we were likely dealing with a trisomy disorder. On day three we found the heart defects. She was too small to have surgery, yet she needed surgery to survive. They tried some medication and that was the first time a doctor told us we would have quality-of-life choices on coming days. He was very supportive and was amazing at answering questions. On day six, she was declining. We got the news it was trisomy 18 and told she wasn't going to make it through the night. We could take 'heroic measures,' never hold her and hope for a few more hours, or we could hold her.

"I held her first, then my husband, and then he gave her back to me. He couldn't hold her while she died. I never thought I had that strength, but she was my baby. I brought her into

the world, and it was only right if she had to leave that she do so in my arms. Her daddy and I sang her a lullaby and she went to sleep for the last time. I want to make it clear that my time with my daughter was precious. I love her more than I can say. That time has helped define me as a mother. But what was done to my family was wrong. We thought there was a fight. We thought we had a chance to save her. There was no chance. She struggled for six days against a body that wasn't capable of doing what she needed it to do. It wasn't right that she had to suffer. It wasn't right to blindsides us.

"I don't know what choice I would have made, but I do know that choice was taken from me. It has had a major impact on my life. I have PTSD. I went on to have two more children. They are healthy and happy. Both girls. I will fight for their rights. I don't want them to ever go through the pain I have gone through."

SoyAmerinic wrote, "I'm so sorry for your loss. My husband and I went through a similar issue when we found out our baby had severe congenital diaphragmatic hernia. I was about 17 weeks when we were advised to terminate. We are in a conservative state as well but had a lot of support from family and friends, and my OBGYN was wonderful. I'm glad you weren't judged either because it really was a humane decision. I hope you two are in a good place now."

2) hahahathunk wrote:

"We wanted the baby.

"But at 19 weeks, we learned the baby was triploid. That's not trisomy, where a single set of chromosomes has three instead of two. Nope. It's when ALL the chromosomes have 3 instead of 2. It is incompatible with life. And bonus: abnormal cells in the placenta were cancerous. The longer I carried, the higher the risk would be. I had a D&E [Dilation and Evacuation] at 19.5 weeks.

“We were heartbroken. We wanted the baby.”

3) Worstedfox wrote, “An abortion saved my life. My baby who was very much wanted died at 12 weeks. My body did not pass him, and I was getting very sick. The doctor and nurses were amazing, and it was relatively painless. I’ve gone on to have three healthy pregnancies that have resulted in three healthy children. Emotionally I mourned the loss of our child but never regretted the abortion or choosing to do so. It didn’t affect my fertility and it saved my life. Also, I didn’t have to wait more than 24 hours, so I didn’t have to suffer carrying my dead son.”

4) Capable-Zone4712 wrote, “I’ve had two missed miscarriages. The first one they told me that the baby had not survived at 12 weeks and left me to just get on with it and my body would deal with it on its own. It took two weeks for my body to even start expelling (hate that term) what it needed. I ended up in hospital with blood loss, but they just kept me in overnight and observed me and discharged me the next day. Over the next few weeks, I kept having A LOT of pain so ended up at the doctor’s office, who then told me I needed to go to hospital. They checked me over and left me for 3 hours doubled over on a bed without any pain management because they thought I was ‘faking it.’ Went into theatre and they had found that my body hadn’t expelled a 4cm x 5cm mass and that infection was starting to kick in. No apology, nothing. My second missed miscarriage, I went in for a checkup and they told me it had happened again and because of what happened with my first they booked me in for a DNC [Dilation and Curettage] within three days. Worst times of my life.”

5) DuckDuckBangBang wrote:

“I had an abortion last week due to an ectopic pregnancy. It [the pregnancy] was very much wanted. I cried and cried. My medical team was so gentle, so kind with me. I had to sit

in a room listening through the walls to the heartbeats of other women's healthy babies while I waited for the medication and my bloodwork to come back. I cannot describe to you how awful that feels.

“I know this isn't my fault. My body did this. I would have died if I hadn't had the injection. But fuck, it hurts, and I feel terrible. And hearing people talk about abortion like it's some convenient and easy thing hurts. Have these people never had miscarriages? Never known someone who has? Not to mention the number of valid reasons to have an abortion. I just can't fathom it. I was pro-choice before this, but now I am rabidly pro-choice, and heaven help the next person who makes a comment [against pro-choice] in my presence.”

6) Ok_Tackle_404 wrote:

“Ahh, this is not something I've shared with anyone outside my very close circles, but when I was 10, I got my first period. I was a very early bloomer and I've always been small ever since. I was around 12 when I was assaulted by a 17-year-old high school boy who was friends with my older cousin. I told him to stop, I cried, I kicked, but as I said, I was so small and weak compared to him. I ended up missing my period, I was freaked out and told my aunt who got me a test. You guessed it, positive. I cried and cried and eventually my aunt was with me to tell my parents. I was so scared they'd be disappointed in me, but they cried with me and told me everything would be okay.

“I was taken to a doctor, had to explain everything, I was a baby, I was definitely not going to have one myself. Not only was it going to be a risk for both me and the baby, but I also knew I couldn't raise a kid. I had barely even had a childhood of my own. I went through with the procedure, and I don't regret it. I never have. Carrying to term was not something I wanted nor was I mentally or physically prepared for. My

very pro-life aunt, on the other hand, screamed at me and my parents for allowing me to terminate. She said I could've given it up for adoption, that I would've had the help of my family to raise it and that it was 'a gift from god,' 'it was how god intended,' 'it's a human and now at the age of 12 you're a murderer.' The whole god topic was ironic considering 97% of my family are not Christian and instead practice our indigenous roots with the exception of her and her husband.

“Hearing other women and men berate women who have had abortions, even under the same circumstances I had gone through truly has made me disgusted. The way ‘pro-lifers’ constantly shove the word ‘murder’ down your throat is enough to make you want to crawl into a hole. As I said, I don’t regret my decision. Unlike many, I was lucky to have support. Not only did I not have to carry an unwanted pregnancy, but I didn’t have to have the responsibility of a kid either. I’ll never respect nor listen to pro-lifers who don’t hold their beliefs to themselves only. I guess all I can say now is if you have a uterus, who the hell is someone else to tell you what you can and can’t do with your body? Body autonomy is a human right, not a privilege or something religious or political figures can take away or dictate, and nobody should EVER say otherwise, and if they do, they’re an awful person.

“Abortion is not murder, under any circumstance. You will continue to grow and blossom, you may never forget the trauma, but you will not stop being YOU. A fetus will not know the difference if it doesn’t go through full term. It’s not fair to women who know they can’t care for a baby, whether that be because of financial difficulties or anything else. A child is a huge setback for women who are not ready for one.”

Myrora wrote:

“I’m so sorry this happened to you.

“I’ve also gotten pregnant at 15 due to an assault. I was so freaked out that I threw myself down a flight of stairs because I knew my parents wouldn’t let me abort. I would be called names and thrown in the street.

“I miscarried — that was the best gift God could have given me.”⁷⁸

79. “What Is The Kindest Thing A Man Has Ever Done For You Or That You Have Seen Him Do?”

1) Rinoeris wrote:

“A man stopped to ask if I was okay, and if I needed help because he thought my boyfriend was yelling at me. (My boyfriend was abusive, but at that moment he was yelling at someone on the phone, not me.)

“I have no idea who he was, and I never got the chance to say thank you, but I was so struck by that kind action, that I still remember it six years later.”

2) belindabellagiselle wrote:

“I was 17 and stuck with a flat tire in the rain on a slightly hilly street. I knew how to change the tire, so I got out and was trying to get everything sorted out while becoming wetter and wetter.

“A man on a *bicycle* saw me and stopped. He was on the totally separate bike path and crossed the weedy mud to get

⁷⁸ Source: JAQNOV, “[Serious] Women who have undergone an abortion, what do you think people should know about it?” Reddit. AskReddit. 9 May 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/ulrywp/serious_women_who_have_undergone_an_abortion_what/ >.

to me. Told me to get in the car and he'd handle it, then proceeded to change my tire for me.

“It’s been 14 years and I could still pick him out of a crowd. It wasn’t a huge deal, but it was incredibly kind. Dude was on a fucking bicycle, and he saw a flustered child and didn’t hesitate to help.”

3) DemonicGirlcock wrote, “My father bankrupted his company during the early 90s crash to ensure that he could pay off all his employees and give them severance before shutting down. We sold the house I grew up in, the house he literally built with his company (it was a house building company), and our family went through a few years of financial hardship before rebounding into the upper-middle class.”

4) Maisey_Mockingbird wrote:

“So, during Covid lockdown, my place of employment segregated departments to reduce the chances of Covid spreading like wildfire through the factory.

“One of the things they did was hire a shit ton of portaloos (or Portapotty for the USAmericans) and allocated departments the use of specific ones. My department had one portaloos to share between 10 people of both genders.

“I got my period shortly after the change and because we shared our portaloos with the guys and there was also no disposal unit for sanitary items, I snuck into the toilet cubicles we used to be able to use because I felt really embarrassed about everyone being able to see that I was bleeding, etc.

“A lady saw me, came into the toilets while I was already peeing and tidying myself up, and threw a shit fit saying that I couldn’t use their toilets (any other time, I would’ve agreed with her) but I said, ‘I have my period and I need to use a

flushable toilet that has a sanitary disposal unit!’ And she said, ‘Well, you need to speak to management about that!’ And I said, ‘I do not want to have to speak to management every time I have my period!’ And she left angrily and reported me.

“My male boss received the report and then went down and yelled at her, saying ‘DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT KIND OF CONDITION SHE IS IN!’ Which I lol’d at because it made it sound like I was bleeding out slowly to death. He also stressed that it was unfair that 10 members of our team were forced to use one portaloos. It wasn’t her fault, of course, but she apologized anyway.

“That was the nicest thing a dude ever did for me. A true gentleman.”

5) MsCardeno wrote:

“My grandfather raised my grandma’s four boys who weren’t his biological kids just as if they were his own. He went on to have three of his own girls with my grandma. My mom was a single mom, and he took on the responsibility of helping raise me and my sister.

“He also did more than his fair share of chores around the house even though he worked, and my grandma stayed home.

“I’m on a lot of parenting subs and more and more it’s seeming like my grandfather was a real unicorn.”

