

# SIX HOURS OF CRUST PUNK

MASHIAT LAMISA

There was a time when my username *me\_headbanger* was my sole identity. Somehow, *me\_headbanger* got lost in between junk folders and parental guidance. Yet, the little *headbanger* still lies deep inside the heart, ready to come to life every chance it gets.

So when I got the opportunity to sign up for six hours of crust punk- which apparently is a sub-genre of extreme metal, I happily said yes. And here I am now, sitting comfortably in my jet black pyjamas, ready to newly explore the beautiful and sunshiny world of hardcore punk and heavy metal:

## Hour 1

I have never heard of crust punk before. The internet says crust punk songs are majorly about militarism, nuclear war, animal rights and the lyrics tend to be quite nihilistic. Well, count me in.

The first band that attracts me is Crustina Aguilera. I turn up the volume and listen to the song called Image of Man. I carefully try to understand the lyrics but the vocalist's shrieks don't make much sense. Maybe that's the whole point of the song- the image of man does not make much sense either, after all.

I'm already impressed and inspired.

## Hour 2

YouTube has a pretty good crust punk playlist. The current track is Sunshine Ward by Amebix. It started with a low beat, but as soon as we reached the middle of the song- I think my whole ward became full of sunshine even in this dark,

dark night. The vocalist screaming "there is no stairway we're stuck on this floor" is all I want to listen to for the rest of my life.

## Hour 3

I'm now watching The Grindmother's Any Cost video. Here is a 67 year old grandmother doing things with her voice I can't even dare to. Her rough voice scratching the lines "breach your privilege" is basically #goals. What an eye opener, really.

I show The Grindmother to my mother dearest and ask her to be more like the grandmother. She rolls her eyes and tells me to find a new mom and a new house if I am so keen on listening to such loud music. Oh mom.

## Hour 4

I think I'm slipping into another universe. No, this isn't Satan land. This is something much more refined and punk. This is my trump card to the world's age old secrets and more. I can feel several strands of punk hair growing at the back of my scalp. My nails are painting themselves black, and my already black soul is turning blacker. My skin is turning into a denim jacket covered in studs and spikes. I am becoming a *crustie*, slowly, and then all at once.

## Hour 5

Up The Punx by Fleas and Lice is one of the most insightful songs I have ever listened to. It speaks to me so much I can't even describe. "Up, up, up the punks"- it says, and up the punks I go. Doom's Sick With Society gets how wounded we are by deceit, how injured our pride is and how crippled by apathy we are. This is also the

only song whose lyrics I could find today.

## Hour 6

This is it. I have found my calling. I have decided to bring back *me\_headbanger*, no matter what they say. Heck, I might even change it to *me\_crustieapu\_headbanger*.



Fear no more the world's atrocities, ye headbangers. Protest, survive, annihilate and crust punk it up.

*Mashiat Lamisa is often seen frowning at the sight of people who dislike poetry and tomatoes. She can be reached at mashiatlamisa@outlook.com.*

# Biggest Pet Peeves on a First Date

## From a Girl's POV

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The thought of first dates can induce butterflies in your stomach. They could either be too good to remember or entirely cringe worthy, depending on how much you have messed up your demeanor. The biggest pet peeve would probably be not putting down your phone, but we already are au fait with that, so let's bring out some other major turn-offs you should avoid.

### Going for Movies

The worst decision for a first date. A movie guarantees that you are not going to have a hearty conversation for at least the next two hours, or you might annoy the people next to you. You may also not know the girl's movie tastes; she might not really enjoy watching Ethan Hunt being pursued by the CIA as much as you do. On the other hand, if the girl is an action movie addict like me, you will end up talking to the hand because she will be too enrapt to even realize you are speaking to her.

### Grumbling about Anybody or Anything

On a first date, it's preferable to get to know each other rather than judging a mutual friend in their absence or com-

Did I overdress for our first date...?



plaining about the ambience. Not only does it radiate a negative aura about you, but it is also very aggravating because our ears are tired of hearing such remarks, and we want good vibes only.

### Not Wearing a Perfume

You could smell of nothing but you would still want to smell good to attract attention. An appealing aroma always creates the best of impressions, and a first date is something special, so you might not

want to treat it as one of your regular days. Furthermore, perfumes hold great memories; you could sniff a certain aroma at sometime in your life and feel the upsurge of recollections reverberating back through the years.

### Unwelcomed Contact

I don't even need to elucidate, but stop trying to touch a woman where you shouldn't. Not only does this reflect your sleazy attitude, but also that you are not

there for a serious understanding, so please.

### Pretending To Listen

There's a fine line between actually listening and feigning your interest in one's life, and if you want it to be serious rather than just a dalliance, you might as well try your best to listen. But don't worry, most girls may not be too hard on you; we are well aware of the fact that we might bore you, so maybe just change the topic if you feel like you are losing your attention from the conversation.

### Complimenting the Exterior Aspects

Girls know you are trying to flatter her, and she will always think you are being euphemistic when you say she looks beautiful, whether you meant it whole-heartedly or not. It also makes her feel like you are only dating her for the face. So go for compliments like "Your shoes match perfectly with your bag," or "I adore your stubbornness in food choices."

*Zarin Rayhana is a self-aggrandizing ambivert who ponders over philosophical epiphanies during rainy evenings and waits for her crush to jump straight out of her favorite novel. Treat her with novel suggestions at ericaavianazarin@gmail.com*