

ASK COLLEGE GIRL

No question's too heavy—or too *naughty*—for College Girl!
By Jess Beaton, 20

feeling friendly

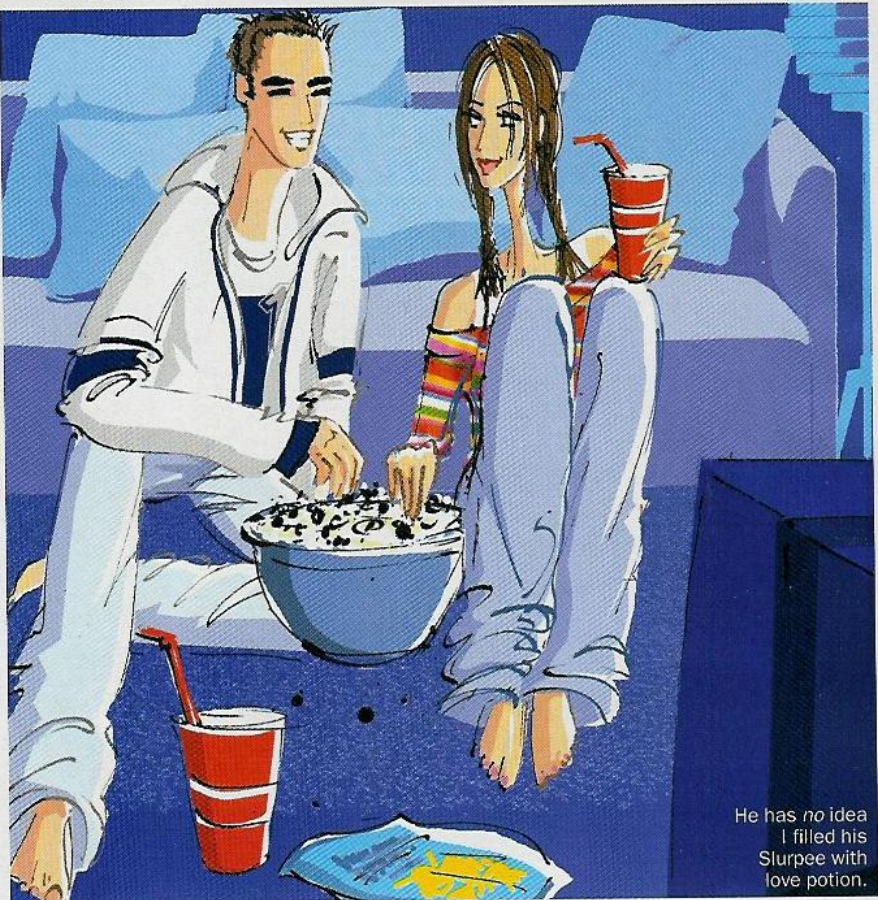
Q “I recently made out with one of my guy friends. It was great and we really connected after that. The problem is, he has a girlfriend. They’ve been dating for a few years but have been playing each other the whole time. We both like each other, but I don’t know how to act around him. What should I do?”

—Courtney, 16, Phoenix, AZ

A We’ve all been in that situation of hooking up with a friend who you connect with so well that you feel like you should be *more* than just friends. And I know from experience that good friends can make good boyfriends. But don’t settle for sharing him; I missed that day in kindergarten, so I don’t share well—especially when it comes to guys. You need to ask yourself what you really want. If you want to date your friend, you’ll have to tell him “Her or me.” If he chooses her, your friendship doesn’t stand much of a chance, no matter how mature you both are. And if he chooses you, you’ll always wonder if he’ll cheat on you like he did with his other girlfriend. (For the record, while it’s not your job to keep a guy from

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cheating on his girlfriend, you don’t have to be an accomplice either.) If you decide dating isn’t worth risking your friendship, you’re still facing a long conversation and a lot of work to get a platonic friendship back on track. These decisions are not fun, but it’s better than wondering, What if? As for my two cents, why do you want to be with a guy who regularly cheats on his girlfriend, anyway? You deserve a good relationship; don’t settle for being a booty call.



He has no idea I filled his Slurpee with love potion.

guilty pleasure

Q “My boyfriend and I just started having sex a few months ago, and even though I know he cares about me, I feel frustrated and used for days after, each time. What’s wrong with me?”

—Martha, 17, Folsom, PA

A There’s nothing wrong with you. But I’m guessing that you probably feel guilty about having sex. Maybe someone you respect (like a parent or friend) wouldn’t approve of how you’re spending your free time? Only you would know the answer to that. Now, I believe wholeheartedly that sex is supposed to be fun, safe, and enjoyable—and if you’re feeling guilty, you’re probably not enjoying it. Or perhaps the reality of sex isn’t what you expected it to be. A lot of girls have a

mental picture that sex is this romantic experience with background music and great lighting. Sometimes it is (though getting the lighting right is a whole other article), but often, especially in the beginning, it’s not. You might say, “My boyfriend cares about me, but in bed he seems to care only about his, um, needs.” Your frustration could be a reaction to seeing him in the heat of the moment.

No matter *why* you feel used though, if something bothers you, stop doing it and talk to your boyfriend. Just saying “no more sex” is not going to get the best reaction. Instead, spell out your feelings; often guys don’t know what’s going on on the other side of the condom unless specifically told. This means saying that you need more talking, eye contact, kissing, *whatever*, to connect more in bed. The point is, you have to feel respected and comfortable, and that will take work—from both of you. **B**



Jess Beaton, a junior at The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, writes a weekly sex column for the campus newspaper, The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.

COSMOGIRL.COM/SHOUTOUT “Rest in peace, Kevin. We all miss you tons! Love ya!” —Catherine, 16, Frankfort, IL