

# People You Meet in the Morning after the Breakup

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Breakups aren't easy but in Bangladesh, the struggle is on a different level. It's not the end of the world but it'll definitely feel like it is because of everyone around you. If you're a girl, it'll be everyone worrying about whether you'll score an eligible bachelor now that you're not a sweet innocent damsel anymore. If you're a guy, you will get attacked as if you're a carcass for vultures on their feeding day. After all, you're an eligible bachelor again.

**Pasher Bashar Ghotok Auntie**  
 Colloquially known as "ghotok pakhi", these are the women, who, on most occasions will be your source of entertainment. She's armed with a list of boys and girls of the most superior kind and she wants you to end up with one. On the morning in discussion, she'll be the first to have magically sniff out your relationship status. She's the dealer of happily-ever-afters and she'll leave no stone unturned to let you and your family know that she's got your back.

**Kobi Bhaia/Cushion Apu**  
 Aside from the ghotok auntie there are two more types of people who know you're single and seek to know if you're ready to mingle. Skipping the *ghotkali*,



they'll go into self-service. Kobi Bhaia will shower you with beautifully written verses letting you know exactly how much he has observed everything about you. The angle at which your nose curves, how your *orna* flails in a sandstorm – he nails it all. If you're a guy who's trying to come to terms with the complexities of your last woman, Cushion Apu will be the first to offer you all the inside digs on women

and in return she'll only want to spend every waking hour with you.

**The Chastising Nutritionist**  
 You'll probably want to drown all those emotions in ice cream or demerit goods, but lo and behold, you have a health nut around you. There's always that friend or cousin or sibling who means well but doesn't execute it quite as nicely. They'll

remind you that the post-breakup lifestyle is about getting a "revenge body" instead of just being a sad couch potato that eventually gets better.

**Sappy Movies and Chill**  
 In contrast to the previous bunch, these are the people who'll feed you enough sugar to give you diabetes, then top it off with some popcorn and let you burn some calories while you sob over a sappy movie. If you're a guy, you might cry internally after thinking of sappy things while playing Dota or leveling up your RPG character to insane numbers. The outcome is usually a maniacal call to the ex though.

**Tumblrinas**  
 This is when you start noticing the sad Tumblr quotes slathered over your homepage. Sure you might be feeling some of those posts about love that never worked out but seriously, no one needs that kind of sadness in their lives. But all of a sudden, these tumblrinas begin to hit a raw nerve and the Unfollow button becomes your actual best friend.

*Nooha Sabanta Maula is an Anthropology major whose anthropologising has made her confused about life. Send her your thoughts to noohamaula@gmail.com*

## SATIRE

# #PlantLivesMatter

SUMMER CHILD & RUE-MAN

Nowadays, people take great pride in being vegan. They are saving the planet, they are saving the unfortunate cows from being exploited by farmers. "Exploited" is an understatement. How would you feel if you were milked dry every day for the rest of your life, that too in front of your child? As a fellow staunch plant's rights activist and thorough plant lover, something I feel the need to bring up in every conversation, I implore the rest of the society to end this savagery threatening to take over our elitist lifestyle.

I too was a vegan once. Until I met Greeny, a rescue.

Greeny is (was) a gender neutral, 6-week-old, Clover Leaf Mixed who sexually identifies as water. I was taking a walk around Dhanmondi Lake when I saw Greeny, a rescue, lying flat on the pavement, being repeatedly trot on without a thought about their opinion or their emotions. It was an instant connection. I rescued Greeny and ever since then, we talked about our pains, our lean gains and the viability of almond milk replacing cow milk.

Greeny touched me. Greeny taught me how plants feel. Did I mention they was a rescue?

Most of all, Greeny told me of the pain they

felt when we ripped them away from their parents. The pain they felt when their seed was ripped away from their bodies. How would you feel if your seed was ripped away from your body? Greeny made me feel the pain of my seed being slashed from me.

All I learned so far at Unpronounceable Name University that gave me my Western liberal arts degree was at stake. Gender being a social construct? Socialism? Factory farming? Nothing eclipsed the silent screams from the pained trees and plants. We think wild animals are repulsive when they bite into the flesh of a deer and blood drip down their jaws. What about the apples that get desecrated by our teeth and bleed the transparent tears?

Today, let's also take this opportunity to make life hell for a few other people. Botanical gardens and nurseries need to be shut down. Plants have feelings. How would you like if people gawked at you all day long or traded you for money? It is an inhuman act and needs to be punished. All such places should be banned.

Remember Folx, plants matter. Global Warming is real. Feel the Bern.

*Plants feel pain:*  
<http://science.howstuffworks.com/life/botany/plants-feel-pain.htm>

