



Dear Uncle Mike,

I met my girlfriend on the rebound. She was just out of a two year relationship with a coke dealer who drove a Firebird, smashed beer cans on his forehead and treated her like garbage. She said I was the best thing that ever happened to her. It's been six months now and I love her a lot. Last month this jerk talked her into having dinner with him. Now she sees him a couple of times a week. She says he needs her, that he's trying to turn his life around and she's the only one who can help him. I was understanding at first. But last week I confronted her and she admitted she slept with him "but only once". She says she doesn't want to lose me, but she can't abandon this sleazeball in his time of need. This is tearing my guts out. Any advice?

--Bummed Out, Cannon Beach

Dear Bummed,

Drop her like a hot rock. What you're dealing with here, boobia, is what grandad used to call a faithless woman. Jukeboxes in country western bars are filled with their stories. And with guys drinking beer to forget them. If you're feeling especially stupid or masochistic, tell her you'll be there when she's through healing the lame. While you're being a doormat, remember that sleeping with the dysfunctional doesn't make this woman Mother Theresa. As John Prine put it, "You have no complaints. You are what you are and you ain't what you ain't." So is she. Let her work out her karma with outlaws (a favorite female pastime) if she wants (and evidently she does). Seize the moral high ground, be a friend if you can, but give your heart to someone who won't eat the good parts and throw the rest away.

Dear Uncle Mike,

I don't know if this is up your alley or not. My cheap tape deck is messing up. I figured to get it repaired, but my friend the technofreak says I'm nuts, that it'll cost more to get it fixed than it would to buy a new one. I checked, and it's about half as much. Then again, if I bought a new one, I'd have a new one. Advice please.

--Alan R., Aloha

Dear Alan,

Even if it cost the same as buying a new one, Uncle Mike would counsel you to have your bum boom box repaired. Aside from showing disrespect to the wage slaves in some third world corporation who slapped the gismotchie together, throwing one's personal sound system into the dumpster and buying a new one sends an unfortunate signal to those captains of disposable technology who will, given half a chance, bury us in consumer durables with the half life of a summer romance.

Dear Uncle Mike,

If you had three wishes, what would they be?  
--Angela K., Portland

Dear Angela,

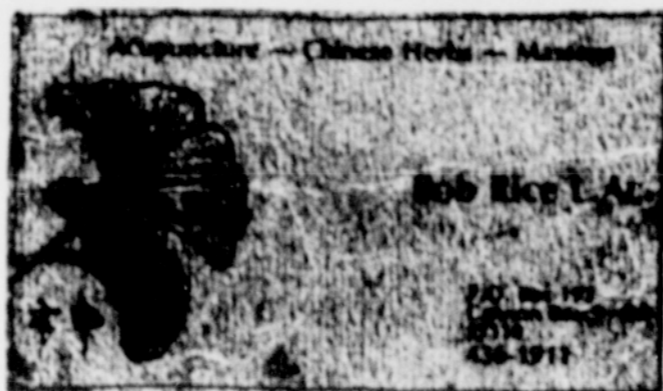
Uncle Mike thanks you for the opportunity to purge his system of the demons of the half empty cup. After winnowing down a three page, single spaced want (as opposed to need) list that included but was not limited to: a 1959 TR3 roadster, the reincarnation of my old dog Easy, a fling with Sinead O'Connor, a cedar canoe, some sort of marketable talent, a log cabin in the coast range, a new prostate, the ability to tell the past, the interest on a billion dollars, no cavities, a banjo, a unified field theory able to be printed on a t-shirt, a woman who regards my

faults as virtues, and a job offer in Jamaica --Uncle Mike felt several tons lighter. Performed with appropriate irreverence, counting desires is every bit as illuminating and therapeutic as counting blessings.

Uncle Mike's three wishes would be: Peace to all beings, 2) an AIDS vaccine, 3) a meaningful relationship with Sinead O'Connor.

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Questions for Uncle Mike regarding life and related issues should be written as legibly as possible and addressed to: Uncle Mike, Box 1222, Cannon Beach, Or 97110



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3. WHILE STEAM COOLED UNTIL DESIRED TEMPERATURE IS ACHIEVED, IF BREATHING IS DIFFICULT, BREATHE THROUGH A COLD WET WASH CLOTH. AFTER 10-15 MINUTES, TAKE A REST IN THE DRESSING ROOM.
4. REENTER THE STEAM ROOM FOR ANOTHER 10 MINUTES, REPEATING THE PROCESS UNTIL ENOUGH STEAM FOR YOUR OWN LIKING.
5. AFTER REPEATING THE CYCLE 2 OR 3 TIMES END WITH A SOAP AND WATER SHOWER AND RINSE WITH COLD WATER TO CLOSE PORES. DON'T GO OUT INTO COLD OR WET WEATHER, UNTIL YOU ARE DRY AND HAVE FINISHED PERSONAL HYGIENE OR YOU MAY GET CALLED.

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**WARNING!** ELDERLY PERSONS OR THOSE SUFFERING FROM HEART DISEASE, HIGHER BLOOD PRESSURE OR OTHER PHYSICAL DISORDERS SHOULD CONSULT A PHYSICIAN BEFORE USING A STEAM BATH. IF YOU ARE NOT AN EXPERIENCED STEAM BATHER, DO NOT ENTER ON YOUR OWN IN THE STEAM ROOM. DO NOT USE THE STEAM ROOM AS AN SLEEPING QUARTER.

**BUSINESS HOURS** THURSDAY/SUNDAY 4:30-10:30  
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