



Spooning in the Stacks: Investigating PDA at Nobles

Clare Struzziery
Staff Writer

With Valentine’s Day upon us, Nobles students are more aware than ever of the couples in their midst. As new relationships bloom and others continue strong, some bold students aren’t afraid to express their affection at school. Sad singles walk with their heads down through the Henderson Arts Center or the library stacks, hoping to save themselves from glimpses of happy couples. What’s sweet to these enraptured pairs can be disheartening to lonelier students. Public displays of affection (PDA) are becoming rampant at school, and The Nobleman was compelled to investigate these community offenses.

So, where is PDA most pervasive? In third place: the library stacks. Here, more scholarly couples can often be seen studying together atop the shelves, or more commonly, in between them. The second-deadliest location is the alcoves, specifically, the “little alcoves” across from Gleason Hall. “They stroke each other’s legs in



(Photo Credit: Zack Mittelstadt)

the little alcoves,” said Leah Farb (Class III) of multiple offending pairs. Finally, the most encouraging habitat for PDA on campus is an artistic haven. “Right when you walk by that painting of Bob Henderson, you’ve entered the realm,” Annie Lopez (Class II) said.

PDA seems to elicit a variety of reactions from students. “I think it’s really gross,” Farb said. This blunt sentiment expresses what many students may be thinking as they are faced with yet another couple taking up the entire path to the Castle while walking slowly and looking into each others’ eyes. Farb is not alone in this feeling. Other students find

these exhibits of love more tolerable. “Sometimes it grosses me out but it’s always funny to see,” Alex Munoz (Class IV) said.

Accounts of campus PDA range from descriptions of repeat offenders to memories of moments that border on sweet.

“They stroke each other’s legs in the little alcoves.”

“There’s just two people who are always on top of each other,” Munoz said. Everyone has a couple they just can’t seem to avoid.

However, when PDA is less physical, it becomes more palatable to passersby. “I was walking to assembly, and it’s always crowded, especially in the mornings. And [REDACTED] stopped to give [REDACTED] a bouquet of roses,” Ikram Abdulle (Class IV) said. This is a perfect example of a very public but charming way to express appreciation for a significant other at school.

This Valentine’s Day, whether you are avoiding PDA like the plague or maybe even engaging in it yourself, take this advice to ensure a survivable day for yourself and others. If you would rather not see happy couples enjoying each other’s presence, make sure to avoid the “big 3”: the library stacks, the “little alcoves,” and of course, the Henderson Arts Center. If you do



(Photo Credit: Avery Winder)

happen to find yourself wanting to express your affection for someone, make sure that you remember that though it may feel like it, you and your significant other are not alone at school. Try to express your affection in less physical ways, and your classmates will thank you. Think “bouquet of roses” and not “stroking legs.”

Toxicity 101: How to Get Somebody to Break Up With You

Emma Sawatzky
Staff Writer

By the time February rolls around, love is in the air, and conversation heart candy is back in style. The good news? You’re finally in a relationship for Valentine’s Day. The bad news? You would do anything to get out of it. Young love isn’t what it’s cracked up to be, and you’re just itching to break free from these harrowing confines. The only problem is that you’re too dazzling for your own good, and your significant other remains positively enamored.

Don’t fret, though, for there is hope. Although it may require a breach of moral codes, a transformation into the most contemptible version of yourself might just do the trick.

You’ll start subtly so as not to invite any suspicion of foul play. This entails smaller-scale offenses, like pushing a door that only opens when pulled. With every fiber of

muscle engaged, you will not rest until this unfortunate door surrenders. Chivalry really isn’t dead, and you’re determined to hold it open for them. If your mutterings of frustration haven’t already sent them towards an alternate entrance, this tactic will at least invite a reassessment of priorities.

Your next step is yet another Old Castle lunch date with your significant other. It’s cozy, it’s romantic, and it absolutely must end. Hand in hand, the two of you amble towards the food line, only to realize that today’s hot meal is deconstructed shepherd’s pie. Fantastic. You load up your bowl, flinging corn and ground beef every which way. Your significant other leads you through a throng of hungry students and teachers, and you know this is your moment. They watch, horrified, as you loosen your grip on your bowl. With a commanding clatter, your deconstructed shepherd’s pie falls to decorate the Castle floor, and there isn’t an eye or

ear left unaware. Classmates stop in their tracks, eyeing the two of you with distaste and disgust. You conceal your wry smile. Score.

