

# I Know My Boyfriend Loves Me, Even Though He Hasn't Taken Me Out In Six Weeks

by Nancy McINTYRE

My boyfriend Steve is so sweet. You should see him. He's so tall and built, and I love him so much, and I know he loves me. My friends tell me that Steve isn't so great and that he's neglecting my needs, but I don't believe that. Steve's just busy, not neglectful.

You see, we haven't been out together in six weeks, when he took me dancing at Myron's. Well, sort of. Steve and a couple of his buddies stood by the bar and drank Keith's while they watched my best friends Diane, Amanda, and I dance with some losers who were trying to pick us up.

Anyway, ever since that night at Myron's, Steve has been spending his Friday and Saturday nights playing pool at Pal's with his buddies, while I stay at home in my apartment watching videos with Diane and Amanda.

After Pal's closes, Steve usually phones me up and asks me if he can spend the night with me. That always makes me happy because I love it when he makes love to me—especially after he's finished, when he strokes my forehead, calls me his "little princess", and rolls over to go to sleep. Sure, I wouldn't mind being held for a while afterwards, but I know how much I mean to him because he calls me his "little princess".

One Tuesday night, Amanda went to karaoke at Breaker's with a bunch of coworkers from her hair salon, and she thought she saw Steve playing pool with some skanky girl wearing a little white tank top, tight jeans, and a lot of makeup. Amanda said it was dark and she was too drunk to get up and have a closer look, so she wasn't sure if it was Steve or just some other big hunk.

But I know that it wasn't him at Breaker's that night, because he's always working. Steve is a mechanic and he tells me that he likes to work late at the garage so that people can have their cars ready early the next



The place where my boyfriend hangs out with his buddies.

day. He's nice like that, and because of that we rarely see each other on week-nights.

Then there was the time that my brother Derek was eating lunch at Wendy's when Steve and his buddies sat down in the booth next to him. Steve didn't notice Derek and Derek could hear Steve talk about how he could probably get a hotter girlfriend than me and how bored he was getting with me and how he wanted to break up with me. Derek told me that Steve's buddies were laughing a lot at what Steve was saying, so I'm guessing that he was just kidding around since our relationship is really great.

I'll admit that we have our problems sometimes, though. Last Friday night, when Steve called up and asked to come over, I told him he couldn't because it was that time of the month and we wouldn't be able to do anything. He told me that he could think of something that I could do for him, but I told him that I wasn't in the mood. He got kind of angry at that and hung up really quickly. I thought that maybe I had said something wrong, and I could barely sleep that night, worrying that maybe Steve would break up with me.

The next afternoon, however, Steve showed up at my apartment with

a white rose, a bottle of red wine, and a pizza from Capone's. He wasn't mad at all, and after we ate some pizza and drank the entire bottle of wine, I was so happy that I gave him what he

wanted the night before. Three times. It was almost like a real date!

I have a feeling that the situation is going to change soon. My birthday is in a couple of days, and I'm sure Steve is planning on taking me someplace special to celebrate. He hasn't mentioned anything about it yet, but that's probably because he's going to make it a surprise. I know he wouldn't forget my birthday again like he did last year.

Diane and Amanda say that Steve's a loser and all he cares about is sex, but I know that's not true. Sure, almost every time we've seen each other lately, we've ended up with having sex, but that's just a sign of a healthy relationship. We could go out more, but Steve's just a busy guy. And how could a man that attractive possibly be a loser? No, he's a good man through and through. I'm lucky to have him.

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