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# SAVAGE LOVE

SACRIFICE  
BY DAN SAVAGE

*I'm a 29-year-old straight woman facing a dilemma. I dated this guy about a year ago, and in many ways he was exactly the guy I was looking for. The main hitch was sexual. Our sex was good, but he had a fetish where he wanted me to sleep with other guys. Basically, he gets off on a girl being a "slut." He was also into threesomes or swapping with another couple. I experimented with all of that for a few months, and in a way I had fun with it, but I finally realized that this lifestyle is not for me. I want a more traditional, monogamous relationship. I broke it off with him. We reconnected recently, and he wants to get back together. He says that he wants to be with me, even if it means a more traditional sex life. I'm interested, but suspicious. If he decides to forego his fetish in order to be with me, can he ever feel truly fulfilled with our sex life? I don't want to be with someone I can't completely satisfy. I also worry that down the road he might change his mind and try to convince me to experiment with nonmonogamy again, which would make me feel pressured. I'm looking for someone to settle down with, and I'm scared to waste more time on this guy, even though in many ways he's a great fit. Do you think it's possible for us to be happy together in a traditional arrangement when deep down he wants more?*

**Interested Despite Kink**

Every partnered person on earth is with someone they "can't completely satisfy." No one person can be all things to another person—sexually or in any other way. So don't waste too much time stressing out about that.

That said, IDK, this guy gets off when girls—his girl in particular—are "sluts." That doesn't mean he can't/won't/doesn't get off when you're not being slutty. (In this situation, "being slutty" refers to you sleeping with other people, which is only subjectively slutty.) He likes it when you're a slut, but I bet he also likes it when you \_\_, or \_\_. (I don't know your sex life. Fill in the blanks.) Are you focusing too much on one of the things he's into (you fucking other people) and not enough on all the other things he's into (things like \_\_, \_\_, and \_\_)? If those other things are enough for him to have a great sex life with you without getting to enjoy this particular kink, you can make this work.

In other words, IDK: If giving up his hotwife/cuckold fantasies is the price of admission he's willing to pay to be with you, maybe you should let him pay that price. If being with someone who fantasizes about sexual scenarios you would rather not participate in (and who may be fantasizing about them while you're having sex) is the price of admission you're willing to pay to be with him, maybe you should pay that price. Another maybe: Are there accommodations that would allow him to have his fetish/fantasies without having to stifle them and allow you to have your monogamous commitment? No fucking other guys, but sometimes sharing stories of past exploits? Or making up dirty stories you can share while you're fucking?

Kinky people sometimes place a few of their kinks on the shelf for years, decades, or all their lives because they love their partner, but their partner doesn't love their proclivity for ball-busting/piss-pigging/whatever-evering. And, yes, sometimes a person says they're willing to let go of a kink and then changes their mind and starts pressuring their partner years or decades later—often when it's much harder for the non-kinky partner to end things, i.e., after marrying, having kids, etc., which renders the pressure coercive and corrosive. Another thing that sometimes happens: People who never thought they'd be into X and married someone with the understanding that X was forever off the table suddenly find themselves curious about X and wanting to give X a try years or decades later. Who we are and what we want at 39 or 49 can look very different than who we were and what we wanted at 29.

*My partner has a hard time dealing with the fact that, before him, I had several casual flings and one-night stands. It has repeatedly caused issues with us. He is disturbed by the vastness of my past and concerned that I am sometimes impulsive. Because of these things, he often feels too scared to move forward in the relationship. In all other ways we have a supportive, fun-filled, and loving relationship—but I wonder if this issue is just too fundamental. I cannot change my past (and wouldn't even if I could) and I am trying to be less impulsive, but I'm not sure he sees the changes I'm making.*

**Partner's Angst Seriously Troubling**

With apologies to George Santayana: Bros who cannot shut up about your past are condemned to reside in it. DTMFA.

*My boyfriend of three months is great! He's smart, funny, and attractive—and two weeks ago, we said those three words. My parents like him, my friends like him, and my cat is enamored with him. But that's where the problem starts. I had some reservations that he was only coming around to cuddle with my cat—which I know sounds crazy—so I disregarded it. Then he told me that he loves sleeping in my bed because of the mattress! He says his mattress at home hurts his back and he feels achy all day unless he sleeps at my place. (I splurged on an expensive gel/foam combination mattress.) I can't shake the feeling that he is using me for my mattress and my cat.*

**Boy Erodes Dame's Satisfaction**

Which seems likelier: This smart, funny, and attractive guy has been fucking you for three months (and said "those three words" two weeks ago) to keep the gel/foam and literal pussy coming, BEDS, or this guy likes you, he really likes you. Since men can get cats and mattresses of their own, BEDS, my money is on the latter. But you're right about one thing: Your question makes you sound crazy.

*I was surprised by your advice to CUCK, the gay man whose husband was sleeping with another man who insisted on treating CUCK like a cuckold—sending him degrading text messages—even though CUCK isn't into that. Why isn't this a case of someone involving another person in his sex life without his consent? While CUCK has agreed to let his husband fuck another person, he didn't agree to receive sexually explicit texts from that person.*

**Consensual Lovin' Is Paramount**

The Other Man (TOM) is fucking CUCK's husband, CLIP, so TOM is involved in CUCK's sex life—at the margins, on the edges, but *kindasorta* involved. When CUCK told his husband he didn't appreciate TOM's texts, his husband asked CUCK to play along because it turns TOM on. (I suspect it also turns CUCK's husband on.) I told CUCK that he should play along only if the texts didn't bother him. It may have been out of line for TOM to send that first message without making sure it would be welcome (I'll bet CUCK's husband, who was there, gave TOM the okay), but it was a party foul at best. And, again, if the texts don't bother CUCK and he's willing to play along for his husband's benefit, I think he should.

On the Lovecast, Mistress Matisse is back to talk about her very special lube: [savage-lovecast.com](http://savage-lovecast.com).

[mail@savage-love.net](mailto:mail@savage-love.net)