Shortly after, your once-devoted admirer might coincidentally go home sick for the day. Although this may interrupt your well-earned momentum, it will allow you to regroup and scheme for tomorrow. You’re playing the long game, my friend, and you’re about to be crowned the victor.

The next morning, you’ll skulk through the hallways of Henderson Arts Center until the clock strikes 7:59. You adopt your most disheveled persona and wind up for a sprint into Lawrence Auditorium. The very last one to squeeze through the closing doors, the sounds of heavy breathing will echo and meet 800 ears, including those of your significant other. The drop of a pin would be discernible as your entire row stands up to accommodate your tardiness. Utterly sinful.

Assembly ran short today,



(Graphic Credit: Zack Mittelstadt)

and the prefects are surveying the crowd, asking, “Are there any more announcements?” Boy, are there. Well aware this might permanently tank your reputation, you take a deep breath and rise from your seat. Clearing your throat, you look to your significant other and unleash the seven most binding words in the English language: “Will you go to prom with me?” The tension is palpable as heads turn to cast a spotlight on your stricken beloved. Seemingly unimpressed with your initiative—it’s only February—they

refuse to meet your gaze. I’ll leave the rest of this scene to the imagination, for how it plays out is almost too incriminating to print.

At this point, you’ve made groundbreaking sacrifices on your path to full autonomy. You’ve become a spectacle, a dunce, the image of ridicule. You have morphed into the picture of evil, a cautionary tale for anyone ever considering falling in love. It’s undeniable that sacrifices have been made. Rest assured, it is certain that nobody will pursue you anytime soon.

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ANONYMOUS LOVE LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear My One and Only,

There is something I have wanted to tell you for some time now, but I’ve been too scared of how you will react. Our friendship has meant the world to me these past five months, though it feels like I’ve known you my whole life. Ever since we first talked in HHC (Shattuck 202), I knew we were meant to be together. I found the classroom late and was the last one to walk in the door. I sat down next to you and we immediately clicked.

You might just see me as a friend, but to me, you are so much more. When we sit in the alcoves and talk about life, I feel like you really get me. I want us to be together. I want to have lunch dates in the castle with you and walk you to the MAC for afternoon program. There is nobody I would rather have as my peer editor. There is nobody better for me than you.

I hope you will take me as I am and go out on a date with me. If we go to the movies, I will buy your ticket. If it is cold in the theater, you can wear my quarter-zip vineyard vines fleece. Maybe we will hold hands if it is a scary movie. If you need a ride, my mom will pick you up. I will ride in the back-seat with you so you don’t get lonely.

I am sending this to *The Nobleman* because I am too nervous to tell you in person. When you read this, you will know who I am and how I truly feel about you. I want the whole school to know about my feelings; they are too strong and deep to hold inside any longer. I considered sending you an anonymous rose, but that didn’t feel personal. I need you to know that my feelings are true. I thought maybe I would sing you a song, but a serenade in assembly was out of my comfort zone. I questioned writing you a love poem, but poetry was never my strong suit. So here I am, writing down my devotion to you in the only way I know how.

I have never asked somebody out before, but with you, I am being bold. We might be fourteen, but I want to grow old together. When we go to college, I hope we will stay together long-distance, because that always works. I will send you old-fashioned letters in the mail and you can send them back. I can visit you at your dorm and we will spend all of our breaks together. Valentine’s Day will become our anniversary and you can re-read this letter every year.

Now that you have reached the end of this letter if you are interested in going out with me and being my perfect match, please send me a text with this secret code: my middle name, three purple hearts, and your assembly seat number. You don’t have to respond immediately. I know this must be a lot to take in. If I don’t hear back from you by the end of the week, I will know that you are not interested. We can stay friends, but just know that I will never give up on the hope that maybe someday you will feel the same way that I do right now. I know this is cheesy, but I will wait for you, however long it takes.

X.O.X.O

P.S. I think I might love you.