6) HRPunsNStuff wrote, “I’d been struggling for an hour to dig my car out of the snow that had frozen overnight with my little snow shovel. I was almost there but couldn’t clear the last frozen block of snow. A male classmate said hi and made a comment about the snow as he passed me in the parking lot. I didn’t think much of it and got in my car to see if I cleared enough to get out. I didn’t. I was sweating, tired,

running late for work, and just started sobbing. When I looked up, I saw him walking toward me with his giant shovel and the light of the sunrise behind him. He helped dig me out, and I am forever grateful for his help that day.”

7) Hahaimalwayslikethis wrote, “I was about 12-13, and I was crying at the bus stop after having a fight with my mom that morning before school. An older guy in a car saw me and did a whole U-turn to ask me if I was okay, if I was lost, if I needed help, etc. Through tears I had to explain to him that I was fine, that the bus was coming in like five minutes, and that I was upset about an argument with my mom. He stayed with me until the bus came and basically tried to console me saying that he used to fight with his parents a lot, but they always made up in the end. It was really kind of him, and I still think about it 10 years later.”⁷⁹

80. “How Did You Accidentally Kill The Mood During Consensual Sex? And If You Were Able To Salvage It, How Did You?”

1) Justcameheretovote wrote:

“Hubby has gone to trim his pubes. Dunno why because he’d never done it before, but whatever. He sneezed or something and slipped with the clippers and shaved a huge line through them, so he just shaved everything off.

“Thing is he didn’t tell me, and when I went to blow him, it took me by surprise, and it just looked so bizarre that it was completely hairless down there that I started laughing. Then

⁷⁹ Source: ToxicLemon6969, “What is the kindest thing a man has ever done for you or that you have seen him do?” Reddit. AskWomen. 10 May 2022 <
https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/umaw2w/what_is_the_kindest_thing_a_man_has_ever_done_for/>.

he started laughing, which made it worse. I was literally cry-laughing and I couldn't carry on because I couldn't breathe.

“Then there was the time it was hot, and we were a bit sweaty. Our chests rubbed together and made a fart noise, and the same thing. We were laughing so hard we couldn't recover. We're super mature.”

2) new_friendz wrote, “He was going, ‘How do you like that big dick?’ And I told him he's not that big.”

3) CarelessLibra wrote:

“We had a game night that ended with a bunch of us playing *Mario Party* while high and drinking. Later that night when my hubby and I were fooling around in bed, I jokingly started to imitate Mario's ‘WHHHAAAAA’ and proceeded to laugh my ass off. Hubby was less than amused since I couldn't hold it together between fits of giggles.

“Didn't end up finishing that night, and he still gets jokingly mad when I make ‘WHHAAA’ noises at him six years later!”

4) PeenInVeen wrote:

“I queefed on his face. And then I laughed so hard that I did it again.

“This was back when we were 18, so he was actually grossed out whereas my husband nowadays would probably ignore it completely. Lmao.”

5) sunsset24 wrote:

“Not necessarily during sex, but my date has jokingly called me out on it a few times now. I'm asexual, but not opposed to doing sexual things with someone I like. I know this is confusing to some people, so I usually describe it like this: It's like giving someone a massage. It's nice and can be very

satisfying when you see and hear their positive reaction, but it's not something intrinsically pleasing to you, and it doesn't feel as good as getting massaged does.

"My date and I do sexual stuff semi-frequently and I always enjoy it, but I can't pretend like I'm completely crazy about it either ... so I usually say stuff like 'Well, this was nice,' 'When you did x thing, I thought it was interesting,' or 'I got really bored halfway through doing x. I'm glad that you came, though.'

"My date thinks this is hilarious but a total mood killer and says that I'm allowed to talk about the sex only after we're done having it."

6) Jilltro wrote, "Once I was trying to get on top but stumbled when I was throwing my leg over him and just kneed him right in the nuts. He was as gracious as he could be about it, but that session was over."

7) meOwsarah wrote, "We are both super comfortable with each other and occasionally will have 'goofy' sex where we just talk and laugh about stupid shit. I'll ask him, 'Are you feeling it, Mr. Krabs [a *SpongeBob SquarePants* character]?' and he will do the Mr. Krabs 'ugugugug' laugh and then we will both just die laughing and we have to take a short break before continuing."

8) abssentbusiness wrote:

"Tried to seductively slide my hands around my FWB's [Friend With Benefits'] waist, grab the back of his shirt, and remove it. I accidentally grabbed his underwear, too, and gave him a wedgie.

"The moment was not salvageable, but, 20ish years later, we got together officially and got married, so we did eventually get over it.

“We’re divorced now, for reasons unrelated to The Great Wedgie Incident of 1999.”

9) empresdirt wrote, “Someone once told me that I use my normal voice during sex and it’s off-putting. I didn’t understand so he clarified that most women use a sexy bedroom voice, but I talk like we’re making sandwiches and I’m asking for the mustard. I laughed my ass off and changed nothing. Seems to have worked itself out.”⁸⁰

⁸⁰ Source: [not_doing_that](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/uq5u4i/how_did_you_accidentally_kill_the_mood_during/), “How did you accidentally kill the mood during consensual sex? And if you were able to salvage it, how did you?” Reddit. AskWomen. 15 May 2022 <
https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/uq5u4i/how_did_you_accidentally_kill_the_mood_during/>.

CHAPTER 5: Questions 81-100**81. “What Was Your ‘This Situation Could Use An Adult. Wait, I’m An Adult’ Moment?”**

1) Naughtyspider wrote:

“Bringing our baby home for the first time after I was very, very poorly after the emergency C-section. Hard to look after a baby you just had pulled out of you when you can’t technically walk properly or bathe yourself.

“Thank god for my mum and dad. They cleaned house, cooked, comforted my broken husband, looked after baby, helped me walk again, mended broken shit around the house, painted doors, unstuck stuck drawers. Jesus, they were a godsend.”

SafariNZ commented, “That’s why evolution gave us grandparents. Glad they were in a position to help and it all worked out well.”

2) SueDohNymn wrote, “After coming home with twins. That first year had me crying for MY mom.”

3) T6hff43 wrote, “Being a security guard at 18 and having to break up a brawl between multiple older adults in their 30s and 40s.”

4) povvopride wrote:

“I turned 18 a couple of months ago, but I always forget. A couple of weeks ago one of my friends (still 17) decided she was going to try and buy a vibrator from Ann Summers, but when we got to the till they asked for ID. She said she left hers at home, and the cashier said we could just find someone who was 18 so he wouldn’t get in trouble.

“We went back outside the shop, and she tried calling our other 18-year-old friends. Eventually she gave up and just

started asking people on the street. I was so embarrassed but you gotta do what you gotta do I guess.

“Anyways, about five minutes later I give up and decide to go to a shop to buy some tobacco. And then it hit me. I’m 18. I could’ve just done it the whole time. I can’t look anyone in the eye in that town anymore just in case they were one of the poor people we harassed to buy us sex toys.

“Fuck.”⁸¹

82. “Women Of Reddit, How Do You Feel When Someone Looks At Your Boobs While In A Conversation?”

1) WittyMathematician1 wrote:

“It depends... am I wearing a low-cut shirt or a stained t-shirt?

“Two very different thought processes.’

2) Soggy_Physics452 wrote:

“I am an ex-hair stylist and when I would cut men’s hair and would be standing in front of them cutting bangs or something of that nature, I could just feel their eyes burning a hole into my chest.

“I did have one guy tell me straight up on the middle of our conversation, ‘I’m looking at your cleavage,’ and he did this weird chuckle. I had no words. He tipped well, though.”

⁸¹ Source: MoonDoggy, “What was your ‘this situation could use an adult, wait I’m an adult’ moment?” Reddit. AskReddit. 16 May 2022 <https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/uqpgdx/what_was_you_r_this_situation_could_use_an_adult/>.

Sarnick18 wrote, "I will be honest. In that exact situation, there really isn't anywhere else to look."

GreyCrowDownTheLane commented:

"When I was a teenager, I had a favorite hair stylist who would *press* her boobs against me when she was working on my hair. Against my back, against my shoulders, and sometimes even right up in my face.

"And my dad wondered why I went to the hair salon instead of the barber shop with him, going so far as to call me 'gay' for wanting to go and 'hang around with the girls in the beauty shop.'

"He really didn't get me."

rinanlanmo commented:

"I've never said anything about it, but I sometimes look at my barber while she was working. But, in my defense, sometimes I literally can't not look without closing my eyes and if I close my eyes the entire time, I'll definitely fall asleep during the shampoo.

"And there's generally a lot of boob dragging along my arms and shoulders while she works. Between that and the scalp massage, my body thinks things are happening that are not, which makes it harder to not look. I chalk it up to just being a thing that happens while she works. I don't say anything. She doesn't say anything. She does great work and I tip well. I think it all works out in the end.

"Jesus. I hope it all works out in the end. I'd hate to think I was making her uncomfortable all this time."

bankman99 responded, "'My body thinks things are happening that are not' is the story of my sex life."

3) KindPerception9802 wrote, “Apologies to the women of the world when I’m staring into oblivion and your boobs happen to be in my direction.”

Alduin1225 commented, “I had that happen once at school. I was staring off into space when a girl on the other side of the room yelled at me. She wasn’t there when I started but good luck explaining that.”

dragonatorul responded, “I had the same thing happen to me, but I was actually looking at the bench in front of her. She didn’t believe me when I told her the bench is more interesting than she is.”

VexityViolet commented, “I try not to zone out in public anymore because I had the worst-case scenario happen and it will forever keep me up at night cringing. As a teen I was on my way to a carnival with my dad, we were in a bit of slow traffic and I’m just zoning out looking straight ahead, keep in mind that I don’t have a pleasant look on my face because at the moment I’m deep in thought. Then a woman raises her hand and breaks my trance, she’s flipping me off, that’s when I notice that she happens to have a severe facial deformity. I felt like shit the rest of the day, I wasn’t even looking in her specific direction, but she probably saw my facial expression and assumed it was meant for her. I wanted to apologize, but I doubt she would believe me — I wouldn’t have believed me.”

4) AKBK2013 wrote, “Honesty, I’m used it. Unless they are gawking or being creepy about it, I don’t give it a second thought.”

brndm commented:

“In the 1980s and maybe 1990s, they’d sometimes say sarcastically, ‘Take a picture; it’ll last longer!’”

