hate is the new love or why we should all stop the slander of St. Valentine's Day

by cupid Valentine

I'll put it right out there: this writer is darn tired of everyone bitching about Valentine's Day.

Listen people. V-Day is just fine. If I have to hear another guy complain about it being a consumerist holiday I might break a box of Russel Stover chocolate over his head. What holiday isn't a consumerist holiday -- this is America, right? Really, there's only one problem with Valentine's Day, and that is people's tendency to have the overblown (and often entirely bullshit) expectations about the holiday.

The prevailing wisdom seems to be that any Valentine's experience will be disappointing if it's not filled, from morning 'til night, with romantic surprises around every corner, unparalleled orgasmic pleasure, and a marathon of paycheck-spending on dinner and frivolities. In all likelihood, though, none of that's going to happen -- at least not to the degree people expect.

Rather, it's likely to be a pretty average day. Sure, maybe you'll enjoy a nice meal with your significant other, offer an overpriced bouquet of flowers or box of chocolates to the person of your fancy, or pay a little more attention to the fact that you're alone and getting yourself off yet again. But the fact remains that classes probably won't be cancelled, Pam will continue to vend egg sandwiches from her big yellow truck, and that antagonistic dick in your Poli Sci class will most likely still be an antagonistic (and Valentine-less) dick. You'll probably even have some homework to get done.

In fact, I can almost guarantee that you will spend significantly more of your time on Valentine's Day dealing with these mundane, everyday banalities than you do careening down the tunnel of love. The sooner you accept that, the sooner you'll be way happier.

Once you come to terms with the reality of Valentine's Day, it can actually be pretty fun. Don't believe me? Here's some ways to make sure the holiday is a celebration and not a daylong chain of disappointments.

First of all, everyone across town, whether single or practically engaged (or actually engaged... eww...), is significantly more likely to get laid on Valentine's Day than on any other day in this cold month of February. What could possibly be wrong with that? And if you're lucky enough to already get laid on the reg, your partner will probably have something special up his or her sleeve when it comes to bedtime (anywhere-in-the-house time).

Second, and importantly, you can play pranks on friends and frenemies alike who harbor unreasonable V-Day expectations. Writing fictitious and well-crafted love letters, secret admirer notes, and suggestive gifts can provide you with small amounts of amusement at the expense of silly people who have silly ideas about what Valentine's Day ought to be like. Sending an inexpensive but highly sexualized gift from a fake person to an overzealous or Valentine-crazed friend, for example, is likely to result in an amusing reaction, at little cost to you. Whoever said this holiday had to be 100 percent serious was a loser.

Third: V-Day provides a legit reason to get wine-drunk on a Monday. Even if (perhaps especially if) you're alone, red wine is de rigeur on this holiday. Live it up, but make sure you drink some water. Those wine hangovers are meaner on Tuesday than they are on the weekend. That's science.

Fourth: If you absolutely must, you can be smug and protest corporate culture, either by yourself or with your significant other. Proudly pat yourself on the back for rejecting the notion of a Hallmark holiday, and actually be glad that no one bought you chocolate and a teddy bear. Just don't let me, or any other poor sap, hear you lecturing sanctimoniously about your victory. Keep your satisfaction to yourself. Everyone else is too busy being satisfied in other, better, ways, to care.

Fifth: Food. It might be said that it's the thought that counts when it comes to dates and gifts, but honestly, whether it's a thoughtfully-planned three-course feast prepared by your lover at home, or a trip to a restaurant that's way above the normal student price range, on Valentine's Day you get to eat great food. If you enjoying smoking le pot and you're lucky enough to have a significant other that shares your love for the herb, this might actually be the best day of the year.

Finally, for the truly complacent, Valentine's Day can simply provide an excuse to spend a little extra time with someone special. Isn't that really what this holiday is about?
**The news in brief**

*with paigebear*

**That sounds a little gay with jamieski**

“A symphony can move a man to tears through its complexity, while a hopping reggae song can move anyone.”

— Paul Theroux

**bumping a smoke in bhutan and why it’s a felony**

“Deprive any habitual tobacco user of a cigarette with his morning coffee and you’ll see a much steeper decline in the Gross Personal Happiness anybody within earshot of the poor bastard”

— From The Redstone Express

**“I just like the word mothership.”**

— Alex Pinto

**Editor's note:** Throughout this issue we have chosen to use the gender-neutral word “they” when referring to an individual whose gender is unspecified or of which the identification of gender is not known. This is to be used in an effort to eliminate the use of gender-specific pronouns. Please return this to its rightful spot in your paper.