LOVE STORY PARODY

By Clare Struzziery (Class II) and Nate Madden (Class II)

We were both sixies when I first saw you

I doze off in Euro and the flashback starts

I’m standin’ there

On castle balcony in autumn air

See the MAC, see the Omni, the Charles

Hear the last assembly bell and bump into you

And say, “Let’s go”

Little did I know

That you were my assembly buddy, you were late again

And my advisor said, “One more miss and you’re suspended,”

And I was rushin’ through the alcoves

Begging you “Please slow down!” and I said

Assembly buddy take me somewhere we can be alone,

Not the Middle School, cause I want to go on my phone

You be the Spikeball, I’ll be the net

It’s a dawg story, baby just say yes

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The Nobleman is the official student-run paper of the Noble & Greenough School. The paper recruits a diverse, dedicated, and intellectually engaged staff that creates stimulating, relevant, and exciting written and digital content. This content, while sometimes covering national and world news, will always strive to be both representative of and primarily for the Nobles community. The entire staff is cognizant of the power that The Nobleman holds, and thus each member seeks to use that power responsibly. The core editors and faculty advisors promote, foster, and enforce the following: anti-racist and anti-hate rhetoric; just, factual, honest, and respectful work that seeks to give voice to as many community members as possible; and a safe, creative, respectful class culture that enables and inspires staff to produce content they love.

Student Life

Resurrecting Romance 101



Nathan Nozea
Staff Writer

A breakup can be tough...so how can you win them back?

Valentine’s Day is upon us! For Nobles, this means that the hallways are lined with flowers, as students eagerly receive their long-awaited roses from their friends or significant others. Yet, despite the feeling of love in the air, students may find some of their peers in a solemn mood. To these select few, Valentine’s Day is a reminder of a lost love, or better times when their heart was lit ablaze by adoration and passion. Realizing that many students may be suffering in this unhealthy state, The Nobleman has created a comprehensive guide to winning back your ex. Read on, and discover expert-verified techniques for rekindling the flame between you and your former lover!

For those wondering how to approach an ex who has seemingly moved on with their life, The Nobleman has one foolproof suggestion: begging! Nothing will make the sparks of a relationship

pop like constantly hounding your partner to date you again. To accomplish this goal, make sure to look at the person’s schedule and “conveniently” walk into them as they exit their first-period class. Ensure that everyone is watching, and proceed to humiliate your ex by gaslighting them into thinking that they are responsible for the breakup. If this method doesn’t work, constantly texting them can also do wonders. However, it’s quintessential that when using this tactic, the tone of your messages stays consistent. Through each DM, your ex must lose so much self-worth that they can’t see themselves ever being loved by someone other than you.

But, what if your ex doesn’t respond to your texts? Luckily, there’s a solution to that problem too! After consulting with real-life love experts such as Delilah from Magic 106.7 and lovecalculator.com, The Nobleman has found

that the text “Where my hug at” has a 100% success rate in rekindling relationships. Gavin Lin (Class II) testified to the fact. “As



(Graphic Credit: Wudiana Fevrier)

soon as I sent that message, my former girlfriend proposed to me...it truly was life-changing advice,” he said. Other texts The

Nobleman has found equally successful are: “Come here pookie, I need my huggie-wuggies,” “No one likes nice guys anymore,” and “Can you *blushes* be my number one again?”

If you don’t want to seem like a desperate loser, there are still a plethora of options available. To those who want to seem more like the “alpha” in their relationship, The Nobleman heavily recommends generating an elaborate scheme in which you pretend you’re in a new relationship. Through this fake love, constantly bad-mouth your ex and compare them to your new “partner.” Eventually, the rumors will circle around, and your past lover will come crawling back to you, alone and broken. Use this new power dynamic to your advantage and create a scenario where your ex is forced to rely solely on you. While this strategy may seem unnecessarily complicated

and prone to failure, Wudiana Février (Class I) believes that the results far outweigh the potential risks. They said, “Once I used this ruse, my ex fell into my lap... they can’t do anything without my approval.” Though the ethics of this technique may be called into question, it’s clear that from this one experience, this strategy works whenever it’s utilized!

At the end of the day, no matter what ploy or trick you choose to aid you in your quest for resurrecting love, The Nobleman is confident in your success! Happy Valentine’s Day and good luck!

Thirsty for Love



(Photo Credit: Zack Mittelstadt)

Eli Schotland
Staff Writer



Love is difficult. We’ve all been there. Anyone who claims never to have struggled with the pangs of unrequited love is lying. Weep no further! The Nobleman’s secret chemical division has synthesized an aphrodisiac of the highest quality. If your crush does

not return your affection, all you have to do is serve them this concoction, and they shall swoon with desire. But it is not so simple. The materials required to brew such a marvelous concoction are neither cheap nor common. I would have sold a list of the ingredients for money, but the Editorial Board tells me that’s “immoral” and “preying on people’s insecurities.”