“I think they stopped saying that when cell phones started all coming with decent-quality built-in cameras. I’m sure a few people responded by pulling out their phone cameras ... and that was probably the end of that saying.”

5) TheDiplocrap wrote:

“Depends on how they do it.

“If it’s a quick glance, it’s fine. That’s normal and feels mostly involuntary on behalf of the person looking. I notice, but it doesn’t bother me.

“If they stare at my boobs while other people are talking—or worse, while I’m talking—that makes me uncomfortable.

“Fortunately, I’ve experienced glancing a lot more frequently than staring.”⁸²

83. “What Happened When A Scammer Direct-Messaged You?”

MacDee_ wrote:

“Back in 2016 I had a DM [Direct Message] from a girl who got chatting to me. I saw the beautiful profile pics and thought that it may be a scammer or a catfish. I decided to be brutally honest about myself. I could afford only a room in a shared apartment, I was in a job with a poor pay, I didn’t have a car and I couldn’t afford to meet her until I got paid at the end of the month (which was two weeks away). She

⁸² Source: Maleficent-Ad-190, “Women of Reddit, how do you feel when someone looks at you boobs while in a conversation?” Reddit. AskReddit. 16 May 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/uqwpya/women_of_reddit_how_do_you_feel_when_someone/ >.

was fine with this, and we chatted every night until we finally met for the first time at the end of the month.

“Today we are happily married with children, I have a very highly paid job, and even recently bought my wife a new car straight from the showroom.

“She stuck with me through the hard times simply because she had faith in me, and I will forever be grateful to her for that.”

filosofis commented, “That scammer’s pretty persistent, marrying you and all that.”

AuronSky24 commented, “She was playing the long con, waiting for him to buy her a brand-new car from a showroom floor.”

testsubject23 commented:

“She’s gonna make a couple of kids with him, then trick him into leaving them **everything** when he dies.

“Happens all the time.”

concussedYmir commented:

“Those wily scammers will provide you with unconditional love and support *just* so that you’ll provide them with love and support and sometimes cuddles.

“Makes me sick.”⁸³

⁸³ Source: RAMORAMORA, “What is the pettiest reason you can’t date someone?” Reddit., AskReddit. 18 May 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/us70fm/what_is_the_pettiest_reason_you_cant_date_someone/>.

84. “What’s Your Best Story From A Wedding?”

1) Back2Bach wrote:

“While she was waiting just inside the front doors of the church for the organ processional to begin, most of the bride’s extra-long train was outside. (The front doors were fastened back in the ‘open’ position on hooks.)

“During the wait, a little neighborhood dog ‘made a bed’ for himself and went soundly to sleep on her train.

“No one noticed the dog sleeping on it until she was most of the way down the aisle approaching the altar.

“Everyone thought it was cute — including the minister. So they let it stay, undisturbed. The little dog slept on the bride’s train until the end when the loud recessional on the church’s pipe organ awakened it.”

2) loulabelle20 wrote, “At my brother’s wedding my niece was four years old, and she decided after seeing my brother, my other brother (her dad and best man) do speeches she should, too. She proceeded to tell everyone that when her mum and dad got married, she was in her mum’s tummy and sometimes she wished she could crawl back up into it to take a nap.”

3) SugarsBoogers wrote, “I once saw a bride spill red wine on her gown, and without hesitating, the groom poured some on his shirt. Adorable.”

4) Big-Pollution2705 wrote, “I was at my dad’s wedding to my ex-stepmom. It came time for the bouquet and garter toss. When my stepmom threw the bouquet, my grandmother caught it. We were all pretty stunned since the woman was the frailest little old lady you’d ever meet. When it was time for my dad to throw the garter, every single man on the floor ran away. The disc jockey ran up, grabbed the garter, ran

back to his setup, and played ‘Pony’ by Ginuwine, and then proceeded to perform a full (and fully clothed) stripper dance over to my grandmother and put the garter on her leg. I’ve never seen her turn so red before or since.”

5) Swampwolf42 wrote:

“When my best friend got married, I was one of the groomsmen. My first time in a tuxedo, lookin’ sharp.

“Now, the tux I had, there were these buckles at the waistline — not like a belt buckle, as it turns out, but I had no idea what they were there for. I was hanging out with others in the wedding party, and someone pointed them out:

“‘Hey, what are those buckles for?’

“Being a smartass, I said, ‘Oh, they’re to hook your thumbs in so you can look cool. Like this.’

“I hooked my thumbs into the buckles, which caused them to open, loosening the waist and my pants slid to the ground in full view of everyone.”

6) The68Guns wrote, “I was covering coat-check one night and I overheard someone lightly crying from a nearby fitting room. The bride walked out and seemed embarrassed that I heard her and she was having a mild panic attack. We got to talking and I got her laughing a bit, yet she didn’t want to go back upstairs. ‘No big deal,’ says I, and I trained her on how to work the coat room. She was having a blast, all the relatives played along, and I even let her keep the tips.”

7) YayaMalli wrote:

“My husband’s cousin had the weirdest wedding ever. Before the wedding even started, we noticed the man in climbing the steps in front of us had already drunkenly pissed himself. It was like noon.

“Hillbilly preacher. Refused to let the mothers of the couple walk down the aisle to light the unity candle holding hands, because ‘there will be no lesbianism in my church.’ The wedding march was played on a cassette boom box, operated by said preacher.

“CLICK music plays, wedding party come in CLICK

“Vows etc. afterwards, preacher pulls man and wife to the side of the alter and starts talking about being an obedient wife. He makes her GET ON THE FLOOR AND BOW ON HER HANDS AND NEEDS to her ‘king.’

“Then it’s photo time, also handled by the preacher. On a very old film camera. CLICK *noisy wheel sound advancing film* CLICK etc.

“My telling doesn’t do the wedding justice. It was legendary. We still talk about it today. We named drunk dude Stagger McPissypants.”

8) MKQueasy wrote, “A whole table of guests were a no-show, which means we caterers in the back get their food. I hoarded two whole takeout boxes of deep-fried soft-shell crab, which is my food heaven.”

kharmatika commented, “One time my ex was working at Hannafords, and a woman came in and ordered two steamed lobsters. She found out after the fact that she couldn’t pay for them with EBT [electronic food stamps] because the steaming counts as food prep. She got two unsteamed lobsters and left, but his manager was like ‘Okay, I’m gonna damage these ones out. You take your break and we’ll ... dispose of them properly. And oh, look, looks like this herb butter needs to be freshened up. See you in the back.’”

9) LochBodminMothFoot wrote:

“Not sure if this counts but.

“Friends got engaged and I get invited. I want to get them something, so I get a throw blanket printed with their engagement photo printed onto it.

“Then Covid happens weeks from the wedding and a year passes and they decide they want different things in life and call it off.

“I couldn’t bring myself to throw a nice blanket like it away, so I bought a pillowcase and filled it with the blanket. Occasionally I sit on it, okay but a little lumpy. Enough time has passed I often forget as I sit on it what its true nature is. One day I hope for the bride or the groom to visit and sit on it and never even know.”

10) The_Truth_Believe_Me wrote, “I was the bartender at a wedding reception with an open bar. The bride, groom, and most of the guests looked underage. I started carding them, and sure enough I could not serve any of the wedding party and most of the wedding guests.”

11) mailorderbride wrote:

“Several years ago, my sister was getting married, and I was her maid of honor. Guy she was marrying was everything I’d hoped he would be and more. Only thing I’ll say about how compatible they were is that they met at a Comic Con dressed as the exact same character, and it only got better from there.

“Anyway, skip a few years of dating and a year-and-a-half of engagement and she’s all ready to walk down the aisle. I went right before her, so shot her a wink right before the best man and I left. I could tell there was some trepidation but thought nothing of it. She hadn’t shown any other signs in the whole time leading up, and weddings are, um, a lot. Whole thing goes ahead, and they’re on the vows. He says, ‘I do,’ almost instantly after the minister, and she ... hesitated isn’t the right word. Like, she’s always been the

kind to think stuff through, but she took a good beat before saying ‘I do.’

“Whole thing ends, we’re taking photos, and as the groom’s family is taking photos, she pulls me into the bathroom and blurts out, ‘Have you ever seen the movie *Catch Me If You Can?*’ I hadn’t at the time, but have now, and holy *fuck* was I not prepared for what I was about to hear. She goes on to tell me she thinks this dude used to be a violent criminal and that he’s basically on the run with a false identity and she has no idea how to prove any of this or talk to him about it. It all came out in roughly thirty seconds, but I’m fairly certain she said over a thousand words. I barely processed any of what she was saying but nodded accordingly and took a breath after that firehose of info. Another one of the bridesmaids came in asking where we were, and so we went back out, as my mind was racing at a million miles an hour.

“In the midst of all the smiling and posing, and without telling my sister, I hatched a plan. Once we’d all been seated at the after-wedding dinner, the maid of honor / best man speeches took place. I asked the best man if I could go first, and he agreed. After grabbing the mic, I closed my eyes, took a deep breath, then pointed at the groom and said, in probably the firmest voice I’ve ever managed, ‘Why didn’t you put a serious tag on this question?’”⁸⁴

85. “What Is The Worst Response To ‘I Love You?’”

- 1) lesbunner wrote, “I got slapped in the face ... by my cat.”
- 2) Confusedandreticient wrote, “Sir, this is a Wendy’s.”

⁸⁴ Source: Legitimate-Gate-8336, “What’s your best story from a wedding?” Reddit. AskReddit. 20 May 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/uu1msw/whats_your_best_story_from_a_wedding/ >.

3) Justalittleconfusing wrote:

“Nineteen years ago, when I first said it, my boyfriend replied, ‘Thank you.’

“To be fair, I had been in a relationship before ,and he hadn’t. But I knew he loved me. So I said, ‘It’s okay to not say it back. I just want you to know what’s in my heart.’

“About a week later he said it back and it meant so much more because I know he meant it.

“But 19 years, 14 years of marriage, two kids later. When I say ‘I love you,’ he sometimes says ‘thank you.’ And we both laugh and know deep down he really does love me.”

4) Zukaazuk wrote, “My boyfriend Freudian slipped it out for the first time while I was scrambling to get out the door to go to something. Guess we’d already hit that comfy relationship groove even though it was like two weeks in. I had to stop, go back to the room he was in and kiss him, say it back and then ‘I gotta go.’ He was super embarrassed that it just slipped out like that.”⁸⁵

86. “Men Of Reddit, What Are Some Questions You’ve Always Wanted To Ask Women, But Couldn’t Because It Would Seem Weird?”