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Tears are no greater abomination than the diva cup. Remind them when they need to say, “Oh, I’ve been a diva for a moment, you’re no longer a virgin!” Well, using a diva cup doesn’t come with the same deal. Reweave the intimidating advertisements you may have seen on the sashay on your Facebook. Ignore Katie Holmes’ recent radio campaign for the product. And do not be tempted by Hanky’s product placement this season. Diva cups are the bogeyman of feminine hygiene. They are not sanitary. They are only semi-durable. They are no more comfortable than a tampon, even if you’re on your period. Sometimes a tampon is all you need. But that’s the exception, not the rule. Diva cups are the first line of defense in your reproductive health. If they fail, things get much worse.

3. Pussies Ereyo for Anti-Feminism—Having a 4.5 centimeter vessel hooked up in your body is a brave act. Despite what you might think, you really want it. And if you have pierced nipples, well, it’s not in the least bit odd. So, if you have a Diva Cup, you mustn’t ever use one of these women’s products.

4. 2. Diva Cups are Anti-Face—Fix it: the only reason we girls get a plum is because we hate our lives, mostly because we are bleeding as we blood monthly. In the bathroom, we want to look like regular girls; we want to take a shower and feel like we have normal, healthy breasts, instead of having a Diva Cup in our vaginas.

5. You don’t have to have an artificial vagina. So try it. If you refuse to use those good ol’ tampons, you might as well not menstruate at all. If you don’t get it, that brilliant dais will go out of business. It will actually elevate the economy, believe it or not. And if every woman stopped menstruating, the only consumer left would be Richard Geoghegan.

The Davis Center. Let’s just say that, while you’re mildly satisfied with the quietest corner of the library (preferably on the 2nd or 3rd floor), but do close enough to the piles of students not on premix (you can usually tell by their intense and compelling looks), you are not the best place to get into the spirit of things. The pastes to the retail and the taste is the farthest thing from your mind. Besides, we have never seen you do anything heroic. You just show up to all the pows and freeze at gazing. Saying, “No, I’m in the library, I can definitely talk upon your phone soon.” We also don’t know if you really go there to study. The girls there are your enemies, and the 3rd floor is the quietest corner of the library (preferably on the 2nd or 3rd floor), but do close enough to the piles of students not on premix (you can usually tell by their intense and compelling looks). We have never seen you do anything heroic. You just show up to all the pows and freeze at gazing. Saying, “No, I’m in the library, I can definitely talk upon your phone soon.” We also don’t know if you really go there to study. That is why this is the quietest corner of the library (preferably on the 2nd or 3rd floor), but do close enough to the piles of students not on premix (you can usually tell by their intense and compelling looks).

1. The Library. The Library is probably the best place for you to begin your training as a public nuisance. No, not the library where you put your book in the same spot every day. No, let’s not talk about that. Library is where you put your book in the same spot every day. No, let’s not talk about that.

2. The Davis Center. Thousands of pouces pass through the atrium of our beloved library, which makes it a great spot for being a public nuisance. One of the best ways to graduate to an intermezzo level public nuisance is to strategize prudently positioned yourself in the middle of the atrium and the stairs. While people are hurrying towards walking you don’t back down because that’s what a considerate person would do in consideration of public nuisances. When you are going to be effective, pretend you’re searching for a song on your DVD, or stand there having a conversation with your friend, children of the surrounding chaos you are creating. There’s one rule to remember for the intermediate public nuisance-maker: more participation means more publicity.

4. In Class Participation. To reach the highest level—expert—of being a complete disgrace for your classmates. Because of personal budget cuts at Muhlenberg, we have a complete disregard for your classmate. We are not going to discuss the implications of cuts to any meal). If you don’t get to class, you will not be considered. You will be considered an intermezzo level public nuisance at best.

5. Blockpuck. Going on the theme of more to do better, more students answering your phone soon you double your extra credit.

6. Villages. You don’t even need to worry about your new friends. They will know from the sound of your phone vibrating on the desk. Now, when you get a text from a girl (you can usually tell this by their intense and compelling looks), you are most comfortable with—your roommate. Because of perpetual budget cuts at Muhlenberg, we have a complete disregard for your classmate. We are not going to discuss the implications of cuts to any meal! If you don’t get to class, you will not be considered. You will be considered an intermezzo level public nuisance at best.