The first few ingredients are common and can be found at your local CVS. First, fresh cinnamon is key. The heady scents of this most heavenly spice will be sure to create feelings of mutual love between you and your crush. Second, crushed candy hearts. These confectionaries will add delectable flavor and remind your beloved of how sweet

you are. Third, rose petals. The natural romantic properties of this flower make it an essential ingredient in any love potion.

Now, there are also more obscure items that must be used to enchant the potion properly. You will need your basic eye of toad and spleen of newt, of course. These two organs serve as a base for most common potions. Without them, the advanced chemical reactions needed to cause the desired effect will not take place. Next, you will need a powdered unicorn’s horn, the most powerful philter known to man. In order to procure it, you must find the long-lost Charles River Unicorn by hunting through the wooded swamps next to the football field. Rumor has it that it feeds only on

the magic crabgrass that grows around the entrance to the secret tunnel under the Castle. If you find the tunnel, not only will you get free tuition, but a much-needed unicorn horn as well.

The last ingredient is key. A hair from Dan Halperin’s head. Have you ever wondered why he is bald? It’s because his hair holds magical properties, and for decades students have plucked bits of his locks off to use in love potions of the past. Legend says he still keeps a box housing his few remaining hairs hidden somewhere in the Henderson Arts Center.

So remember, cinnamon, candy hearts, rose petals, eye of toad, spleen of newt, powdered unicorn horn, and hair of Halperin’s head. Take them all and toss

them into a cauldron of boiling water, making sure to only stir clockwise. After an hour, the mixture will turn reddish-pink and begin to sparkle, a sure sign that you’ve done your job right. Store it in the Castle overnight and then give it to your crush the next day.

Consuming raw or undercooked magical substances, animal parts, raw chicken, shellfish, or eggs may increase your risk of foodborne illness, especially if you have certain medical conditions (i.e pregnancy, being a freshman, taking Honors Chemistry, etc). The Nobleman is not responsible for any injury, death, or other unintended consequences.

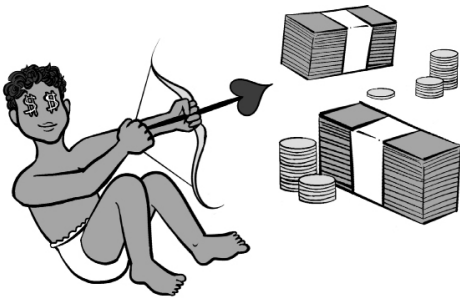
Valentine’s Day: Nowadays, A Celebration of Love or Capitalism?

Alan Cai
Business Manager



The social critic and acclaimed philosopher Karl Marx once wrote that “religion... is the opium of the people,” but what if it’s Valentine’s Day? Consider this: Valentine’s Day is a capitalist scheme to extort your hard-earned money out of your pocket in the name of a supposed higher ideal of love.

The original religious and romantic origins of Valentine’s Day have been completely defaced by greedy corporations, who have molded the holiday into a quick cash grab to take even more money out of the pockets of consumers. Valentine’s Day is no longer a celebration of your part-



(Graphic Credit: Wudiana Fevrier)

ner and the love that you share; instead, Valentine’s Day is when you can performatively show your everlasting love for your significant other by seeing how much money you can splurge on gifts. All in all, it seems to me like Valentine’s Day is a bigger win for corporations than your love life.

After all, who will really remember that fancy gift you got for your partner a few years down the line? And, let’s be honest, you’ll never recover from the extreme emotional trauma embedded into your brain after fishing over your hard-earned dollars to purchase a gaudy novelty gift marked up over


500% so that your significant other doesn’t break up with you. Basically, equivalent to a hostage situation (toxic relationship much?).

Still don’t get it? Hopefully, this analogy will help. Let’s say that, hypothetically, you’re a cargo ship transporting 2,000 containers of luscious, refreshing, simply sublime bottles of brand-name Purell hand sanitizer past the Horn of Africa (uh-oh). Now, when the local pirates start boarding your cargo ship from their rickety skiff, it’s game over for you and your luscious, refreshing, simply sublime cargo (read as: your significant other remembering that it’s Valentine’s Day). Now, you can either choose to pay up (so they don’t get upset at you) or you can face the wrath

of the pirates. So what do you choose? Well, any reasonable person would immediately pay up. Therein lies the tragedy of Valentine’s Day. If you’re in a relationship, you’re forced to pay up. And if single, you’re obliged to lament your lack of charisma. It is clear to me that we must realign Valentine’s Day with its pious and celebratory origins, protecting it from the corporations that now market the holiday for their own gain.


