

dtmfa ... the response /1-2/

If you're a new reader, you **may not be familiar with** this **handy** acronym: DTMFA. It **stands for** "dump the motherfucker **already**," and **halfway through** your letter I started **muttering** DTMFA under my breath. **By the end**, I was screaming DTMFA **at** my laptop. **On** an airplane.

Look, this isn't a relationship. It's a hostage situation. Your boyfriend is an **asshole**. Wait, maybe I'm not **being** fair—to assholes. Your boyfriend is **a piece of shit**. And you, my dear, have the worst case of **lousy-relationship Stockholm syndrome** that I've ever **encountered**. **How else** can I explain the final paragraph of your letter, in which you **justify** your boyfriend's **appalling** behavior. Stop **making excuses** for **the way** he **treats you!** DTMFA!

To **steel your resolve** to leave this piece of shit, let me **clue you in** to a few secrets of healthy relationships: **as long as** he makes four times what you make, he should pay—and **be happy to pay**—80 percent of the household expenses, **while** you pay 20 percent. **By insisting** on a 50/50 split, your boyfriend is treating you like a roommate **rather than** a girlfriend.