

Dear Sue

Sue felt like she had just awoken from a sort of trance. Her hands were trembling badly, and she had to struggle to keep them on the wheel. After a little while, which for the drivers behind felt like an eternity, she became aware of the situation. She sighed heavily, gave the driver of the car behind her a very impudent look and then drove on quit fast.

After drying her wet forehead with the back of her hand, she accidentally looked at her watch and let out a small gasp. Was *that* the time? Oh no, she was very late. Her boss would kill her! Sue made a dangerous turn across the street, and almost hid an old lady, who fortunately jumped out of the way. Sue parked her car in the wrong parking space and ran towards the tower block, in which she worked.

The minute she opened the door, she was practically attacked by her boss; a fat uncharming man, who should have retired years ago, but unfortunately never did. "In my office, NOW!" he shouted, and poor Sue could do nothing, but to follow him across the first floor and into the very place she hated the most. There she sat down in a big fluffy armchair and prepared the right facial expression for that situation.

It only took eight minutes and soon Sue was in the middle of the usual meeting, where the high paid secretary showed the staff some new ideas for their work. This was extremely boring, and almost against her will Sue sank into a trance.

It was summer. They were walking along the beach, watching the sunset. The salty, fresh smell of the ocean caressed her senses. His arm was around her waist, his lips were pressed against hers. They were the only two people in the world.

Suddenly Sue felt somebody touch her shoulder. "Hmm hm, Miss Sue Andrews, would you please tell us your opinion of this new suggestion?" Sue raised her eyes and looked into the bulging, cold eyes of her boss. "I do not know. To tell you the truth, I did not listen." Her boss smashed a plastic mug wiht his left hand and then said: "Clearly you did not! Miss Andrews, if you are not interested in working for me any more, then I suggest you leave straight away, and let these dissent people in peace and quiet so they can get on with their work!"

That was simply too much for Sue. She stood up, put on her jacket and slammed the door shut with her fine nose in the sky. She walked out of the building and towards

her car. The clouds were gathering and gradually raindrops started to fall. When she reached the car, she realised that she had forgotten her car keys in her desk.

Trembling with fury she would rather die than go back to get them. So she made a fatal decision; she would walk all the way home and then pick up her stuff tomorrow.

Now the rain was so thick, that she hardly could see anything at all, but she was still determined to continue on foot. Soon she reached a crossroad, and unable to see the cars or the traffic light, she just listened for the sound of engines, and then crossed the street. But suddenly a car came out of nowhere. When it hit her the only thing she could think of, was a growing, violent pain. Then she fell unconscious.

Sue had a terrible headache. After a while she opened her eyes and saw a white ceiling, which she could not recognise. Then a pair of green, smiling eyes met hers. She would have recognised those eyes from a very far distance. She sent Nick a fainted, but happy smile.

Nick visited Sue every day the following three weeks. They talked and laughed as though no time had passed since the summer they spend together by the beach, and it became clear that Nick once again was romantically interested in his old flame. He served her like a true gentleman and kept on bringing her flowers, candy and even poems.

But when Sue asked him, why he had broken up with her in the first place, his face went pink and he quietly mumbled some bad explanations while staring at the floor. This reaction made Sue rethink her life, wishes and emotions towards this man, whom she once had loved so dearly. Why could he not look her in the eye? Was he not being completely honest with her, was he hiding something? Did he really love her or had this love declaration some hidden ulterior motives? And most important of all what did *she* feel?

That night Sue sat down all by herself and thought. She would not be able to sleep before she had sort this mess out. And after five long hours she had come to a conclusion; Nick would always be a great part of her life, but only as a very dear friend. She had no feelings for him anymore.

The next day Sue gently told him. She watched him carefully, but never saw any sign of sorrow whatsoever. Actually he seemed rather pleased with the way things had turned out, which only confirmed her suspicion. Nick left the hospital quit early that

day and never came back. Four days later Sue received a letter from him. He had flown straight to New York, where he was to live with some relatives. He politely explained, that his feelings for her just had been a mark of the great need he felt, not towards Sue, but towards love itself.

Had Sue not known, that he only wished to hurt her with these cruel words, she would have been offended. But that was not the case. As soon as she could she left the hospital she sought a job at a famous computer company, and they accepted her request.

Sue moved on happily ever after and never thought of Nick again, not even when she heard a certain song on the radio...