

Dear Abby

with ABIGAIL VAN BUREN



## Women would gladly trade love for work

**Dear Abby:** I married five weeks ago for the second time. I brought a houseful of furniture to the marriage, a car and a good salary. He brought his clothes and his salary, which is only slightly larger than mine.

While we were courting, I provided the transportation. He picked up the tab for an occasional meal or movie. Regardless, I truly love him and have sacrificed for him. Now, after the five weeks, things are souring.

He watches TV constantly — 5:30 p.m. to 1 or 2 a.m. — with bathroom breaks only. He usually falls asleep in the easy chair I provided, watching the TV I provided, and stays there until morning.

He isn't an alcoholic (yet), but if there's liquor in the house, he devours it. However, if there is none, he won't go out and buy more. He's too lazy to move. He started out helping around the house, but slacked off after the first week.

He leaves a bag of trash in front of the door for three or four days. (I refuse to take it out.) He does absolutely nothing for me. I fix all his meals and do 100 per cent of the housework. I have a full-time job. I would like children, but who needs more work?

Did he marry me to get a comfortable home, a free cook and housekeeper in exchange for a token amount of love? He's a good and thoughtful lover, but as for everyday chores, forget it. He's worse than my first husband. Please evaluate the situation. Perhaps I'm too close to it.

**Doubtful**

**Dear Doubtful:** I'm also doubtful. If you can't get him to change his ways, your resentment is apt to build until it erupts. Then will come the moment of truth. Is having a "good and thoughtful lover" in residence worth the price you're paying? Only you can answer that question.

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**Dear Abby:** I'm engaged to a terrific gal, but Suzie and I don't see eye to eye on one small matter.

Last Saturday we had a date for a formal dinner dance at a private club. I rented a tuxedo, and Suzie said she was surprising me with a neat new outfit she bought especially for the occasion.

When she came to the door, I was surprised, all right. Abby, she was wearing a tuxedo — exactly like mine! I was speechless. I knew she was hurt, but I had to tell her the truth.

I had bought her a corsage but it would have looked ridiculous on a tuxedo, so she left it at home. I knew she wanted to wear the tux, so I didn't ask her to change into a dress.

Well, we went to the dance looking like a brother and sister act. She was the only female there in a tuxedo. I was uncomfortable all evening, but she thought she looked great. Anyway, I felt funny dancing with someone who was dressed like me.

Am I old-fashioned? I wonder how many other men feel as I do.

**One Tux is Enough**

**Dear One Tux:** Some women look great in tuxedos, and it's fashionable, but I'll wager that most men prefer a more feminine look for a formal affair.

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**Dear Abby:** My big sister is getting married, and there is a rule at our church against throwing rice at weddings. They want people to throw birdseed at the bride and groom instead! I think that's a dumb idea. What do you think?

**Little Sister**

**Dear Little Sister:** I think the idea is for the birds. (The birds can eat the seed afterward. The rice would be wasted.)



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