

I Hate Traffic



We interrupt your regular editorial to talk about traffic. Frankly, I hate it. Hatehatehate. My Steam username is Hatestraffic; people think it's funny. It's not funny. It's actually my middle name (you can check my birth certificate). Traffic isn't funny. If you think traffic is funny, you're part

of the problem.

I bet you're in a car right now, *doing traffic*. You little twerp. This is what Oxford Dictionaries' website has to say about roads.

"A wide way leading from one place to another, especially one with a specially prepared surface which vehicles can use."

Well that doesn't describe any of the 'roads' I've seen this year.

Oxfords' second definition better describes our roads: *"A series of events or a course of action that will lead to a particular outcome"* – a series of terrible choices and fiendish actions that lead to two outcomes: madness followed by premature death from boredom.

– Zoheb Hatestraffic Mashuur, sub-editor, SHOUT

How not to lose your smartphone

MAISHA MALIHA

Even though you and your smartphone are inseparable, as angrily pointed out by your mother, you have the attention span of a teaspoon. If you're one of those clumsy people who are currently on their fourth phone and everyone, including you, is fed up with your losing skills, here are some useful tips to keep a closer eye on your beloved.

AVOID PURCHASING A SMARTPHONE TO BEGIN WITH. Maybe it's for the better. You lose your phone, you cry, your parents console you in the worst way possible, you post morose statuses on Facebook, and find a little piece of yourself dying each time someone asks for your number. Maybe it's not meant to be. Maybe it's time to make do with the old Nokia 1112.

HAVE A BACK-UP PHONE. But you can't help it! You sulk just enough to emotionally blackmail your parents, or save up teaching that student you loathe with all your heart, and get yourself a brand new phone. Make use of that old Nokia 1112 so that when you travel alone at night or go by a dodgy place, you don't have to give up your pretty device; you can offer the sacrifice instead, should you fall prey to muggers. You can return home thinking that the little beauty is safely resting inside a cozy drawer. Treasure your little precious!

CARRY YOUR PHONE, DON'T HOLD IT. This one's for the ladies: take your fashion needs in one hand, open a window with the other and throw it far

away beyond periphery. You won't look very fashionable with mascara running down your face when you lose your phone. Always carry a purse, whether you like it or not. While I



don't support man purses, the men should put away their phones in the safety of their pockets and use them for what they were made for! Sure, it looks like a treasure chest stuffed inside your pockets but sometimes you just have to

bite the bullet and do it. Besides, there are plenty of fashionable safety measures. Be innovative.

WRITE DOWN SERIAL NUMBERS. Each smartphone comes with its unique identifying information, which includes both model and serial numbers. Write these down and store them in a safe place. You'll need this information if you ever need to report a lost or stolen phone and/or file a claim. If you can't recover your phone, report the phone's "serial number" as lost or stolen. These link your smartphone into national property databases used by the police to track stolen goods.

Now, take an oath and mark it down on the calendar: this will be your last phone. You just cannot afford to lose it at yet another wedding, where you rashly leave it on the table after your prolonged selfie-session. You're not contributing to the economy by buying a phone every other day. This. Is. It. Just give up already. You don't deserve it.

Maisha Maliha speaks what crosses her mind in the most positive way but is often misinterpreted and thought to be a lunatic. Unfollow her at www.facebook.com/MyshoeMaliha

THIS WEEK'S HORRORSCOPE

ARIES

Surrounded by lead, smoke and fire, I rose. My room's a mess.



TAURUS

I forgot to pack my colour pencils. And my markers.



GEMINI

But that's okay because I didn't pack my whiteboard either.



CANCER

What's not okay is that I didn't pack my whiteboard.



LEO

I recently wrote on my whiteboard using permanent marker.



VIRGO

Nowhere on the marker does it say that it is permanent!



LIBRA

Trusting someone is a good way to blackmail them, I've learnt.



SCORPIO

Wow, don't get me started on blackmail. For one, I can't.



SAGITTARIUS

I mean, I tried. I was specifically asked to. But I couldn't.



CAPRICORN

But then later on, I did blackmail someone without realising it.



AQUARIUS

Do you realise with an 's' or realize with a 'z'? In UK I mean.



PISCES

My guitar gently weeps. Because I abuse it while wearing crocs.

