

# Arts & Entertainment

## Bad news boyfriend is friend's choice: Be ready to pick up the pieces

Dear Pasha,  
I have a friend who my other friends and I think is crazy. She is pursuing a man with whom she was in a relationship but it broke up. While they were together, he treated her badly, I mean, really bad. Why would she want to get back with him? And what can I say to her to convince her that even though she thinks she loves this guy, she deserves better and to move on? I don't care how much I loved a guy, if he treated me like this guy treated my friend, I would be so gone. Love isn't supposed to hurt but how do I convince her? Terry, Blue Mountain Beach

Dear Terry,  
Love isn't supposed to hurt, but somehow it always seems to. Too many women are gluttons for punishment! You can't choose who your friend dates. You can only control the men in your own life. However, that does not mean you don't have an opinion.

Let your friend know that you think this guy is a jerk and not worthy. Remind her of the last time they were together. Who knows why some women continuously go back to men who treat them badly! Maybe it is because women are attracted to the "bad boy." Or maybe your friend thinks this man will be different this time.

Ask her why she got back together with Mr. Wrong and make sure to let her know "love," is not enough. Why does she love him?

Most importantly, be there for your friend. When it ends, she will need a friend to make for her tea and dry her tears.

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Dear Pasha  
There is a woman at work who treats me really mean. What should I do when she starts picking on me and saying bad things about me to everyone? I don't want to start a screaming match in front of my boss but this has gone on long enough. I really like my job and I don't want to quit. Why can't she just get along with me? Debbie, Destin

Dear Debbie  
It is frustrating when you have a coworker that is volatile, but there is the right way and the wrong

way to disarm her. If you feel comfortable enough, I suggest you confront your coworker in a professional manner. Ask her to go for coffee or for a walk so you can talk outside the office.

Ask her why she is being hostile. It might be something you don't even know about or an attitude your coworker doesn't even realize she has.

Worst case scenario, she will tell you she doesn't care to be your friend, which is acceptable. She still should conduct herself in a professional manner at work, which does not include degrading her coworkers.

If you aren't comfort-

### You Think?



By Pasha Carroll

able doing that or the walk doesn't go so well, speak to your boss or the director of human resources about the problem. They can explain what appropriate office behavior is to your nasty coworker.

Dear Pasha,  
My two sisters and mother had a huge fight and now they are not

speaking. I am the only one any of them will talk to. How do I get them to reconcile? Colleen, Seaside

Dear Colleen, It is hard to get stuck in the middle. But the best thing you can do is to stay out of it and continue the individual relationships you have with your sisters and mother.

If either of your sisters or your mother asks your opinion, encourage them to mend the rift and put the fight behind them. You aren't going to convince either one that the other was right. Hopefully the smoke will blow over and they will make up.

Some family fights last

weeks, others last years. It usually doesn't take long for sisters and mothers to realize how much they miss each other. Time will dull the pain of the actual interaction, and then they can forgive one another.

In the mean time, if they talk bad about each other to you, tell them to leave you out of their fight. If either one of them wants to reach out or vent about the situation, you need to seriously consider whether you want to be the one taking on that responsibility.

Pasha Carroll offers advice the first Saturday of each month. Send your questions to her at pashacarroll@gmail.com.



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