1) MaoZade-ong asked, “With periods is it a gush, a small leak, or more of a drip every so often?”

randominternetuser46 answered:

“To give you a more in-depth answer:

⁸⁵ Source: Trade_True, “What is the worst response to ‘I love you’?” Reddit. AskReddit. 21 May 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/uug2of/what_is_the_worst_response_to_i_love_you/ >.

“It depends on the woman AND the period. Contrary to popular belief, a period is not just a period. They can be easy, hard, heavy, painful, absent, light, etc. And most girls have different ones randomly. So you’ll bleed *usually* the same every cycle but diet, stress, and hormones can alter it.

“For most girls. The first two to three days are the heaviest. This means heavy flows, cramping and ‘gushing’ — this is usually something that happens when you sit up or stand up after a long time in one position and so the blood has pooled in the cervix or back of the vaginal canal and comes ‘gushing’ forwards or out. With tampons, you tend not to have this issue as much, if at all. The later days it’s just a trickle or ‘flow’ again same as above but less blood overall.

“Clots happen throughout the cycle. And they vary in some. Some are small and blob-y. Others are long and huge like a green bean. If they’re any larger, you might want to see a doctor as it usually indicates an issue like a miscarriage or cyst burst or something like that. (Think small lemon-sized clots.)

“The last day can linger more than one day, ha. That is where you get a drip effect. A spot of old brown blood here or there. Maybe one or two days after your cycle stops. (This is blood that’s gotten trapped and browns, hence old)

“As for the rest, it varies. Periods are super wonky and mess with everyone differently and can AGAIN vary from cycle to cycle. This cycle for me showed up DAYS late and had zero cramping or anything, but holy hell was I depressed and out of it (not my usual symptoms).

“Also, for the record PMS is VERY real. And it’s SO HARD to control. Don’t let someone walk all over you for it, but please don’t try and make me feel bad because I’m cranky and impatient and easily frustrated a few days of every month. A simple ‘I see you’re struggling

and shark week is imminent, what can I do?’ is everything for me. But every girl is different.

“Edited to add:

“Another comment of mine below about actual symptoms. I spoke about bleeding, but there is *SO MUCH MORE* to a period.

“Hahahahahahaha. That’s just the bleeding.

“You want to talk about symptoms?

“Let me list the most common ones:

“Backaches, diarrhea, constipation, period farts — omg, they smell like a dead animal in the sun after two weeks! Stomach aches. Cramping, and this can be a cute twitch to full on feeling like the scene from *Alien* where the baby alien claws its way out of that dude’s stomach.

“Let’s move up — boobies! They swell up and feel like someone took two balloons and filled them with wet sand and you’re lugging them around. Nipples can often become hyper-sensitive. I’ve had periods where I cry putting my bra on. Headaches, and some women get migraines, which is a whole other topic.

“And then the emotions. It’s like It’s like watching a crazy person. I’ve cried because the CGI REINDEER ON *NOELLE* WAS TOO CUTE FOR MY BRAIN TO PROCESS. I’ve sobbed at dog food commercials. I’ve gotten irrationally angry, and I quote, ‘I think you need to go for a walk because you’re breathing so loudly right now that I want to rip your face off, I’m sorry.’ To ... If I don’t get a piece of Godiva 72% cacao chocolate RIGHT NOW, someone might die today! Or my personal favorite. I’m so goddamn horny, but I also really want popcorn with a side of pickles. Where is my vibrator?

“This is just my experience. Every girl will be different or have *most likely* experienced this as well at some point. Periods fuck with THE ENTIRE PERSON, not just the organ of involvement. It sucks.

“But, as a female, it is what it is, and we have to deal with it. Or take meds to stop it and deal with those side effects.

“And: every woman has different experiences. This is JUST periods. It doesn’t include mittelschmerz [lower abdominal pain on one side; occurs when ovulation occurs], endometriosis, fibroids, cysts, birth control woes, etc.!”

invasionofthe strange commented, “My life changed so much when I started tracking my PMS along with my period. I put a reminder in my phone about a week before my period is supposed to start, and a second reminder about 3-4 days in for what’s usually my worst (most emotional) day. It varies but just knowing that it’s coming up has saved me so much anguish. I remind my boyfriend, too, so when I seem to get extra pissy for no reason, we both know it’s not personal. We used to get in pretty bad fights once a month until I figured out what it lined up with. We hardly fight at all now!”

ku2pachua commented, “I’m a lecturer and I hate the heavy flow days when I’m standing in front of a classroom full of students and that jellyfish [blood clot] comes gushing out and you have to stand still for a while to let it settle into your sanitary napkin, and all the while you’re there yammering about King Lear.”

2) Bunnyisgood asked, “What to do when a period stain is showing and the woman seem oblivious to it?”

Kendal_unoxx answered, “Please tell her! Much better having a friend, a stranger, anybody at all, tell you than nobody. I would be thankful someone told me, to be honest.”

rebirth5 wrote, “Honestly if I was in this situation — I would be so incredibly and pleasantly surprised if a guy not only came to tell me but came with a solution. Like a hoodie to tie around my waist or a way to provide me with some cover to lessen the embarrassment. I would remember that person gratefully forever. No joke.”

uncreative-as commented, “Please tell her. I walked around all DAY in front of ten guys because I was the only woman, and they were all too afraid to tell me.”

tikleme1 commented, “For real. And if you’re too embarrassed / shy about saying ‘your period is showing’ or whatever, just say, ‘Hey, I think you might have sat in something because there’s a stain.’”

Re-lar-Kvothe commented, “I remember when I was in middle school, one of my teachers was ‘showing’ some spotting while sitting at her desk. She was wearing white pants and the desk was just a table, so it was very apparent. At 12 years of age, I was naïve and uncomfortable with bringing it to her attention. I mentioned it to the girl in front of me. She went to the teacher and whispered in her ear. The teacher became red-faced and excused herself. She came back a few moments later wearing a pair of jeans and no one was the wiser. I can only assume she kept a change of clothes in the teacher’s lounge.”

3) Zenith_K asked, “Do you randomly get sexually aroused in public for no reason at all like men? And if so, does it die down quickly?”

sneakerooni answered, “Most usually when I lie down and raise my knees / legs in workouts and stretching for instance. My body’s literally like ‘Yes! Finally, you bitch — Oh. oh, it’s just yoga. No, go ahead.’ It does die down quick, though.”

biwaterbender commented, “Yes to random arousal, depends on the situation how fast it dies down. Sometimes I get randomly horny at work and then just sit there and fantasize about raunchy things — takes longer to die down that way. Lol.”

alright-lets-do-this commented;

“Yes, agree with this — my mind often wanders during work to my go-to fantasies and whoever my current crush is at the time.

“Depending on hormone spikes, that can happen more intensely in the middle of the month, to the point of distraction. That’s when it’s not just fantasies about my crush, it could be any guy who catches my attention.

“The number of imaginary hotel rooms I’ve defiled in my head is pretty crazy.”

Date_me_nadia commented, “Yeah, but it’s not an issue because we don’t get erections. Just awkward and kind of funny.”

-acidlean- commented, “THE PUSSY HEARTBEAT.”

The_Real_RM asked, “Wait, what is that?”

-acidlean- answered, “Some kind of female boner. Our genitalia can get swollen when we’re really aroused, so there is more blood down there. Just like more blood in an erect penis. And it’s throbbing, like a heartbeat.”

fuckincaillou commented, “Am I the only woman that actually enjoys that? It’s like it gives me a rhythm to work to — but it can get plain annoying when the throb gets ticklish sometimes.”

GroovyLlama1 commented, "Sometimes I'm so randomly aroused that I am worried that my wetness will seep through my pants. Lmao."

4) Prestigious_Suit4724 asked:

"Do you have crushes on random people you encounter that you don't really see anything developing with? Like someone you see every day but don't really talk to for whatever reason?"

"I don't mean in a creepy way, I mean, like, 'My barista is insanely hot, and I fantasize about him even though absolutely nothing is going to happen because of [several very important reasons].'"

"I assume this happens but have always wondered if it's more common with men."

JJHuckyduck answered, "I used to have a crush on this random nurse I used to pass in the hallway all the time. (I worked in registration.) The only time we spoke was when I occasionally had questions about his patients. Something about him just made me nervous. I would never initiate anything, but it was for sure a fantasy."

lazymarp wrote:

"Yes! I used to do this all the time with almost everybody interesting I encountered. Like daydreaming about a life I might live with someone was always in the back of my mind somewhere."

"One time I did it with my mechanic and imagined a whole life with him just because he made my car smell good after taking it for a test drive."

"Turns out he felt the same and asked me out. We've been together 6.5 years."

“And it all started with a random daydream. :)”

KikiHou commented, “There’s an older handsome guy in my neighborhood who rides a motorcycle. I do not know him; I know nothing about him. I sometimes find myself saying, ‘Hi, daddy,’ when he rides by. That’s not even something I say!) One day he had a lady on the back, and I thought, ‘Who’s this bitch?’ I’m not a jealous person at all. I don’t know where this impulse came from.”

azuari commented, “Absolutely! This happened to me back in college when I developed a crush on a classmate and daydreamed of dating him. I also have friends who randomly call me about encounters with attractive strangers.”

5) MoBarbz asked, “I just wanna know how weird / unsafe women feel if a man is walking behind them in some silent area?”

After reading the answers to his question, MoBarbz added that slowing the pace and / or switching sidewalks were much better options than trying to pass the woman.

Halomir commented:

“I know how you feel. I was walking home from the bar one night, totally smashed and I ended up basically following this gal for like 3-4 blocks and it was starting to get weird because it was like I am.

“So drunk me just yells, ‘Hey I’m walking home and kinda smashed and we seem like we’re going in the same direction but if you want me to walk in front so you can watch me and feel safer that’s totally cool.’

“She went from peeking over her shoulder to dying laughing. We ended up walking together for a few blocks, turns out she lived like two buildings away from me.”

6) KaiserSozes-brother asked:

“I thought for an embarrassing amount of time that women’s day-to-day underwear matched like in a lingerie advertisement.

“I never was offered any reason to doubt it; nobody shows women wearing a different bra from panties in advertising. I assumed it was like socks, you bought a pair and kept them together?”

