

# What it's like being the broke one in your squad

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Being the broke friend usually means being dragged down back to the ground by your empty wallet while trying to fly in the “financially stable” sky, hoping to splurge on food with friends, it also means becoming a machine that churns worn-out excuses every time something fun is planned.

Here's your life:

## YOU SHUDDER AT THE THOUGHT OF HANGOUTS

Well, anything that has something to do with money is a red sign for you. Be it trips to the outskirts or just a casual meet-up at a burger place, your friends always find you hesitating to answer. That's because you have to do a lot of mental calculations before fully understanding whether spending money would only bring momentary happiness.

## YOU HAVE MADE EMPTY PROMISES

As many birthdays have passed, a list of pending treats has been made by your friends, only to be brought up in several occasions. Given that your friends are yet to be treated by your 2016 self, they have most certainly stopped expecting anymore. But if you end up spending on them in the near future, they will definitely write an ode to you on social media for doing something you weren't financially designed to do.

## YOU TAKE ABNORMAL RAIN CHECKS

'Later' is a very familiar word to your tongue. You almost involuntarily spill it out as an answer to every question that is related with spending. As opposed to the definition, you are never seen fixing a date for the postponed plan. You brush off the concern to a point where everyone forgets the plan, but what they do remember is the fact that this is a very bad habit of yours.

## YOU OPT FOR CHEAP (OR NO) GIFTS

It takes you weeks before a friend's birthday racking your brain to make a list of cheap yet meaningful gifts. There is chronic tension regarding the adjustment you have to make for spending money on the gift and also the fear of being inferior to others' gifts because your broke-self subconsciously has standards too. But it's totally fine to buy gifts at your own comfort because... isn't love the best gift of all?