Bestie vs. Bae!

Bae



Rory Taylor (Class II)


Bestie



Zach O'Connell (Class II)


Favorite Song?	"And We Danced" by Macklemore	"Nineball" by Zach Bryan	"Godspeed" by Zach Bryan
Birthday?	June 16th	June 16th	June 17th (0.5 points)
Favorite Movie?	The Accountant	The Accountant	The Accountant
Favorite Ice Cream Flavor?	Vanilla	Coffee	Vanilla
Middle Name?	Fitzgerald	Fitzgerald	Patrick
Favorite Color?	Blue	Blue	Blue
First Pet?	Floyd	Floyd	Floyd
Favorite Castle Meal?	Grilled Chicken (0.5 points)	Thai Chicken	Thai Chicken
	5.5 points	Rory wins!	4.5 points

Bae



Neah Douglas (Class II)

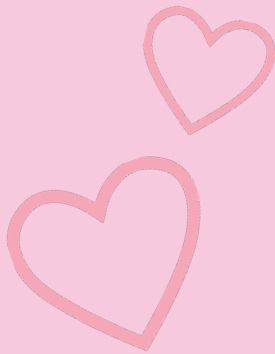
Bestie



Isaiah Pierre (Class I)

Favorite Artist?	SZA	SZA	SZA
Birthday?	January 17th	January 17th	January 17th
Favorite TV-Show?	Snowfall	Snowfall	Black-ish
Favorite Ice Cream Flavor?	Vanilla	Vanilla	Vanilla
Middle Name?	Kenaniah-A something (0.5)	Kenaniah-Aline	Kenaniah (0.5)
Favorite Color?	Green	Green	Blue
First Pet?	Dakota	Dakota	Bella
Favorite Castle Meal?	Revved up Mac-N-Cheese	Needle Bar	Needle Bar
	6.5 points	Neah wins!	4.5 points

Bestie vs. Bae!



Bae



Addy Dean (Class I)

Bestie

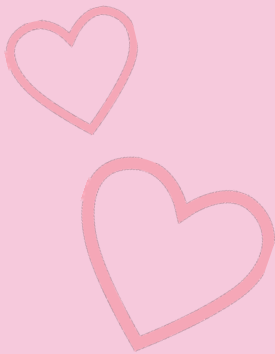


Akhil Janapareddy (Class II)



Drew Kahn (Class II)

Favorite Artist?	Red Wave	Lil Uzi Vert	Red Wave
Birthday?	April 12th	April 12th	February 21
Favorite Movie?	Harry Potter & The Goblet of Fire	Harry Potter & The Goblet of Fire	Harry Potter (0.5 points)
Favorite Ice Cream Flavor?	Chocolate	Chocolate	Chocolate
Middle Name?	Sai	Sai	N/A
Favorite Color?	Red	Red	Red
Favorite Castle Meal?	Sliders	Dinner BLTs	Noodle Bar
	5 points	Addy wins!	2.5 points



Bae



Tierney Smink (Class I)

Bestie



Christian Grosse (Class I)



Graham Ellis (Class I)

Favorite Song?	"Sparks" by Coldplay	"90210" by Travis Scott	"Sparks" by Coldplay
Birthday?	March 2nd	March 2nd	March 2nd
Favorite Movie?	Inglorious Basterds	Inglorious Basterds	Interstellar
Favorite Ice Cream Flavor?	Blackberry (0.5 points)	Black Raspberry	Cookie Dough
Middle Name?	Thomas	Thomas	Thomas
Favorite Color?	Red	Red	Red
First Pet?	George	Cosmo	Scruffles
Favorite Castle Meal?	Rice Bowls	Noodle Bar	General Tso's Chicken
	4.5 points	Tierney wins!	3 points

Student Life

A Survival Guide for Singles on Valentine's Day

Kate McLaughlin
Staff Writer



Being single can hit hard this time of year. Deprived of chocolate hearts and rose bouquets, nobody wants to spend Valentine's Day alone. Still, singles can survive the holiday's isolation with these tips and tricks.

1: Microwave Cooking:

With no partner to share a candlelight steak dinner, master the art of microwave cooking. Forget the Lunchables of elementary school; throw away the chicken dunks and tray nachos. Survive this Valentine's Day with Stouffer's microwavable slow-roasted steak and potatoes. Let one's love for red meat surpass any romantic hostility.