2occupantsandababy answered, “I wish. Matching always makes me feel fancy. But we change our panties every day. Bras are pretty expensive, and most women don’t wash their bras after every wear as doing so wears them out faster.”

a_smth9102 commented, “As a woman I also thought this until late into my teens! I was hanging out with the guy I was talking to and had to get changed for work; he noticed my matching underwear and assumed I was ‘up for it.’ I asked him what he meant, and he said everyone knows girls only match their underwear if they’re trying to get somewhere with someone. Turns out he was right! I’ve barely ever matched since that day, and it’s been so freeing!”

Rourensu commented:

“I hadn’t given it much thought before or since, but on an episode of *House* (greatly simplifying) he said he knew that a thong(?) didn’t belong to his boss because it didn’t match her bra.

“I was in high school and thought, ‘Oh, so girls match their bra and underwear?’”

Kazarlkin commented, “I’m binging *House* and watched that episode a few weeks ago. I watched it and as a woman myself I thought, ‘There are no female writers for this show.’”

Cloudinterpreter commented, “I think that was more like he knew her so well that he knew what a neat freak she was that she definitely would match her bras to her undies. I know women like that; I think it’s just a personality thing.”⁸⁶

87. “People Older Than 30, What Are Some Annoying Things That Young People Do?”

dani_1365 wrote, “The look of astonishment when anyone finds out our age. I’m in my late 30s. When someone in their 20s hears that, they developed this look of shock likes it’s the 1500s and I should have died already from old age.”

Black_King commented, “Lol, dude, I had this 21-year-old girl hitting on me for almost a week, as soon as I caught on, I told her I was 34 and married, she went ‘eww.’ I laughed my ass off the whole day!”

BonaFidee commented, “The body definitely does feel older, the mind not so much. There’s a reason the expression ‘youth is wasted on the young’ exists.”

cleverthandao commented, “Tell you what makes me feel old. When I started watching *The Simpsons*, I was younger than Bart, now I’m older than Homer.”

Geodudette2014 commented, “I’m 26. I’m a huge Pokémon fan, and I follow some Pokémon-related pages on Instagram. I’ve had several instances where I’ve commented on a post,

⁸⁶ Source: SlenderBacon449, “Men of Reddit, what are some questions you’ve always wanted to ask women, but couldn’t because it would seem weird?” Reddit. AskReddit. 31 May 2022 <
https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/v1mlad/men_of_reddit_what_are_some_questions_youve/>.

and had some kids call me a ‘granny’ or tell me that I’m going to die soon because I’m so old. :-))”⁸⁷

88. “What Is The Most Creative Insult You’ve Been Told That You Couldn’t Even Get Mad At It?”

1) this_name_is_banned wrote:

“Student asked me, during Sex Ed, about the bar code that printed near the base of every condom. I said I didn’t know that condoms had barcodes like that. He smiled and said, ‘Oh, you don’t gotta roll yours down that far, huh.’

“I laughed and told him that was one of the funniest things a student ever said.”

2) Back2Bach wrote, “During heavy fog, I was driving extra cautiously. My passenger looked at me and said, ‘There’s a funeral home out there somewhere looking for *you* to be their hearse driver.’”

3) FROGGEE-frog wrote:

“‘You dance like a *Phineas and Ferb* character.’

“I think about that one at least once a day.”⁸⁸

1) aidsfordays wrote:

⁸⁷ Source: the_ides_of_farts, “People older than 30, what are some annoying things that young people do?” Reddit. AskReddit. 2 June 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/v3oi05/people_older_than_30_what_are_some_annoying/ >.

⁸⁸ Source: futuresbloodline, “what is the most creative insult you’ve been told that you couldn’t even get mad at it?” Reddit. AskReddit. 4 June 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/v4vu76/what_is_the_most_creative_insult_youve_been_told/ >.

“We subconsciously try too hard sometimes to please a girl we like, then look back on it a day later and realize it was cringe as fuck and vow never to do it again, only to relieve the same situation at a later date and reflect on how we keep doing the same shit and never learning.

“Fucking hormone blinders, man, yikes!”

2) ThgoriumLad wrote, “**We Know** that it’s not super discreet when we do the ‘un-stick the balls from the leg’ dance, the effort to try and play it cool isn’t to go unnoticed (impossible), it’s to signal, ‘Sorry, anyone watching, I have to un-stick my balls, I am acknowledging that this is awkward by putting the effort into doing the dance instead of just reaching down my pants like a fucking savage.’”

3) Extension-Muscle1950 wrote, “Maturity level depends on who we are around.”

stryka00 commented, “My 12-year-old daughter recently learned how immature me and my best friend of 20 years get when we hang out — it’s like we never left high school. Lol.”⁸⁹

90. “When Was A Time You Didn’t Realize The Impact You Had On Someone Until Later?”

1) Banana_boof wrote:

“A few years ago, a skinny, disheveled homeless guy helped me carry a TV from the shop to my car, I got him a tea and hot snacks afterward to say thanks and we chatted, he told

⁸⁹ Source: AdAppropriate6975, “What are some ‘guy secrets’ girls don’t know about?” Reddit. AskReddit. 7 June 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/v7futg/what_are_some_guy_secrets_girls_dont_know_about/>.

me about his life, I told him about mine and then we went our separate ways.

“About 4 months ago a beefy guy came up to me in the supermarket, it was the TV carrier.

“He filled me in on his life now, he has a job and a place to live, he’s big into fitness and he thanked me, he said that nobody ever stopped to talk to him and hearing about stuff I’d gone through in life but was still open and kind gave him hope that he could pull himself out of where he was in life at the time and show kindness to others as well. He gives talks now at addiction meetings.”

2) thoccerplayer wrote, “I went back into my messages to find this, but a couple years ago a former elementary school classmate messaged me on Facebook and wrote this message to me:

““Hey, so, this is exceptionally random, and you probably don’t remember this, but when we were in the 5th grade, one of our classmates was giving me a particularly large amount of crap. He decided to challenge me to a race, and I was obliged to accept. Just before we started it, you gave me a single piece of advice: ‘Run on your toes.’ Or something very similar. Anyway, I followed your advice. (It seemed prudent; you were always athletic, and I was fat and decidedly unathletic. Gonna go with the 5th grade expert on this one. Lol.) Well, although I obviously didn’t beat him, I did inexplicably keep up with him. Afterwards, I remember his ‘entourage’ starting in on me almost immediately, and him putting a stop to it, pointing out that I kept up, and expressing his newfound respect for me. Didn’t get crap from him the rest of the year. What I cannot remember, however, is whether — in the aftermath of being dumbfounded by his reaction — I expressed my utmost gratitude to you for giving me that single piece of advice to which I attribute the success of that entire endeavor. So,

THANK YOU. I hope life has treated you well and continues to do so.'

"Made me shed a tear at younger me."

3) searedscallops wrote, "When I was 20, my sister was 5 and we shared a bedroom for a year or so. Apparently, I taught her all kinds of cool stuff. We're 31 and 46 now but she still reminds me of things that were significant to her that I don't remember at all. Like, I taught her to play the card game Spit and she taught her friends and they played all the time as little kids."

4) bahala_Na- wrote:

"I have a cousin who's 7yrs younger than me. He's an only child, the only boy child in my dad's side of the family, and he was very spoiled. When he'd come over to visit, I'd play adventure games with him on the computer. It was more of, I get him to play it, sit with him, and will talk through some of the puzzles with him BUT refuse to just give him the answer to things. He whined and complained a LOT and wanted me to just solve it all for him. I always held my ground, even if it took a long time and we'd just have to go to bed without progressing. These games aren't usually that long if you know all the solutions, anyway.

"Years later, he's graduated and is in neuroscience. Unprompted, he told me he still remembers those days we'd play adventure games together, how fun it was and how I forced him to think on his own. Gotta say that was really gratifying to hear."

5) LilahDice wrote:

"When I was a student, I ran into a friend of a friend who was studying in the same building. We wouldn't see much of each other, mainly spend time out for drinks when our

mutual friend was getting us together. Distant acquaintance, you can say. But I liked the dude, he was really kind.

“So I ran into him and asked, ‘How are? Are you doing ok?’ (Approximate translation, we’re not English speakers.) The conversation followed as a small talk usually would.

“Fast forward to sometime later, maybe a year, we meet again, brought together by the mutual friend. There was a very sweet moment that I’ll always cherish when he recalled us meeting at the university and me asking if he’s ok. He said it meant a lot for him, because he stopped and thought for a second, ‘Am I doing ok?’ and that he wasn’t in a very good place and nobody had asked him in a while if he’s ok. He really appreciated me caring. I truly did — it wasn’t just a customary question.

“So when you meet people you like, do smile honestly and ask if they’re fine. It might mean so much more to them than you’d think.”

6) Secure_Dealer_7412 wrote:

“I was dating this guy. We really clicked and he was super cool. I met his two kids, his mom, and we spent a lot of time together. But after some time, he started this hot and cold behavior. He would ghost me for a week and then reappear like nothing happened. Then our texting interactions started changing. All he’d talk about was sex. He was into really intense stuff, and I was open to trying some of it initially. But it got really dark, and I wasn’t comfortable anymore. At that point he started offering to pay me to be his dominatrix.

“I remember telling him one day that I felt like he was dealing with a lot of mental shit and instead of facing it, he would concoct sexual fantasies to obsess over and provide himself with a mental escape. Of course, he called me crazy. I cut him off and never spoke to him again.

“About a year later, I ran into him. He saw me walking on the side of the road, he stepped out of his car and was like, “I’ve been thinking about you a lot, and I’m really glad I ran into you.”

“I was actually really scared.

“But then he went on to say that he’d been seeing a psychologist for over six months and that they’d been unpacking some of his issues. How he had a lot of anger directed towards the fact that he had two children with two women, and he felt like that made him a failure at maintaining relationships. He apologized for how he had treated me and said he was glad I had been honest with him. He said he didn’t even have those sexual fantasies anymore and that he was feeling a lot healthier overall. That was our last interaction.”

7) FairRiverDaughter wrote:

“My ex-boyfriend (we’ve been broken up for over 10 years now) somewhat recently told me I changed him on a core level and made him a better person. He was pretty terrible to me. He was combative; he gaslit me near to the point of insanity. We had a lot of mutual friends so we couldn’t have a clean break and go no contact after, and I treated him with grace when it was over. I didn’t want him anymore, but I guess I could see all the years of hurt underneath his combativeness and so I never wanted to treat him like he was a monster or ignore the good parts of him. I began treating him as a friend. And he honestly has been a good friend since.