7. The Library. The Library is probably the best place for you to begin your training as a public nuisance. No, not the library where you put your book in the same spot every day. No, let’s not talk about that. Library is where you put your book in the same spot every day. No, let’s not talk about that.
i love your new hawk
you've got three names (on facebook)
find a valentine as amazing as you.
friend and everything in between. I hope everyone can
in days to come. You are my pillow every night, my best
you are mine. I also promise that I will want you so bad
I am
I cooked you breakfast one day.
I gave you a massage one time.
When
Maybe you can light me up too, come find me?
Holy hell, you lit up club 590
Our brief introduction was far too blunt
I am:
Most people would think that was kind of lame
At Redstone Market, you were looking fine.
I am:
I saw
I saw
I saw
Where
Let's meet and lick each other like a spoon.
So let's not waste time; I'm transferring soon.
Like that anymore---is this too cliche?
Because I know you know I feel the same.
"Y our pwincess"
"Your princess"
"My handsome man"
"Sometimes"
"Girl 1":: all over uvm.edu/
"Girl 2":: court/bedroom
"Girl 2":: Trinity
"Girl 1":: Solid Works
"Girl 2":: "Yeah, she was my favorite of all the girls."
"Girl 2":: "Yeah, she did it to me, I didn't like it, she was too aggressive or anything"

Last week at GBF: Aaron received a slew of kisses from a mysterious girl who then suddenly ran away.

"No, so a huge party came in and refused to sit by the porch, so I had to drag Amy and it totally messed up the rotation, and when they left, Amy came up to me and said, 'You're the only one that has to do this.'"

"Amy. Amy is really dramatic. It's not like you can control how many people come in at a time. And if they ask for certain seating, it's not like you can say, 'Oh, no, sorry, you can't sit here.'"

"I milked you for my own personal gain."

"They seemed nice, but zombies always did when they weren't having an outbreak."

"That's the leather of my abused Topsiders and my feet were beginning to get damp despite the wicking power of my Patagonia socks."

"This narrative is based on true events, and is an amalgamation of events over a span of several nights. Any resemblance to real people or places is not coincidental, and if it sounds like you, it probably is."

"Yes, you're my youngest daughter..."
Let's face it: a lot of people hate Valentine's Day, but a lot of people wouldn't hate Valentine's Day if they were guaranteed a hook up! V-Day could be a great opportunity for you to take things to the next level with that someone you've been eyeing for a while. Consider the best-fitting social stereotype of the guy or gal you hope to seduce and consult the table below. You'll be sure to have a Valentine's Day that you won't soon forget.

### Mood Music

#### Mainstream Music

- **Popular**
  - *Vocal: 1990s-style pop*
  - *Instrumental: Dance music*

- **Rock**
  - *Vocal: Indiefolk*
  - *Instrumental: Indie rock*

- **Hip Hop**
  - *Vocal: Gangsta rap*
  - *Instrumental: DJ mixes*

#### Indie Music

- **Indie Folk**
  - *Vocal: Sing-along*
  - *Instrumental: Acoustic guitar*

- **Indie Rock**
  - *Vocal: Emotional*
  - *Instrumental: Electric guitar*

### Mood Music 101: How to get some Valentine's loving!

- **Mainstream Music**
  - Look for something upbeat and poppy.
  - Think of songs that are popular and have a catchy beat.

- **Indie Music**
  - Look for songs that are different and have a unique sound.
  - Think of songs that are alternative and have a different feel.

### Mood Music Ideas

- **Mainstream Music**
  - *Vocal: Pop love songs*
  - *Instrumental: Love ballads*

- **Indie Music**
  - *Vocal: Indie ballads*
  - *Instrumental: Ambient music*

### Mood Music 102: How to get some Valentine's loving again!

- **Mainstream Music**
  - Look for something that is upbeat and poppy.
  - Think of songs that are popular and have a catchy beat.

- **Indie Music**
  - Look for songs that are different and have a unique sound.
  - Think of songs that are alternative and have a different feel.

### Mood Music Tips

- **Mainstream Music**
  - Look for something upbeat and poppy.
  - Think of songs that are popular and have a catchy beat.

- **Indie Music**
  - Look for songs that are different and have a unique sound.
  - Think of songs that are alternative and have a different feel.

### Mood Music 103: How to get some Valentine's loving forever!

- **Mainstream Music**
  - Look for something upbeat and poppy.
  - Think of songs that are popular and have a catchy beat.

- **Indie Music**
  - Look for songs that are different and have a unique sound.
  - Think of songs that are alternative and have a different feel.