2: Hit the Gym

What better way to burn those 18 grams of protein than at the gym? Form bonds at the cable machine with single-arm rows and bicep curls; find companionship in an attractive set of dumbbells. Mingling on the treadmills is unnecessary, as exercise should be enough. How do we hide our feelings? In our muscles. How do we hide our feelings better? Get bigger muscles.



(Photo Credit: Avery Winder)

3: Ultimate Playlist:

Of course, every gym bro has their go-to playlist. Collect your tunes for survival with Another Love and When I Was Your Man. Kickstarting the pump, lift to Someone Like You and Dancing on My Own. This powerful playlist will erase any memories of tenderness and affection you once had.

4: Expert Napping:

Singles should rest after expending their energy, which is desperately needed in these times of loneliness. Sleep through the night without waking to the overwhelming sound of seclusion. Pop a few melatonin, roll into your empty bed, and close the curtain on this treacherous day of repugnant passion.



(Photo Credit: Negative Space)

Studying Away: Do's and Don't's of Dating on EXCEL Trips

Owen Harrington
Staff Writer



From the top of the Eiffel Tower to the base of the Alps, EXCEL trips can take you to some of the most romantic locations across the globe. Whether traveling with classmates you know well or peers you're just getting to meet, these trips can be a great time to make the move you've been waiting for. Be careful, though, because things can get very awkward very fast, and before you know it, you could be counting the days

that will probably last longer than your relationship.

First, it's important to set some ground rules. EXCEL trip rosters are often made up of students of many grade levels, and this should go without saying, but if the grades don't touch, neither do you. Also, be aware that you and your prospective partner are not the only people on this trip, so refrain from excessive PDA, as this will only serve to make your classmates and chaperones uncomfortable. In addition, always be mindful of the places you're visiting. Some EXCEL trip destinations have

if that means taking a moment away from your new special someone. Finally, please don't break any of the trip rules. While love can cause people to do unwise things, it's really not worth an early flight home.

Now that those are out of the way, here are some things you definitely should do to help the sparks fly during your off-campus adventure. Do your best to take advantage of your location. It is not often that you'll have the opportunity to make the first move in some of the beautiful places the world has to offer. Whether you find yourself in

the bright and bustling streets of Tokyo or the tranquil rainforests of Costa Rica, these exotic environments can be a perfect backdrop for really getting to know someone new. Also, always look for fun mini-date ideas throughout the trip. Grabbing gelato from a street cart or exploring an ancient site can be great ways for you and your partner to really connect. Try your best to get a few moments alone with your special someone. Always being in the spotlight of your

friends and chaperones can put a lot of pressure on both of you to act a particular way. These private times can help you define your relationship



(Photo Credit: Max Daniello)

until your flight home. This guide should help you to maximize your chances of success and create memories

extremely complex and unfortunate histories, and it's important to treat these places with the utmost respect, even



(Photo Credit: Avery Winder)

and will also give the rest of the trip-goers a break from always seeing you together. Finally, it is always vital to have a group of friends that you can go back to at the end of the day to get advice and support from.

Also, make sure not to forget your situation back home. Without a phone on these trips, it can be easy to forget the circumstances that will be waiting for you when you return, so do your best to avoid creating a difficult situation for yourself and your partner when you land back in Boston. Speaking of the flight back, while it might be tempting, try not to sit together. Flying can bring out the worst in people, and if you can avoid seeing that side of your partner so early in the relationship, you'll likely do better in the long term.

Lastly, I'd like to offer a word of warning for anyone thinking about tying the knot

on your upcoming EXCEL trips. No matter how discrete you think you are being, every single person on the trip, including chaperones, will know about your relationship. Then, as soon as you get back, people will start talking, and before you know it, the entire school will be fully aware of what you got up to over break. And yes, even most teachers will hear about it somehow. Hopefully, these tips will help some of you find love on your upcoming trips, and even if it doesn't last, I hope you make the most of it and learn some valuable lessons that might help you in your future relationships at Nobles and beyond.