“And I can see the change in him. That bothered me for a while, that he changed for the better just in time for the women he dated after me. I’ve questioned myself since, asked myself if maybe if I acted the way I did because I’m just a pushover, that sort of thing. But since he told me that,

I mostly just feel proud of him. And I gained a lifelong friend out of it.”

8) The_Special_Teacher wrote, “I crocheted a doll of myself and a doll of my sweetheart and gave it to my baby niece for Christmas. Those are her favorite toys. I didn’t think it would make a difference since she was a baby. Those dolls are practically in every picture taken of her.”

9) Fourdogsaretoomany wrote:

“Before I retired, I was an English professor at a very small satellite campus in our very rural town. I taught remedial English for years, and one day I was filling up with gas and a very, put together young man in his mid-twenties approached me and greeted me by my title. With a big smile. I have a ton of former students, most of whom I don’t remember. So I just smiled back. He went on to tell me that he was not a serious student, and I had booted him out of my class for being disruptive and then sat him down and told him hard truths about how smart he was and how much he was fucking up.

“He said he was so mad that he dropped my class. But then realized I was right. Got his act together, went on to eventually get his M.A. in business! He said no one had ever told him he was smart while kicking his ass at the same time, lol.”

10) Subtly_rose wrote, “I have a sister about 14 years younger. She’s now 11. It wasn’t until I moved out that I realized how much she looks up to me. She misses me a lot, always asking when I come to visit, and whenever I’m around and I get ready to go to the store or WFH [Work From Home?], she anxiously asks if I’m already leaving. She ‘saves’ stories from school to tell me. She asks about my life on my own. She is so happy and excited to FaceTime. I regret it deeply that I didn’t make the most out of the 10 years

we had together in one house. I could've been a better big sister. I sometimes rack my brain on how I can make up for it, but I also try to be realistic and take into account that as she enters puberty, she will inevitably become less affectionate and there will be more distance between us. I'm doing my best now, though, and I really do hope it pays off."

11) bristow5017 wrote:

"At the end of my freshman year of high school, I became friends with a girl no one else liked much. She was a bit of a complainer, but we took up the same after-school activity and as the only two freshman girls participating, we ended up hanging out together and then walking home / to the bus stop afterward. During sophomore year she moved away.

"However, when she had her first daughter, she named her after me (my first name can be spelled a few different ways, and she spelled it the way I do). It was a really big honor. I met my namesake for the first time last year; she is super rad."

12) peanutj00 wrote:

"A woman in my undergrad program was raised as an evangelical Christian. She wrote an op-ed for the school paper condemning sex ed being taught in schools. I wrote a scathing rebuttal, and things were tense between us for the remainder of our time together at college.

"A good ten year later, she reached out to me to apologize and to *thank* me — and tell me that she was splitting up with her husband to be with a woman, and that our debate and my (arguably too strident) convictions about equality and humanism were often on her mind as she was deconstructing her conservative religious upbringing. I made sure she knew there was zero bad blood, and how much I admired her courage to break away from the community she was raised

in in order to be her most authentic self. We talked often after that.”

13) Comfortable-Basis-64 wrote, “Small thing, but when I was in college, there was this girl I’d see in the locker room of the gym, and we’d talk. One day in my junior or senior year, I told her I’d stopped stressing about schoolwork because I realized I always got it done and the quality was always good. Months later I ran into her again and she told me that what I’d said resonated with her and really helped her relax a bit about her school, something she’d expressed in our initial conversation as something that caused a lot of stress and anxiety for her. I was super surprised since you never know what impact you have on people, but she thanked me for what I’d said. I thought that was neat.”

14) JayzieDreamSquare wrote:

“This story involves me and my younger cousin. I was seventeen, and she had just turned six.

“I am over the dance ministry at my church, and we had a routine planned for the upcoming holy day. I had decided right away that I wanted the little girls to stand up and flag with us with worship flags. My cousin loves dance and flags, so I could tell she was ecstatic. The day comes, everything goes smoothly, and I gave the girls big hugs and told them how well they did. That was their first time doing it, so I was extremely proud of all of them. A week passed and after the dance routine, my cousin came up to me and she said, ‘I just wanted to say you did a really good job. I wanna be just like you when I grow up!’ I almost cried.”

15) Daisybelladonna wrote:

“I was with a friend and his girlfriend whom I had not previously met. Out of nowhere he told his girlfriend: ‘It’s because of Daisybelladonna that we are together,’ which was

confusing because I had no part in their dating history. Then he continued: ‘Thanks to her I’m still alive today.’

“Now I was aware I supported him through a difficult time, but I learned that day he had been suicidal.”⁹⁰

91. “Parents Of Toddlers, What Was Today’s Meltdown-Worthy Tragedy?”

1) kooroco wrote, “He asked me to open the banana, but he didn’t get to open it himself.”

CinderRebel commented, “This is why I just slightly open it and then give it to them to finish the job. Took me many breakdowns to figure it out.”

2) Autumn_Tea95 wrote, “First: his dad left for work. Second: he dumped out the box of goldfish crackers. Third: I picked up the goldfish crackers. Fourth: it wasn’t the right episode of *Paw Patrol*. Fifth: I won’t let him eat shoes.”

3) lipsofamoose wrote, “Asked for fish cakes for dinner, didn’t want fish cakes for dinner.”

sojuandbbq commented, “More fish cakes for you.”

4) LanguageResident wrote, “I watched my three-year-old niece. Apparently not letting her eat cat treats is a violation of her civil rights.”

5) soundfeel wrote, “He was not allowed to open dishwasher while it was on. Fifteen minutes of non-stop screaming with tears.”

⁹⁰ Source: njsh20, “When was a time you didn’t realize the impact you had on someone until later?” Reddit. AskReddit. 10 June 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/v9g5by/when_was_a_time_you_didnt_realize_the_impact_you/>.

6) Ccaster0620 wrote, “He wants to put a box on my head, but the box is broken and keeps falling off. So apparently, it’s ruining his playtime.”

7) CJBG9491 wrote, “Had a meltdown because she wanted a bowl of Cheerios. Had a second meltdown because I brought her a bowl of Cheerios.”

8) turtchel wrote, “My husband kissed me, and apparently he is only allowed to show her affection. There was a lot of screaming and forcibly pulling us apart.”

J33P88 commented, “My toddle is like this but the reverse. He fully believes I am his woman.”

9) BronzeAgeTea wrote:

“She wasn’t on the couch with her bottle and teddy bear.

“But actually, she was, but things weren’t *right*.”

Munneh commented, “I mean to be fair how many of us are guilty of this? Or like when I get my food and blankies and become ensconced and then Netflix won’t play what I want or the remote is out of reach?”

10) peachandscream wrote, “I flushed his poop and can’t get it back and now he can’t poop again.”

Perfect_Orchid2984 commented, “I love this, but want to add to it. My kid is convinced the toilet can’t handle his poop. I’ve shown him how the toilet works, I’ve explained the entire sewage processing system to him several times, but he’s not going for it. I thought the answer would be to show him ‘dad’s poop going down,’ so I asked his dad to ‘save’ a poop to flush with him watching.

“Dad sent a text, I sent my kid up, and seconds later I hear traumatic crying. Kid came running downstairs crying about daddy’s ‘massive’ poop, (my kid loves the word massive,

but is good at using it in proper context), and I think we're a good three months before he'll even try pooping in the potty again."

11) Imveryunoriginal17 wrote, "I myself don't have a toddler, but my aunt has two and one of them had a breakdown today because I took a bar of soap from her as she was about to take a bite of it."

NewWorld84 commented:

"My niece tried that years ago. Took it off her. She grabbed it again. Took it off her. A couple of hours later she has it again, so we figure whatever. It won't kill her. Have a bite.

"She had regrets."⁹¹

92. "What Is The Nicest Thing Anyone's Ever Said To You?"

1) TheDood715 wrote, "A girl hugged me and said, 'Mmm, you feel like safety,' and I nearly cried."

2) Beautiful-Card7976 wrote, "Service people going out of their way to tell me: 'Your kids are two of the most polite, respectful, and helpful children I've ever run across in my daily job.'"

3) NOrmalStranger wrote, "Someone said they like my commenting style on Reddit, whatever that means. So yeah, that."

⁹¹ Source: NoLifeNoSoulNoMatter wrote, "Parents of toddlers, what was today's meltdown-worthy tragedy?" Reddit. AskReddit. 11 June 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/v9zabi/parents_of_toddlers_what_was_todays/>.

4) Patient_Software_387 wrote, “Well, to my mom, ‘You have a very beautiful daughter.’ I still remember it to this day. It was in a grocery store, and I was about 4 or 5 years old.”

5) Youpunyhumans wrote, “From a stranger, it was this little girl in line behind me with her mom while I was ordering food. I guess I must have said all my ‘please’ and ‘thank yous’ because the little girl whispered up to her mom, ‘That man is really polite,’ and the mom said, ‘Thank you for making a good impression on my daughter; it’s amazing to see polite people!’ It wasn’t just them being nice, though — it was a truly wholesome moment among complete strangers. Puts a smile on my face every time I think of it.”⁹²

93. “What Was Your ‘Worst They Can Say Is No’ Event That Ended Worse Than A ‘No’?”

1) CaShell wrote:

“In junior high, I asked out my first boy crush and he said, ‘I don’t date guys.’

“I’m a girl.”

Fabulous_Parking66 commented, “My 13-year-old self can relate. Never cut my hair again.”

2) SteliosPo wrote:

“Well, I don’t think it’s that bad. It’s more like a funny story I say from time to time.

⁹² Source: Smeggfaffa, “What is the nicest thing anyone’s ever said to you?” Reddit. AskReddit. 13 June 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/vb5k2l/what_is_the_nicest_thing_anyones_ever_said_to_you/ >.

“When I was 11, I liked a girl named Cathy from school, so one normal day (not a celebration or her birthday or something) I asked my father for money to buy her roses.

“I bought her 8 roses and brought them to her at school and just left them on her desk.

“When she and the whole class came into the room, she saw the roses.

“Everyone in the class was stunned. I felt kinda embarrassed but still. I was so nervous.

