

Why your boyfriend will dump you... and when!

By Dick Hedd, SweetBread Misogyny Editor

Don't get me wrong, I love the ladies. As a matter of fact, I've loved most of them. I love the ladies but I know the guys, and I know that the ladies don't understand the guys as well as they think they do.

The simple truth is that men are predictable when it comes to their behavior toward the opposite sex. There are clear-as-a-[boxing ring's]bell signals that your man is planning to run off with a new fan. In order to fully follow what I'm saying, first you need to understand why the life span of your relationship may be shorter than that skirt he adores. Once you know the reasons, you may be able to pick up some of the warning signs.

Without nothin' else to say first, here's a list compiled after years of painstaking (and occasionally painful, but don't think I didn't enjoy every second) research.

Why Your Boyfriend Will Dump You.

1. Because TV is easier, and usually more interesting.

It's not your fault. You only have so much to say, and television...with all of those cable channels to choose from, there's always something different on. Plus, a TV won't get offended when you're not paying attention to it. It's a more casual, less interactive atmosphere (incidentally, this is also why the internet will never completely eliminate the demand for TV; less interactivity means lower expectations and less of a commitment).

How you can tell this might be a problem:

checks his watch every time you open your mouth. Passes up a night out on the



Guys like him are a dime a dozen.

town with you because the bathtub needs to be re-caulked, and when pressed, admits to having no idea what "caulk" is. When given the option of sitting next to you on a long airplane ride, he always insists on sitting alone, even if he ends up sitting next to a small child. Whenever

continued next page

you talk about your day, he screams.

2. Because there's always someone better looking

There's no getting around this one—no matter how great looking you are, there's always someone prettier, usually right around the corner. If your relationship is built on little more than physical attraction, you might want to keep your eyes on who *he's* keeping *his* eyes on.

How You Can Tell: starts alluding to having “another family” and spends every other weekend at his “other family’s house.” He insists on listing four kids as dependents on his tax returns when, to the best of your knowledge, he only has the two kids you gave birth to. He has recently started listening to country music, and always sings along to the parts about “cheating hearts.”

3. Because his *Details* horoscope for this month predicts trouble in paradise.

It's a fact that guys are superstitious, and any little shift in the wind may be interpreted by your man as a sign that it's time for a change.

Time to worry when: he bases all of his major life decisions on how his stocks are doing. He never steps on a crack in the sidewalk and when you do he laughs and says, “you’ll pay for that one later.” As a pickup line when you met, he asked, “what’s your sign?” His imaginary friend Barry doesn’t like you.

4. Because you're constantly talking about your weight.

It's not that we don't care (trust us, we do), but we don't need to hear about it. If you want to worry about it, worry about it, but don't burden us with your unfounded concerns. Hearing women talk about their weight is almost as disturbing as hearing women talk about their period. Your weight isn't something we think about very often, unless a) it's a serious problem, or b) you bring it up. So try not to bring it up. The last thing we wanna do in the mid-

dle of dinner is argue about whether or not lite dressing has less fat than carbonated water.

Is it on his mind?: He threw out your scale so he would no longer have to hear hourly updates of your weight. You carry a full-size mirror everywhere you go, and often ask strangers to guess your weight. You're convinced that Diet Coke tastes better than regular Coke.

5. Because you're fat.

What do fat girls and Mopeds have in common? They're both fun to ride until your friends see you on one.

That joke is in bad taste, sure, but there are a lot of guys that feel that way. And as long as men are concerned with it, you should be too. If you don't like the message, don't blame me—at least I'm being honest about it.

Warning signs: other people are talking about your weight. A team of scientists show up at your door asking to study the rings on Uranus, and they're not kidding. No one would ever tell you a “your mother is so fat...” joke, because your mother is less than half your weight.

6. Because he's not good enough for you.

Just kidding. Had you there, didn't I? But seriously, if he is insecure about how he stacks up, he may try to take it out on you. His fears of inadequacy might lead to uncomfortable feelings about the relationship. It's not likely, but I suppose it *could* happen.

How You Can Tell: your career as a supermodel is occasionally distracted by his lifelong desire to earn a living through ramen noodles.

7. Because you don't “get” sports.

It sounds dumb, but... that's because it is dumb. For some unexplainable reason, men like to watch sports on TV. Any sport, even golf, if that's all that's on. I'm a sports fan myself, but most of the time I don't quite get what the attraction is. It must be instinctual. Girls like to *play* sports as much as guys, but the gene for sitting through a three hour bowling tour-

nament on a Sunday afternoon seems to be inherently male, and possibly linked to the genetic defect that convinces some men that burping, if well-timed, is funny. Girls, the bad news is that you have to live with the good and the bad about your man—and if that means attempting to understand the appeal of televised fly fishing, at least pretend to give it a chance.

Could be a problem: if the only time that he doesn't speak in Baseball metaphors is when he's talking about baseball. He won't marry you because your father is a diehard Bruins fan. Sometimes during sex he shouts out Michael Jordan's name. He once shared a cell with Mike Tyson.

8. Because you overanalyze everything.

Nothing will drive a man crazy faster than an over-analytical woman, especially if she expects her guy to acknowledge her theories as fact. As someone else (Groucho Marx?) once said, “sometimes a cigar is just a cigar.”

How You Can Tell: he takes you to see *Titanic* and you think that he's trying to tell you that your relationship is a sinking ship. You can tell his mood by the toppings on his pizza. You've read this far into the article, applied each item to your life, and expect any of this to be accurate.

9. Because, when it comes down to it, all men are assholes.

Lying, cheating, and criminal acts are to be expected. Don't be surprised about any wild rumor that you hear. The more willing you are to believe the worst, the less surprised you'll be.

How You Can Tell: he leaves to check if his photo is still hanging in the post office, and you don't expect him to be back by dinner time.