Student Life

How to Properly Beg Your Ex to Give Back Your Gift

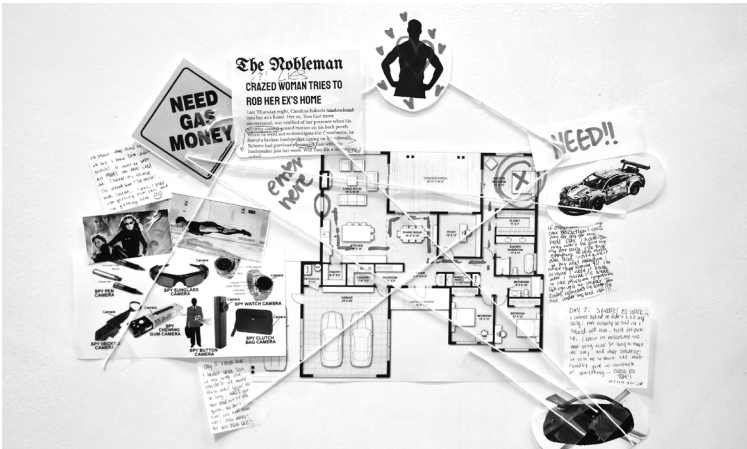
Sienna Robertson
Staff Writer



A common issue during Valentine's Day is the inability to get those gifts back from someone you THOUGHT was the one, but you just weren't meant to be for each other. More specifically, they ended up ripping your heart out and eventually tossed it out of their car window, causing it to shatter into pieces... almost like LEGOs. Speaking of LEGOs, have you ever seen those eye-pleasing LEGO car sets? Like the ones you would walk past during a Target run, maybe with your significant other? The sets that they would beg and beg for like a baby? The type of sets that suck \$169.99 (plus tax) out of your bank account? Now that you've said, "Oh yeah, those!" in your head, followed by an "I can definitely relate to and feel overly emotional about

that!" let's get into how to get that LEGO car and your ex back. Now that we've established that our bank accounts and hearts have both gone through this pain, we can immediately cross out "Send them a video of you crying in front of an old photo with you both in it" off our list. Why? Well, I mean, we've tried it before, right? Anyway, this new one I came up with has been known to bring any ex to tears: write a song about how much you love them and need them need that LEGO set to return it for gas money. Blast that song on a speaker outside their window! Music these days is subjective, but I doubt they'd misunderstand the meaning behind your composition. They might even invite you in and ask for the SoundCloud link to the song! They might even listen to a few more of the songs you've written about how much you miss their laugh... their jokes... their hugs... If that doesn't work for you

and they come out and smash your speaker on the concrete, this next idea should help you! Like we've all done during our break-up slump, binge-watch the Mission Impossible franchise. Now is the time to show your ex that you ARE capable of being active in some way and do NOT just sit around playing Brawl Stars in your free time. Get yourself the coolest, all-black disguise that will make you look hot from the nearest mall, a rope from Home Depot, and the SuperSpies Secret Agent Spymaster kit on Amazon for \$39.95. That \$40 that was supposed to go to gas money will be easily made back after you finally get to refund that LEGO set meant for your ex... your old best friend... your everything... Breaking into their house should be easy peasy!* You still have their weekend schedule memorized, don't you? On Saturdays, they spend their morning volunteering at the nursing home! That's so sweet... they've always been that



(Photo Credit: Avery Winder)

way... Once you tiptoe past the speaker they broke two days prior, hopping through their window should be a breeze with the Sticky Lil' Fingers gloves that came in the overpriced spy set you got! If the LEGO car isn't properly appreciated and displayed in the center like you pictured, check and see if it's still unopened underneath their bed, underappreciated just like you in your old relationship!

More or less, whether you end up wasting more gas money than you get back or end up in a jail cell for burglary, at least you got to see an old pal who's really just an old pal, nothing more than that. Unless... they wanted to be more than that again? Please come back.

*Disclaimer: The Nobleman does not support any criminal activity unless it's to get your ex back.

Lessons in Love: Your Teachers' Advice for Valentines this Year

Eva Yu
Staff Writer



Love advice from Mr. Kovacs (for how to get a girl!):
1: Don't be a problem solver for your love interest. For example, if she comes to you with an issue with her best friend or teacher, don't say "Great, let's kill her." Instead, listen, acknowledge her feelings, and say something like, "Boy, that sounds really rough," and then don't say another word until she speaks.
2: Don't "one-up" your love interest. If she tells a story, don't be a typical guy, and try to one-up her with a story of your own. Keep that for your buddies. She does not care about a lie that you still believe to be true and still tell your friends. Instead, just ask another question about her story, no matter how much you are dying inside to tell her that amazing made-up story