“She said, ‘Thank you, but no matter what you do, we will never be together.’

“And my dumb nervous ass replied something along the lines of, ‘Yeah, I know! Of course!’”

“I felt so nervous. I still remember the feeling, 15 years later.

“The teacher told me to stand up and told me that what I did was a really brave move, and I should be proud of myself. And told the rest of the class that what I did took courage and they all should be proud of me.

“Good teacher.”

3) josephwilliamson wrote, “Asked out this girl in middle school and she said, ‘I think I’m gonna throw up.’ Hurt like hell when I was little, but when we met up years later, I found out it was because she was nervous.”

Spankety-wank commented:

“Once a girl asked me to go to prom with her. I said, ‘I’d rather die,’ and went off to play footy or something.

“Came back to the form room 30 mins later or something and she’s sat there crying with all her friends, who are looking at me like I kill puppies.

“I meant, ‘I’d rather die than go to prom,’ not ‘I’d rather die than go with you.’ But I genuinely didn’t realise the mistake until way too late and I didn’t wanna bring it up again.

“I still think about writing to her and explaining (13 years later).”

football_sucks commented, “Do it. Worst that will happen is she won’t remember / care. Best is that it will mean a lot!”

4) capturednaturalbeau wrote, “Oh, this is a good one. I got a job offer after being out of work for months. I had questions about the usual, salary, time off, nothing major and not making demands, just asking ... if they had said no to all of them, I’d have taken the job anyway. Their response? ‘I’m sorry, but we are withdrawing the offer.’ WHAT? Who does this?”

5) Jrod1499 wrote, “Asked boss for a raise. Got fired.”

Loverbug13 commented, “That happened to my husband. too! They said he was greedy for asking for a raise and not accepting what his boss thought he needed.”⁹³

94. “What’s Something You’re 100% Sure Most People Are Lying About?”

FishTankLight wrote, “When you ask them, ‘How’s it going?’ and they say, ‘It’s going good.’”

Limp_Emergency7141 commented:

⁹³ Source: Bboyplayzty, “What was your ‘worst they can say is no’ event that ended worse than a ‘no’?” Reddit. AskReddit. 13 June 2022 <

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/vbkhdj/what_was_your_worst_they_can_say_is_no_event_that/ >.

“When I was having my 3rd baby: 10cm dilated, no meds, tears streaming down my face. Cursing relentlessly.

“Doc enters the room: ‘Hey, how’s it going?’

“Me: ‘Great! How are you?’”⁹⁴

95. “Your Date Is A 10 But Does One Thing You Don’t Like That Is Enough To Make You Lose Interest / Walk Away. What Would That Thing Be?”

1) SlightDebt4625 wrote, “Being on their phone the whole time.”

2) SuvenPan wrote, “If they repeatedly make fun of me in front of their friends and say they are just kidding.”

Supremey_Sauce commented, “Schrodinger’s douchebag: a guy who says offensive things and decides whether he was joking based on the reaction of people around him.”

3) Louabee1983 wrote, “If they clearly know they’re a 10 and believe everyone around them, including me, should be grateful they are gracing us with their physical perfection.”

readdeadtookmmywife commented, “I had a guy like this harass me because it just did nothing for me. I think it was his first time ever hearing no to a hookup. (We met in a swingers club so a ‘no’ can feel really personal there.) I had to get the police to go to his apartment and threaten a protection order.”

caarolathome commented, “In my opinion, in order to hit that 10 slot, a lot more than looks should be considered.

⁹⁴ Source: SleepingUnibozu wrote, “what’s something you’re 100% sure most people are lying about?” Reddit. AskReddit. 14 June 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/vc9ucc/whats_something_youre_100_sure_most_people_are/ >.

Empathy, intelligence, kindness. All those things and more add up to the 10 score.”

TezMono replied, “Oh, you silly mature adult.”

4) Sarasauris wrote:

“Once a man started singing to me on our first date after asking me if I like Disney then saying really intensely that ‘I know the woman I end up with will love Disney as much as I do.’

“Then he started singing ‘A Whole New World’ really loudly in the restaurant we were in, and everybody was staring and the waitress ran over and told him he needed to stop as he was disturbing other tables and his response? ‘These people are lucky they aren’t having to pay for a performance like this!’

“If I could’ve melted under the table, I would’ve. I actually put my mask back on just to be as unrecognizable as possible. I left before our food came and he actually tried to run after me and kiss me.

“I like Disney. I don’t like crazy people.”

propagandavid commented:

“I’m a bad singer and an OK guitar player, but everyone tells me I’m an amazing guitar player and a good singer. So I go out there and do some busking. And people pay me for my ok guitar and bad singing, and my friends and family keep encouraging me to do more of it because no one on Earth wants to be the one to tell me I kinda suck.

“That’s how people get like that. It’s way easier to wince and say, ‘Yeah, that was great,’ and smile with your mouth but not your eyes than it is to have a hard conversation and tell someone that they should stop doing the things they like doing.”

MrPlowThatsTheName wrote, “I’m sure this guy got some misplaced encouragement along the way. But I don’t care if you’re Adele, you don’t just pop off on a Disney song routine in a restaurant at dinner time. That’s a psychological disorder, not a miscalculation of one’s talent.”

5) OldHolly wrote:

“‘Reading is for morons.’

“This was the shortest date I have ever been on. Left her sitting at the table before we ordered. She probably wouldn’t have been able to read the menu anyways.”

Yousoggyyojimbo commented:

“I had a date tell me that she didn’t really want to date a guy who reads a lot, just somebody who looks like they might read a lot.

“Their profile said that they were looking for a guy who would spend time in a library. They did not like it when I took that to mean that books that we like would be an appropriate topic of conversation over coffee.”

sugarfoorr00 quoted John Waters: “If you go home with somebody, and they don’t have books, don’t fuck ’em!”

meco03211 responded, “Some poor soul with thousands of books on Kindle is going to be hurt.”

DeviousAardvark wrote:

“Me talking to my overflowing bookshelf in Caddyshack voice.

“Hey, everybody! We’re all gonna get laid!”

Note by David Bruce: “Bookself” is probably a typo for “bookshelf,” but “bookself” ought to be a word.⁹⁵

96. “What Can The Average American Do In Response To Roe V. Wade Being Overturned?”

Diet_Coke wrote:

“This is a little bit of a long one, but the story is important.

“In 2011 in Virginia, Republicans swept statewide elections. They had the governor, lieutenant governor, both houses of the legislature, and they had appointed the majority of justices on the state supreme court.

“They immediately began trying to ban abortion. House Bill 1 was a fetal personhood bill and there were about a dozen more ugly ones, too. These bills were expected to sail through with no real hurdles.

“A grassroots movement sprung up, a core group of people who had met and networked during the Occupy protests began planning protest actions. They were able to attract support from people who were not your typical protest crowds, and throughout the actions a lot of suburban, older women drove into Richmond to participate.

“Over several protests about 2 dozen people were arrested (and later acquitted), protests were confronted by riot police as well as ‘little green men’ hiding in the bushes with assault rifles. However, the protests largely remained peaceful.

⁹⁵ Source: catorc3, “Your date is a 10, but does one thing you don’t like that is enough to make you lose interest/walk away. What would that thing be?” Reddit. AskReddit. 24 June 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/vk1hlm/your_date_is_a_10_but_it_has_1_thing_you_dont/>.

“The state Democratic party and organizations like Planned Parenthood and NARAL were literally calling the organizers and begging them to stop antagonizing the Republicans, but the organizers remained steadfast.

“In the end, we won. Most of the bad bills were defeated, and Republicans proceeded to lose every statewide election for the next ten years. They ultimately lost both houses of the legislature as well, for the first time since the 90s. Bob Marshall, who authored HB1, was defeated by Virginia’s first openly transgender legislator, Danica Roem.

“So ultimately, here is what I would say to remember. The protests are important. What’s more important is the networks that form at them. When you attend, try to meet people. Have potlucks. Get to know each other. You will come to rely on each other more than you think.

“Voting is important, too, but only showing up to vote every 2 or 4 years and posting angry memes in between is not going to save us. Our institutions have repeatedly failed us despite more people voting in every election. We will be the ones to save ourselves.”⁹⁶

97. “What’s The Most Understanding Thing Someone Has Done For You?”

1) Busy-Claim6797 wrote:

“My parents divorced when I was 8, and I lived with my dad.

“He used to hit me a lot and abuse me.

⁹⁶ Source: johnnybeefcakes, “What can the average American do in response to Roe V. Wade being overturned?” Reddit. AskReddit. 25 June 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/vkdojh/what_can_the_average_american_do_in_response_to/ >.

“When I was 15, I asked my mom if I could live with her. I thought she would say no, but I had to ask because I was miserable.

“She didn’t ask any questions. She moved me in right away and drove an hour outta her way every morning and afternoon to get me to school. She never said anything bad about my dad to me and never forced me to explain.

“She probably saved my life. I was so much happier after that. She understood what I needed as her kid, even though it was hard. All parents should be like that.”

2) RedRose_812 wrote:

“I was a complete fucking wreck after getting unceremoniously dumped by my college boyfriend and first love, and I had to see him regularly the following semester because I worked in the same campus building he had a class in. It was total agony for me.

“I was close to my dad until he passed away and lamented to him about having to see my ex multiple times every week, but also tried to downplay how affected I was by it and kept insisting I was ‘fine’ because my dad was a worrier and I didn’t want him worrying about me.

“My dad called or texted me almost every day that I had to see my ex, claiming ‘he just wanted to see how I was doing’ or about some other subject. He knew I wasn’t ‘fine.’ Everyone else I knew kept telling me I should just move on because my ex did and tried to pressure me into dating again, but he checked on me in his own, gentle way without being pressuring or intrusive. I didn’t fully appreciate it at the time, but I treasure that he did that for me. I miss him.”

3) EC-Texas wrote:

“Spouse died in January of this year. A friend kept asking if there was anything that she could help me with. Finally, I said yes. She came over and together we took every piece of clothing out of spouse’s closet and bagged it up. Shoes and socks, shirts and pants, ties and belts, t-shirts and hangers. Another friend took those bags to a donation box. Twelve bags in all.

“It wasn’t so much that I didn’t want to look at all the clothes, as I wanted to tell someone the stories one more time. Then off they went with no looking back.”

