

Uncle Matthew



He would care, but he just doesn't want to...

'Imagine how grateful those fresh-faced, virginal newcomers will be to have such an aged and experienced guide; to be taken under your wing and initiated into the freedoms of uni life'

Dear Uncle Matthew,

My problem is rather depressing. Having finished my degree, I was keen to get back into the vibrant clubbing lifestyle of York. However, on my re-entry into the social scene of Toffs, I found it hard to revisit my youthful first year. Instead of pulling random blokes on a VK-fuelled high and vomiting on people, I was discussing mortgage rates and worrying whether the bouncers were feeling the chill. Will I ever be able to reclaim my libido for York, or must I resign myself to a life of knitting and middle-brow literature?

Yours,
Financially-aware, Halifax

Dear Financially-aware,

Growing up is never easy, but it seems you have matured substantially while at York. Only you can tell whether you are truly ready for change —whether you have achieved what I like to call 'escape velocity' from campus life. Before facing the wider world, consider what you may have yet to offer at York. Freshers' week is only months away. Imagine how grateful those callow, fresh-faced, virginal newcomers will be to have such an aged and experienced guide; to be taken under your wing and initiated into the freedoms of life away from home. Finishing your degree does not mean you have to stop living like a student. Wait until there is some 'new blood' on campus, then make your choice.

Yours predatorily,

Uncle Matthew

Dear Uncle Matthew,

I think I have an anger problem. I'm short, prematurely balding and prone to lashing out at random people. Only yesterday I made a friend of mine cry because he stole my Maltesers. My companions keep telling me that I should get laid to solve my problems. Is that the answer, or can I find a release through less carnal methods? I don't want to have a coronary before I'm 30, but the girls don't seem to like the passionate side of me.

Please help,
Red-faced, Derwent

Dear Red-faced,

Anger is a very powerful emotion and can be a barrier to building relationships. So much pent-up rage is not healthy, especially since you may have a heart condition. The act of sexual congress may prove too much of a cardio-vascular strain and do more harm than good. My solution will help solve both your passionate attachment to personal property and also spare you the risks of associating with the opposite sex. Forswear both and become a monk. Vows of celibacy and poverty will insulate you from your own wrath, while a tonsure is an ideal disguise for premature baldness.

Yours monastically,

Uncle Matthew

Dear Uncle Matthew,

I believe I have a Jekyll and Hyde personality that is causing me problems. One side of me can't stop spreading the news about my love life. I can't even open my mouth without details of my latest conquest spurting out, despite my intentions to keep it quiet. Yet I've also discovered I am somewhat of a prude, and was almost sick when a girl proposed that I took her up the back passage. Everyone thinks that I'm some sort of sexual deviant, yet in fact my spiritual soul-mate is nearer Mary Whitehouse. How can I claim back my long-lost dignity?

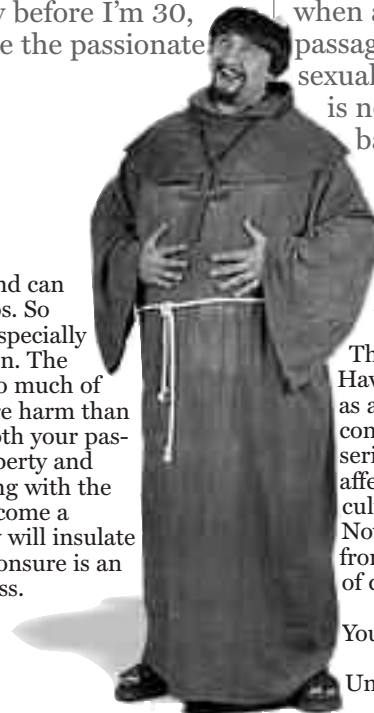
Thanks,
Prudish, Goodricke

Dear Prudish,

The human heart is complex and often contradictory. Have you considered that your compulsive bragging is as a result of failing to achieve a genuine emotional connection in your relationships? Perhaps you should seriously consider pursuing the true object of your affections. You may find this helps solve both your difficulties at a stroke: Mary Whitehouse died in November 2001 – shouting that particular conquest from the rooftops may well help to teach you the value of discretion.

Yours cadaverously,

Uncle Matthew



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