

# AT EASE

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Dear Lovelorn-and-lonely-hearts-and-anyone-who-takes-comfort-in-Ann Landers,

That day set aside for sharing tokens of love between those in love has passed us by again. But rather than mope around as in years gone by — we've decided to laugh at the world (or thumb our noses, as the case may be). Yes, all you mushy people who really bought chocolates for your snookems' are gonna get it from all of us who didn't. It's as simple as sour grapes — take *that* you romantic-types.

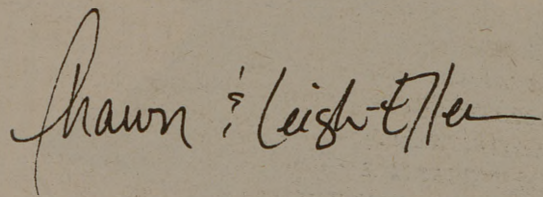
For our cover stories this week, there were no interviews. Nope, our writers didn't comb the city looking for an authority on love and they didn't go check the latest prices on roses and chocolates, either. Instead, they drew on their own experiences and we think you'll decide they sound pretty familiar. Anyone who has ever been pursued by a less-than-ideal admirer will find company in the article about Darling Delbert. And anyone who has ever answered the door to find the florist with flowers — for your roommate — will know the inspiration behind "The Cravin".

These two stories may not be quite objective, but how can anyone be objective about an emotion that turns the most sane people into a veritable mass of jello? Somebody said that eating chocolate makes your brain give off the same chemicals it does when you're in love. We *hate* to think what that could mean. Somebody else said that love is a many splendored thing. We think that fool should be drawn and quartered.

It's not that we object to love. Truly it's something we think everyone can relate to — favorably or not. But if all those manhours spent planning, calculating, worrying and pondering the situations of the heart could be retrieved, the world would probably be years ahead of itself. But on the other hand — without the companionship, affection and constructive differences of two hearts — we probably wouldn't grow as individuals.

But hey, love's not all gooey candy and roses. So if you didn't get anything yesterday (cards from Mom don't really count because she *has* to love you), just sit back and enjoy this issue — it's for you. If you did get something yesterday, don't go and get all defensive. It's not our fault you're so irresistible.

With love,



Shawn Behlen & Leigh-Ellen Clark  
Co-editors