4) Compostgoblin wrote:

“I had a car crash of a breakup. My ex would shit on me for every little thing I said or for how I reacted to things and tell people what I did in our relationship. However, she’d made me promise to never tell people anything personal about her and had scared me into keeping that promise so I was too scared to talk shit about her back.

“Without having to explain this, my close friend Andrew had my back 100%. He’d clocked that it’s not like me to not defend myself, that my ex had done a 180°, and he thought my actions after the breakup were pretty logical. (I would do stuff like avoid my ex and she’d blow up about it.) I never had to explain that I was scared or hint at anything that had happened; he just understood and supported me. It tore my close friend group in half, with 1 friend siding with my ex, Andrew siding with me and the other 2 staying out of it, but Andrew was willing to do that and I owe him big time for it.

“Quick edit: I’m also autistic and find knowing when to break promises very difficult, which added to the ‘I’m not saying anything about me ex.’”

5) insertcaffeine wrote:

“My twin brother stuffed the freezer with burritos when my son was first born. He knew we’d be wrecked from 24/7 baby care those first few weeks, and he made us healthy meals that all we had to do was microwave.

“I still get teary eyed when I think of that, and it’s been 15 years.”

6) inviolablegirl wrote:

“My dad cleaned up all my puke 3 weeks ago when I had gastric flu. I’m an adult and can do it myself but he didn’t let me lift a finger. Even though I threw up 4 times on the floor (and one of these times was on the carpet, too), he didn’t grumble even once.

“Another one: My ex used to read me stories. It was the sweetest thing ever. I’d mentioned once that I missed being read a story before sleep and they started doing that for me.”⁹⁷

98. “What Would Be The Best Comeback After A Girl Tells You That You Have A Small Dick?”

Ok_Ad_9188 wrote, “A neighbor couple got into a screaming fight once, just yelling things at each other, when the woman inevitably played the little dick card, when this king, without missing a beat, screamed back, ‘Well, shit, I’m so sorry I couldn’t contribute more than five and a half inches of the literal miles of dick that have gone through you.’ I hope he’s doing all right.”

⁹⁷ Source: Raining_Hope, “what’s the most understanding thing someone has done for you?” Reddit. AskReddit. 25 June 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskWomen/comments/vk11gq/whats_the_most_understanding_thing_someone_has/>.

YeetMeIntoKSpace commented, “This reminds me of a story a female Marine told me about getting marched down a road in boot camp and passing by a male trainee formation. Her DI [Drill Instructor] said something like, ‘Take a good, long look, ladies. There’s dozens of miles of dick on this island, and not a single inch for you.’”

echosixwhiskey commented, “Reminds me of when I was at PI [Parris Island, site of Marine Corp recruit training], and we were running by a female platoon. It had been close to the end, so almost 3 months surrounded by young men and screaming DIs 12 hours a day. The youngest DI says juuuuuust loud enough for us to hear, ‘Y’all smell that?’ We responded with a resounding ‘Yes Sir!’ half laughing because they had started to become more lenient by that point. He says, ‘You ain’t never gonna get that anyways, so keep dreaming, dumbasses.’ Almost 35 years later and Boot Camp was the most stressful and funniest shit I ever did.”

2) TheChainLink2 wrote, “I don’t think you’re in the position to be picky.”⁹⁸

99. “You Are Eager To Have Sex With This Person, But When You Walk Into Their Bedroom, You See Something That Completely Ruins The Mood. What Is It?”

redder83 wrote, “Somewhere on Reddit, there is a post about a girl who walked past a half-open door on the way to a guy’s bedroom and saw a bunch of girls’ panties with names on them posted to a wall like trophies. She made the right choice

⁹⁸ Source: Donskieee, “What would be the best comeback after a girl tells you that you have a small dick?” Reddit. AskReddit. 28 June 2022 <
https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/vmki2f/what_would_be_the_best_comeback_after_a_girl/>.

and said she had to use the bathroom and climbed out the window. Instant nope.”⁹⁹

100. “Men Of Reddit, How Do You Make The First Move?”

1) Diabetesh wrote, “First I glance at her, then I catch her glancing at me, then I imagine what I would say if she said something to me, I then leave whatever store it is while continuing to have an imaginary life with said person. I go home.”

2) BCProgramming wrote:

“I give her a look and flutter my eyelids in a way that says, ‘Do you want to buy my old laptop? It still works, but I don’t have the original power adapter.’ And then she adjusts herself in her seat that replies, ‘Is it a MacBook?’ And I shift my arm as if to say, ‘No, it’s a Thinkpad T420s; it’s about a decade old but still quite competent.’ Then she gazes out the window as a way of saying ‘No, thank you.’

“Rejected again.”

3) RowDependent9920 wrote, “Bring up facts about pterodactyls; normally that will do the trick.”

wolkninja_ asked, “You got any good ones I can use?”

replied, “Are you hitting on me? I’m in a relationship and am very happy. My pterodactyl lines are not for you. Have a good day, sir.”

⁹⁹ Source: canadaguy9, “You are eager to have sex with this person but when you walk into their bedroom you see something that completely ruins the mood. What is it?” Reddit. AskReddit. 1 July 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/vp5jva/you_are_eager_to_have_sex_with_this_person_but/ >.

CalmAnts advised, “Or try a few brontosaurus facts and then tell her you’ve never met anyone like herbivore.”

Dedoich responded, “Oh my god, this would work so hard on me.”

bman1212 commented, “Fun fact: You can’t hear pterodactyls urinate because the P is silent.”

4) Zu-Al-Khidr wrote this comment about a post that said, “No idea”: “Yep, I know for a fact that in every other universe I’m a virgin, Just lucked out in this one.”¹⁰⁰

¹⁰⁰ Source: wolfninja_, “Men of Reddit, how do you make the first move?” Reddit. AskReddit. 2 July 2022 < https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/vq6pme/men_of_reddit_how_do_you_make_the_first_move/ >.

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I assume these things:

Everyone wants Good Samaritans to get credit for their good deeds, and this book about Good Samaritans is a good way to do that.

People who post on Imgur and Reddit or write letters to the editors want to share their information with the world.

Credit must be given where credit is due. I definitely try to do this.

I must not make money from this book.

Light editing is OK for such things as Imgur posts, Reddit posts, and letters to the editor. I see nothing wrong with correcting an obvious misspelling.

APPENDIX B: ABOUT THE AUTHOR

It was a dark and stormy night. Suddenly a cry rang out, and on a hot summer night in 1954, Josephine, wife of Carl Bruce, gave birth to a boy — me. Unfortunately, this young married couple allowed Reuben Saturday, Josephine’s brother, to name their first-born. Reuben, aka “The Joker,” decided that Bruce was a nice name, so he decided to name me Bruce Bruce. I have gone by my middle name — David — ever since.

Being named Bruce David Bruce hasn’t been all bad. Bank tellers remember me very quickly, so I don’t often have to show an ID. It can be fun in charades, also. When I was a counselor as a teenager at Camp Echoing Hills in Warsaw, Ohio, a fellow counselor gave the signs for “sounds like” and “two words,” then she pointed to a bruise on her leg twice. Bruise Bruise? Oh yeah, Bruce Bruce is the answer!

Uncle Reuben, by the way, gave me a haircut when I was in kindergarten. He cut my hair short and shaved a small bald spot on the back of my head. My mother wouldn’t let me go to school until the bald spot grew out again.

Of all my brothers and sisters (six in all), I am the only transplant to Athens, Ohio. I was born in Newark, Ohio, and have lived all around Southeastern Ohio. However, I moved to Athens to go to Ohio University and have never left.

At Ohio U, I never could make up my mind whether to major in English or Philosophy, so I got a bachelor’s degree with a double major in both areas, then I added a Master of Arts degree in English and a Master of Arts degree in Philosophy. Yes, I have my MAMA degree.

Currently, and for a long time to come (I eat fruits and veggies), I am spending my retirement writing books such as *Nadia Comaneci: Perfect 10*, *The Funniest People in Comedy*, *Homer’s Iliad: A Retelling in Prose*, and *William Shakespeare’s Hamlet: A Retelling in Prose*.

By the way, my sister Brenda Kennedy writes romances such as *A New Beginning* and *Shattered Dreams*.

APPENDIX C: SOME BOOKS BY DAVID BRUCE (Lots of FREE PDFs)

RETELLINGS OF A CLASSIC WORK OF LITERATURE

Do you know a language other than English? If you do, I give you permission to translate any or all of my retellings, copyright your translation, publish or self-publish it, and keep all the royalties for yourself. (Do give me credit, of course, for the original retelling.)

I would like to see my retellings of classic literature used in schools, so I give permission to the country of Finland (and all other countries) to give copies of this book to all students forever. I also give permission to the state of Texas (and all other states) to give copies of this book to all students forever. I also give permission to all teachers to give copies of this book to all students forever.

Teachers need not actually teach my retellings. Teachers are welcome to give students copies of my eBooks as background material. For example, if they are teaching Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, teachers are welcome to give students copies of my *Virgil's Aeneid: A Retelling in Prose* and tell students, "Here's another ancient epic you may want to read in your spare time."

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Ben Jonson's *The Alchemist: A Retelling*

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Ben Jonson's *The Arraignment, or Poetaster: A Retelling*

<https://www.smashwords.com/books/view/1144681>

<https://anecdotesandmusic.wordpress.com/2022/05/02/david-bruce-ben-jonsons-the-arraignment-or-poetaster-a-retelling-free-pdf/>

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Ben Jonson's Bartholomew Fair: A Retelling

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Ben Jonson's The Case is Altered: A Retelling

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Ben Jonson's The Devil is an Ass: A Retelling

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Ben Jonson's Epicene: A Retelling

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Ben Jonson's Every Man Out of His Humor: A Retelling

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Ben Jonson's The Fountain of Self-Love, or Cynthia's Revels: A Retelling

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Ben Jonson's The Magnetic Lady: A Retelling

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Ben Jonson's Sejanus' Fall: A Retelling

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Ben Jonson's Volpone, or the Fox: A Retelling

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Christopher Marlowe's Edward II: A Retelling

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Christopher Marlowe's The Massacre at Paris: A Retelling

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Christopher Marlowe's The Rich Jew of Malta: A Retelling

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Dante's Divine Comedy: A Retelling in Prose

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Dante's Inferno: A Retelling in Prose

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Dante's Purgatory: A Retelling in Prose

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