

“Anna’s Story” (from *I Kissed Dating Goodbye*)

It was finally here- Anna’s wedding day, the day she had dreamed about and planned for months. The small, picturesque church was crowded with friends and family. Sunlight poured through the stained-glass windows, and the gentle music of a stringed quartet filled the air. Anna walked down the aisle toward David. Joy surged within her. This was the moment for which she had waited so long. He gently took her hand, and they turned toward the altar.

But as the minister began to lead Anna and David through their vows, the unthinkable happened. A girl stood up in the middle of the congregation, walked quietly to the altar, and took David’s other hand. Another girl approached and stood next to the first, followed by another. Soon, a chain of six girls stood by him as he repeated his vows to Anna.

Anna felt her lip beginning to quiver as tears welled up in her eyes. “Is this some kind of joke?” she whispered to David.

“I’m... I’m sorry, Anna,” he said, staring at the floor.

“Who are these girls, David? What is going on?” she gasped.

“They’re girls from my past,” he answered sadly. “Anna, they don’t mean anything to me now... but I’ve given part of my heart to each of them.”

“I thought your heart was mine,” she said.

“It is, it is,” he pleaded. “Everything that’s left is yours.”

A tear rolled down Anna’s cheek. Then she woke up.



“THE UN-LIFE” (from *10 Commandments of Dating*)

It’s 5:30 and you are settling in from a long day at school. You grab a Twinkie and a Coke and sit down to watch Judge Judy. As you sit down you notice a not in your pocket that you forgot to read. As you rip open the letter, you immediately notice the first words, “I don’t think we should see each other anymore.” This is a letter bomb, not a love note! Your heart is torn like shrapnel from the bomb. Your heart sinks into your stomach as you realize that this person in whom you’ve invested so much time, energy, and emotion has just put an end to something you hoped would last forever. You feel hurt, rejected, and all alone.

Several months pass, and for some strange reason things aren’t getting any better. In fact, you are still stuck in the same emotional ditch you fell into the day you got your letter. As you continue to work through the pain, you replay the relationship in your head over and over. You ask yourself, “What went wrong?”

Who’s to blame? Why did such a good thing go sour?

Finally, you realize why this relationship fizzled and why you are still in turmoil: you simply did not have a life. This person was your life. Your entire self-worth was wrapped up in someone else. You now see how you had put your life on hold (your friends, family, interests, and your walk with God). Since the relationship has ended, you have nothing to sustain you. Without your sweetheart, you have no life.