that puts hers to shame...keep it to yourself, and ask questions.
3: Put a time constraint on every interaction, especially if you are trying to break the ice. "Hey, I just have a minute, but I wanted to let you know..." or if you are already chatting, "I am having a lot of fun, but I have to head out in two minutes." She won't feel like

she has to put up with your nonsense for very long, and she will wonder what you have better going on than hanging out with her.
4: Don't be the guy who goes and gets the pizza by himself. This was a common phrase that Kovacs' dad told him. If you want to forever be stuck in the friend zone, be the guy that is always do-

ing the nice things in hopes it will impress your interest. Say you are hanging with a group including your interest, and someone says, "Hey, I could use some pizza," and you say, "I'll get it!" You will likely realize five minutes in the drive to Dedham House that you are in the friend zone, and your buddy who stayed behind has a new date to the Techno Dance.
Love Advice from Mr. Polebaum (first date):
1: I'm taking it as a given that love is a social construct that has been made up by Hallmark and the greeting card industry.
2: I would say, follow your head, and not your heart.
3: Don't have your parents pick up your date for you. That's a bad idea. It'll be an awkward conversation with your parent or guardian in the front seat, and you and your date in the back seat. This definitely isn't from personal experience.

4: Don't go to legacy; it's very gauche. It's unoriginal.
5: If you can make it through an escape room on a first date, you might as well just get married. I might actually believe that.
6: Red flag on a first date: your date tries to eat your food order. Sharing is not caring. If you wanted french fries, you should've ordered your own french fries. Plan ahead.
7: Think about your smellscape that you're putting out into the world. Too much is too much—cologne should only be applied with a single spurt.
8: Ms. Sokoll Feature: If you get to the date, and the other person has already eaten everything and is on dessert... Red flag. (Definitely not speaking from personal experience).
9: If they're not into cats, red flag. Allergies are just an excuse. Allergies are not real. (Ms. Traeger: Just play in the dirt more.)



(Photo Credit: Ben Heider)

Brotherhood at Nobles: Best Bromances



Matt Anderson
Layout Staff
Gavin Lin
Layout Staff



At Nobles, it's not hard to find those dynamic bromance duos that seem connected like brothers. They are almost always inseparable and can light up a room with their laughter, making others smile because of their friendship. At Nobles, there are plenty of bromances that we could talk about, but here are a few of the most notable ones:



1: Nate Madden and Nate Winslow
When the name "Nate" comes to mind, it's not hard for this duo to pop into your mind. It's almost as if their shared name made their friendship inevitable. Their humorous and relaxed manner ensures that there's never a dull moment between the two. As Nate Madden (Class II) said, "Nate^2 is much more of a concept than a friendship. It's a fundamental belief in God, education, and the liberty of the American people."



2: Matt Anderson and Willy Connors
Dashing. Hilarious. Electric. All words used to describe these two gentlemen and the vibes that they radiate when they are around. If you're in Mike Curran's special English II class where the two of them sit next to each other despite being separated at least nine times this year, then you know they must at least be cousins. Whether it's engaging in tomfoolery or reciting uplifting Instagram quotes to each other, the two are always feeding off the other's contagious laughter and positivity. In my unbiased opinion, the best bromance at Nobles, hands down.



3: Sebastian Guzman and Vedant Kulkarni
Without a doubt, Sebastian and Vedant are arguably one of the best bromances on campus. First meeting each other during their freshman JV soccer season, the duo has since grown their friendship to a bond so strong they seem inseparable. To sum it up, both Sebastian and Vedant's sense of humor complement each other in a way no one else can. All in all, Sebastian and Vedant's bromance definitely tops the Nobles charts and will no doubt continue to do so.

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Breakup Lines

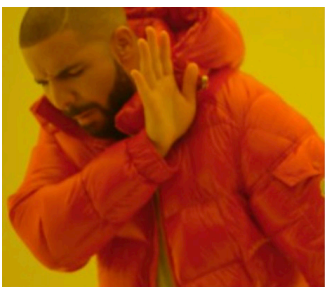
- "I used you for prom."
- "For the republic."
- "It's done. Go home."
- "You just weren't the omega to my alpha."
- "Maybe if you were better at Fortnite"
- "Sorry I need someone more attractive."
- "You need time to work on yourself."
- "You talk too much."
- "We were dating????"
- "I want the college experience."

Febuary Playlists

Lover Mix:



Heartbroken Mix:



sending
friendship
roses to
your friends



sending
crush
roses to
your friends

