

The Unspoken Dialogue Between Men and Women

1. Males Name
2. Females Name
3. Event
4. Event
5. Number
6. Exclamation
7. Exclamation
8. Noun
9. Adjective
10. Noun
11. Noun
12. Verb
13. Month
14. Car Part
15. Exclamation
16. Fluid
17. Body Part
18. Noun
19. Past Tense Verb
20. Car Part
21. Number
22. Verb

23. Adjective
24. Number
25. Feeling
26. Feeling
27. Number
28. Color
29. Animal
30. Noun
31. Noun
32. Number
33. Exclamation
34. Females Name
35. Body Part
36. Present Tense Verb
37. Adverb
38. Feeling
39. Noun
40. Present Tense Verb
41. Packaged Food
42. Sport
43. Adjective
44. Number
45. Sport

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Let's say a guy named _____males name_____ is attracted to a woman named _____Females name_____. He asks her out to a/an _____Event_____; she accepts; they have a pretty good time. A few nights later he asks her out to _____Event_____ and again they enjoy themselves. They continue to see each other regularly, and after a while neither one of them is seeing anybody else.

And then, one evening when they're driving home, a thought occurs to _____females name_____ and, without really thinking, she says it aloud: "Do you realize that, as of tonight, we've been seeing each other for exactly _____Number_____ months?"

And then there is silence in the car. To _____females name_____ it seems like a very loud silence. She thinks to herself: _____Exclamation_____ I wonder if it bothers him that I said that. Maybe he's been feeling confined by our relationship; maybe he thinks I'm trying to push him into some kind of obligation that he doesn't want, or isn't sure of.

And _____^{males name}_____ is thinking: _____^{Exclamation}_____. _____^{number}_____ months.

And _____^{females name}_____ is thinking: But, hey, I'm not so sure I want this kind of relationship, either. Sometimes I wish I had a little more _____^{Noun}_____ so I'd have time to think about whether I really want us to keep going the way we are, moving _____^{Adjective}_____ toward . . . I mean, where are we going? Are we just going to keep seeing each other at this level of intimacy? Are we heading toward _____^{Noun}_____? Toward children? Toward a _____^{Noun}_____ together? Am I ready for that level of commitment? Do I really even _____^{Verb}_____ this person?

And _____^{males name}_____ is thinking: . . . so that means it was . . .let's see... _____^{Month}_____ when we started going out, which was right after I had the car at the dealer's, which means . . . lemme check the _____^{Car part}_____ . . . _____^{Exclamation}_____! I am way overdue for an _____^{Fluid}_____ change here.

And _____females name_____ is thinking: He's upset. I can see it on his _____Body part_____. Maybe I'm reading this completely wrong. Maybe he wants more from our relationship, more _____Noun_____ more commitment; maybe he has sensed -- even before I sensed it -- that I was feeling some reservations. Yes, I bet that's it. That's why he's so reluctant to say anything about his own feelings. He's afraid of being _____Past tense verb_____.

And _____males name_____ is thinking: And I'm gonna have them look at the _____Car part_____ again. I don't care what those morons say, it's still not shifting right. And they better not try to blame it on the cold weather this time. What cold weather? It's _____Number_____ degrees out, and this thing is shifting like a _____Verb_____ garbage truck, and I paid those _____Adjective_____ thieves \$.

And _____females name_____ is thinking: He's _____Feeling_____. And I don't blame him. I'd be _____feeling_____ too.

God,

I feel so _____ Feeling _____ putting him through this, but I can't help the way I feel. I'm just not sure.

And _____ males name _____ is thinking: They'll probably say it's only a -day warranty. That's exactly what they're gonna say, the scumballs.

And _____ females name _____ is thinking: Maybe I'm just too idealistic, waiting for a knight to come riding up on his _____ Color _____ Animal _____ when I'm sitting right next to a perfectly good person, a person I enjoy being with, a person I truly do care about, a person who seems to truly care about me. A person who is in pain because of my self-centered, _____ Noun _____ romantic fantasy.

And _____ males name _____ is thinking: Warranty? They want a warranty? I'll give them a damn warranty. I'll take their warranty and stick it right up their

'##@males_name">, _____females_name_____says aloud.

"What?" says _____males_name_____ startled.

"Please don't torture yourself like this," she says, her eyes beginning to brim with tears. "Maybe I should never have . . Oh God, I feel so"

(She breaks down, sobbing.)

"I'm such a _____Noun_____', _____females_name_____sobs. "I mean, I know there's no knight. I really know that. It's silly. There's no knight, and there's no _____animal_____,"

"There's no _____, says _____

"You think I'm a fool, don't you?" _____ says.

"No!" says _____ glad to finally know the correct answer.

"It's just that . . . It's that I . . . I need some time," _____ says.

(There is a _____-second pause while _____ males name thinking as fast as he can, tries to come up with a safe response. Finally he comes up with one that he thinks might work.)

" _____ Exclamation _____,' he says

(, deeply moved, touches his _____ Body part _____.)

'Oh, _____ males name do you really feel that way?" she says.

"What way?" says _____ males name. "That way about time," says _____ females name

"Oh,"

says _____ males name _____. "Yes."

(turns to face him and _____ Present tense verb _____ Adverb _____ into his eyes, causing him to become very
_____ Feeling _____ about what she might say next, especially if it involves a _____ animal _____. At last she speaks.)

"Thank you, _____ males name _____, she says.

"Thank you," says _____ males name _____.

Then he takes her home, and she lies on her _____ Noun _____ a conflicted, tortured soul, and _____ Present tense _____
_____ verb _____ until dawn, whereas when _____ males name _____ gets back to his place, he opens a bag of _____ Packaged _____
_____ food _____ turns on the TV, and immediately becomes deeply involved in a rerun of a _____ Sport _____ game/match
between

two Czechoslovakians he never heard of. A Adjective voice in the far recesses of his mind tells him that something major was going on back there in the car, but he is pretty sure there is no way he would ever understand what, and so he figures it's better if he doesn't think about it. (This is also males name policy regarding world hunger.)

The next day females name will call her closest friend, or perhaps two of them, and they will talk about this situation for Number straight hours. In painstaking detail, they will analyze everything she said and everything he said, going over it time and time again, exploring every word, expression, and gesture for nuances of meaning, considering every possible ramification. They will continue to discuss this subject, off and on, for weeks, maybe months, never reaching any definite conclusions, but never getting bored with it, either.

Meanwhile, males name while playing Sport one day with a mutual friend of his and females name,s_ will pause just before serving, frown, and say,

"Norm, did _____females name_____ever own a _____animal_____?"