

**Valentine's Day:  
A Survival Guide for Singles**

by: Erin Ann Keane

If you don't have a significant other and wish that you could disappear on Valentine's Day, fear not! You are not alone! There are many other singles who share in your hatred of the holiday who want nothing more but to survive the day and not commit murder, (be it the murder of and overly affectionate couple or a flower delivery person).

This article is written specially for those people who occupy the residence halls. You will have to contend with quite a bit of V-Day muck, so prepare. The following is a list of do's and do nots for V-Day. Try to stay away from the windows if the sight of flower deliveries makes your blood boil. Throughout the day, numerous deliveries will be made, so it is better not to notice than to become homicidal or end up in a blue funk. If you are allergic to flowers, be sure to put a towel beneath your door to calm your sinuses. Does chocolate make your mouth water? Stock up on candy bars the night before unless you possess the will power to hold yourself back from attacking a person bearing a heart-shaped box filled with delectable treats. If you plan on going out to dinner with some single friends, be prepared for hordes of couples in any restaurant, (possibly with the exception of, "Earl's Good Eats"). Unless you can keep yourself from gagging, eating among these revelers may not be the best idea. If red and pink are two of your least favorite colors, form a support group. The most important thing not to do is sit around and mope. You will end up depressed and cranky and you won't be much fun.

Keep your chins up and smile! Twenty-four hours of being reminded that, "Solitary gets so lonely", is a small price to pay for those who are fortunate enough to be in love to celebrate. But, if the challenge is too much for you, it may be a good weekend to return home and visit your family. At least you know they love you . . .

**If You Thought That  
Was Bad...**

By: Eric Krieger

So, you do not have a "significant other" for Valentine's Day. So what? Just be content with being by yourself. If you cannot be happy just being, pretend that it is a special day for you. Pretend that it is your birthday!

Just think about it. You get to have all those gifts of chocolate and flowers because, well, it is your birthday. No need for that paltry "other half" to mess up a perfect day, right? Right. WRONG.

My birthday does happen to fall upon the day of good St. Valentine, and let me tell you - it really stinks. If you do have a girlfriend/boyfriend, you get one or maybe two gifts. Then you have to figure out which one is for your birthday and which one is for THE DAY. If you do not have a mate well, that stinks too.

Without one, your birthday just passes you by. Valentine's Day is just another day. Sure, you get stuff from your friends and family, but it just is not the same.

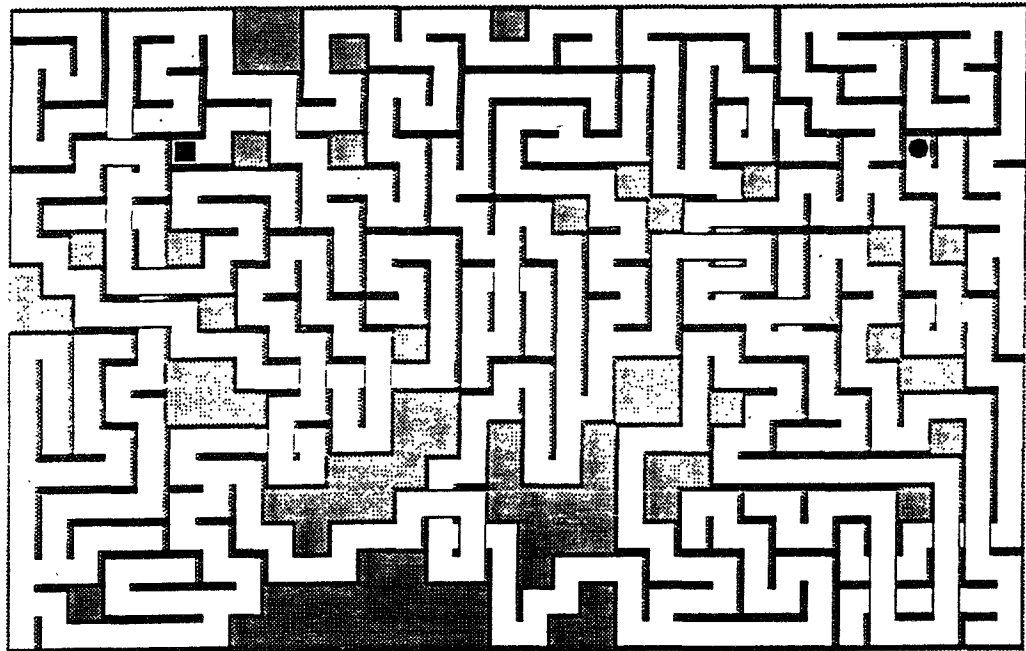
Yah, you people going without this Valentine's Day have it pretty bad. Those of you who have gone without for your birthday, well, you have had it pretty bad too. But I have gone without on both of those events - and at the same time.

Take my advice: get yourself a soft, warm bed (even if you have to use an electric blanket), buy a good book (I recommend anything by Tom Clancy), sleep in late, take your phone off of the hook, lock the door, read all day, and go to bed early. Of course, you could always study, but why bother?

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Bashir is a frontier doctor of sorts. Fresh out of medical school and yearning for adventure in the final frontier, this uncertain, untested young man played by Siddig el Fadil, sports a cultured British accent and an Arabic ancestry. Terry Farrell plays Lieutenant Dax, a joined species consisting of an androgynous parasite and at present a female host. This character represents the growing tolerance and acceptance of assorted sexual orientations, namely homo-sexuality. Imagine, a female body controlled by an asexual entity who was last implanted in a male, now on a space station bristling with various desires. Miles O'Brien, former transporter chief of the Enterprise of Star Trek The Next Generation, was recently transferred to this station and promoted to, (all euphemisms aside) what amounts to a handyman; along with his wife Keiko, the station's newest school teacher played by Colm Meaney and Rosiland Chao respectively. The profiteering Ferengi: Quark who makes a living off the misfortunes of others by running a casino/bar is played by Armin Shimerman.

Solving this maze is not as easy as it looks. Paths do cross over and under each other. Start at the dot, end at the square.



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**Happy Valentines Day**