

Letters to Jo



We'd all like to pretend that at any stage in our lives, we will never settle to be treated like anything less than the dazzling, fantastic, talented person that we are. (Hell yeah...) This goes for our school-, family-, (and most importantly) love-life. The truth, most of the time, is sadly somewhat amiss. Lets take the subject of this week's letter as an example.

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Dear Jo,

I really like my boyfriend, but a lot of the time, he treats me like I'm not that important to him. I don't want this kind of behaviour 24/7 – I want someone who loves me and isn't afraid to show it. But I don't just want to give this boy up. What happens now?”

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The thing is, the way I see it, we have the rest of our lives to find the “one” (or the “several”) and proper, believable love.

So these years of our lives should be spent gaining experience in how to pick the good eggs from the rotten - and hopefully find, in the end, the kind of love we're after. But you know what? It might be rubbish to be with the wrong person after the happy bit, it really doesn't matter. It's still experience baby! In fact, if they're a horrid boyfriend, they're only experience. They don't have to be anything more. Think about it like that; if they're a lovely guy, then great! But if they're just, on the whole, not good, then they only ever have to just be an experience, nothing more.

A friend of mine was shocked when I told him this philosophy on relationships. His theory was that you shouldn't consider going out with someone unless you loved them. But nowadays, what defines love? And if we

never go through experiences (good, or bad) how can we know what love really is? And, might I add, it can be mighty hard to even find a normal, nice-enough person around that you

me, I'd say cut your losses, mark it down as part of your experience, and thank the guy for nothing, except

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like, to then have to wait around to see if you start loving them (and may I say before) you're even in a relationship? Get real, darling. Life, and these teenage years, are, lets face it, far too short and interesting to sit at home and not lift a finger till 'love' (whatever that is) comes knocking. Sweetheart, start opening some doors yourself.

So to go back to the original problem. This relationship can go wherever you want from here. If it was

showing you exactly what you don't want in a relationship. You deserve far better, and to be honest it's not going to be hard compared to the loser who's treating you like this. Live a little – you can afford to let this relationship go, because it's not worth wasting the time over it right now.

Over and out, Jo x