#### Anne HJERSMAN

### **Shattered trust**

### Extramarital affair hurts more than just husband, wife

He's human. I've always known

But Bill Cosby cheated on his

Is that what it means to be "human"?

I hope not. I plan on marrying a human someday. A faithful one - if I'm lucky, I guess.

Some people may argue that Cosby's fame does not give the media the right to pry into the life he leads behind closed doors. But he sought out that fame, fully aware of the public curiosity that comes along with it.

And I don't think it's terribly unfair to expect faithfulness from a man who plays himself up in his comedy as a real family man - a man who authored a book solely based on "Fatherhood."

Perhaps it's silly of me, but I'm hurt. I'm disappointed. Bill Cosby was the dad I always wanted. He was funny but firm in his fatherliness. And dependable - or so I thought.

I realize my timing is bad. Cosby just lost his only son, and I hurt for him. But I also hurt for Cosby's wife Camille because of the pain he must have caused her. And I hurt for those who have looked up to the family funnyman over the years, only to see their hero fall.



Bill Cosby chose to have sex with someone other than his wife while his wedding vows were still fresh on his lips."

Maybe I've been deceived, but I've always had the understanding that being "human" means that unlike the other members of the animal kingdom we have the ability to think about what we are doing.

We can ponder our decisions and weigh the consequences. We make choices.

Bill Cosby chose to have sex with someone other than his wife while his wedding vows were still fresh on his lips.

He was young. He made a mistake. He's only human.

None of us is infallible, but I don't think that means we shouldn't be held accountable.

And I don't think adultery should be brushed aside as something that just happens. I have problems with the popular opinion that forbidden sex is the ultimate turn-on.

There's nothing sexy about violating the intimate trust that should form the foundation of any marriage — not to mention the physical risks that come with sleeping around.

Cosby's wife says all has been forgiven and forgotten, but I'm quite certain their marriage was never the same after that trust was violated.

My trust was violated, too. I had faith in the Cosby father-figure. I wanted to believe it wasn't just an

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# Kazoos, naked butts and pit-bulls

### Do someone a favor, but don't ask me for one

I've been doing favors all of my life. When my buddy wants me to recommend a good lawyer — I tell him. And when the managers at Super Saver ask me to locate my pants and put them on again - I do

Hell, even my professors ask favors of me.

"Steve," they say, "could you please miss class on Thursday? We're having a speaker." I'm always happy to oblige. I know they're just trying to save the speaker and class from THE embarrassing question I'm bound to ask.

(Note to reader: During a chemistry lecture about the effects of titration on Wombats, I proposed the profound and enlightening question: "How many g's in marsupial?")

If you stop and think about it, the very nature of favors is kind of odd. You are essentially asking someone to give you a good or service absolutely free of charge and with no strings attached.

Maybe, if you're lucky, I will

thank you!" This goes against everything American society has ever taught me. The only real stipulation when asking favors is that they generally have to be asked of friends, as they are seldom granted by strangers.

And I can tell you first-hand that favors are NOT done by corpora-

ME: "Mornin' sir. I was wondering if you would like to do me a favor. I would like to trade this stapler you see here for that Maytag washer and dryer set. (Wiggling eyebrows and elbowing salesman in the rib) Huh?

SALESMAN: "Get off our prop-

Lord knows I've tried to squeeze out the occasional favor from some of the bigger companies. For



example, I recently asked the CEOs of all my different credit-card companies to please "dismiss all of my balances, lest I'll be forced to send you nudie photos of my father and Aaron Neville."

I won't get into the specifics of how my favors went, except to say rejection letter, in which I was periodically referred to as "you imbecile.'

Meanwhile the lawsuit Citibank filed is still pending, depending largely on, as Supreme Court Justice Thomas observed, "whether or not these photos truly exist, and how many copies I will be given to view alone in my chambers.

The point to all of this, of course, is that for you to receive a favor, it's important to ask one of the follow-

ing people for it: 1) Your friends.

2) The GUY who would break up a fight between an alligator and a pit-bull if you asked him to.

Everyone knows a guy like this. Some folks just have great difficulty refusing favors: Personally. and I may regret revealing this later, but I am physically unable to deny a favor, especially if a girl asks.

It doesn't matter if she asks me nicely or orders the favor like some Nazi drill sergeant with PMS, I still end up doing the favor. Of course even I have my limits — which, by the way, I have set as: "obtaining Tom Cruise's built. Even I refuse to sink so low. (Sorry, Sarah.)

I know I'm not alone in this fear of favor refusals. My roommate, a shy farm kid from small-town Nebraska, gets absolutely abused by people asking for favors. He receives so many phone calls a day, that he's had to hire a personal secretary. He honestly leaves home at 3:37 a.m. and does favors for people until 12:30 p.m., trying politely to squeeze in less important goals such as attending class and eating.

Personally, I've gotten to the point now that I'm beginning to behave oddly whenever I'm approached by favor-seekers.

For example, before anyone asks a favor of me, I instinctively seek the highest possible ground. I FIRMLY ve that there is a direct correlation between how close you are to the ground and how crappy the favor

Think about it this way: If someone says he has a favor to ask and then proceeds to ask you to sit down, you can rest assure that it's going to be one of those "Can-youhelp-me-move-to-Libya" types of

And if he says, "You may want to lie down for this," forget it! You might as well quit school and work because for the next several months, you'll be helping your friend develop some crazy scheme to take over Australia using only a kazoo.

I suppose it's human nature to ask for favors. It's hard to be independent nowadays; we need the

aid of other people.

And I don't know whether you know this or not, but I've done you readers a favor already. I left out the joke about a brain-damaged armadillo that has a secret desire to write comedy for Jerry Seinfeld. You can thank me later.

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