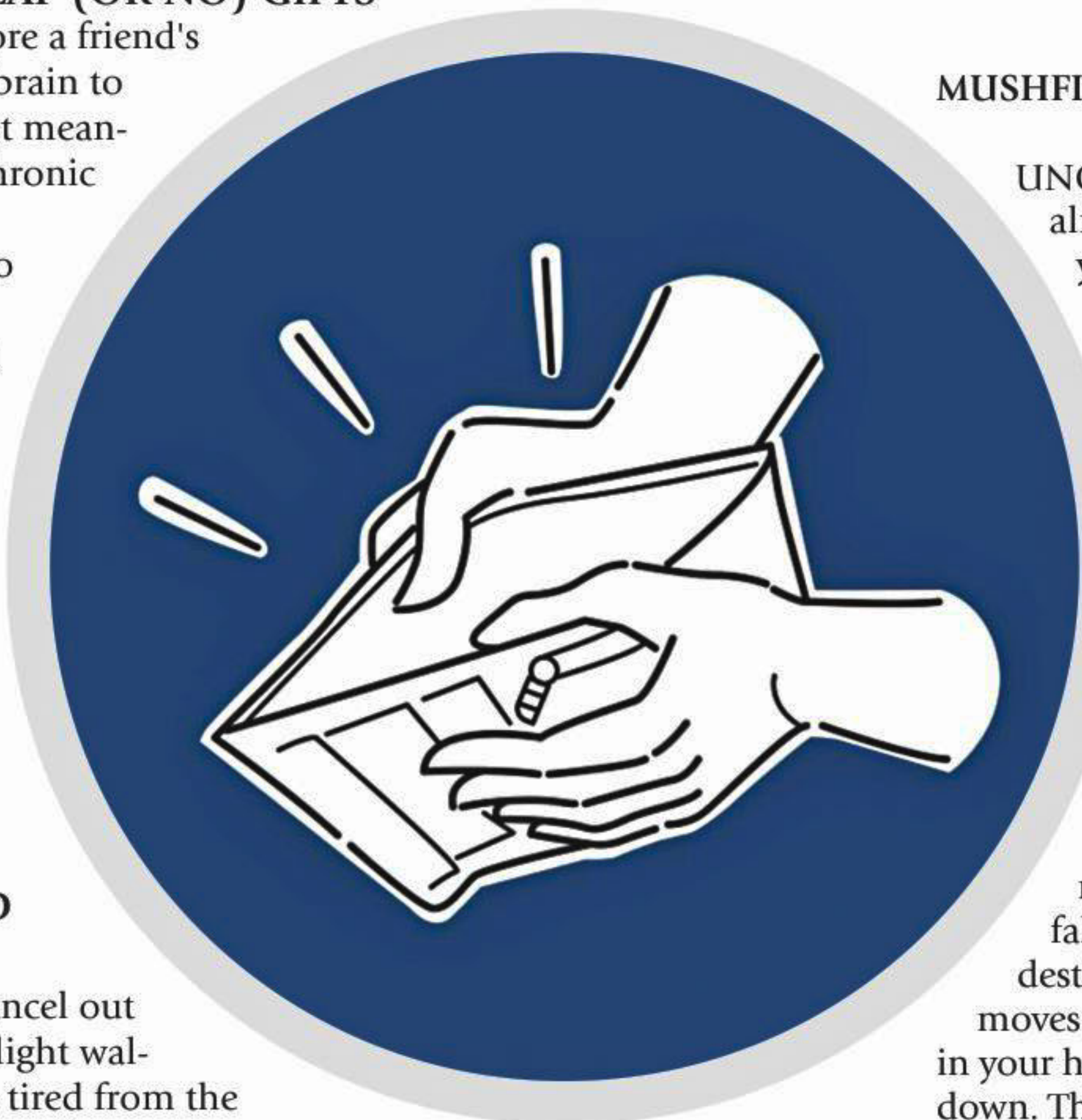
## YOU GET DITCHED SOMETIMES

Though you have to cancel out plans because of your light wallet, when your friends, tired from the effort of always having to drag you to hangouts, make plans among themselves and don't invite you, thinking you won't make it this time either, a sense of betrayal seeps into you. This is a very conflicting emotion because you know they deserve an outing that doesn't involve five people convincing one person for weeks to join them but you also know that the group is not allowed to enjoy without you.

## YOU ARE OFTEN PITIED

It's really no surprise that one friend's mercy sometimes saves you from the embarrassment of having to sit alone, scrolling through your phone while everyone else devours the mouth watering food. If not anyone else, that friend deserves a treat.

Exception is noticed when you get hold of a generous amount of money. This conventional life disappears into thin air. Momentarily or not, your fate knows.



# TYPES OF UNO PLAYERS

MUSHFIQUR RAHMAN SHANTO

UNO is a classic card game. You can play it almost anywhere, have a good time with your friends and lose a few of them in the process, courtesy of the notorious “Draw 4 Cards” card. As you play the game, you'll notice certain stereotypes pop up over and over again. Yes, it's another “types of people” SHOUT article, so buckle up and get ready to get hit with a blast of relatability.

## THE ROOKIE

Most of us were this player when we had just learned to play UNO. So you got to know of this fun new game that everyone's playing. You learned the rules and now you're about to use your falsely assumed superior intellect to destroy everyone. Your carefully calculated moves have led you to this turn. Just two cards in your hands, and then you proudly lay one down. The game is yours next turn. But wait, somebody just screamed at you that you didn't yell out “UNO”. And now you have to draw another cards.

Ladies and gentlemen, I present, “The Rookie”. This little rule gets almost all of them.

## THE “UNO” POLICE

The rookie was most likely the victim of this player. These people have a special knack of catching people failing to say UNO in time when they're down to their last card. While that's something everyone tries to do, what separates these players is their overwhelming enthusiasm. You can identify them by their sheer proficiency and speed and often making embarrassing false calls.

## THE TALKER

The loudest mouth in the game, keeps the game lively with their constant energetic commentary and predictions. Sometimes, these players can get especially annoying and tend to over-react when on the receiving end of a power card. Talkers either make the game engaging and draw everyone in or get on everybody's nerves. There's no in between.

## SNEAKY PEEPERS

In UNO, you're not supposed to look at another player's cards. Well, “supposed to”. These players get a kick out of getting a small glimpse of one unimportant card from another player's hand and bragging about it. They are responsible for all the weird ways people adopt to hide their cards during the game. Honestly, as annoying these players can be, a game of UNO isn't really the same without them.

## THE CONSPIRATORS

Someone just laid a card down and yelled UNO. He or she has just one card left. These moments bring forth astonishing amounts of teamwork and unity. Everyone in the game except the player on “UNO” now comes together, discusses the possibility of the player having which card, how they can create a combo of their power cards to bring the player down. If the “Draw 4 Cards” power card is the cause of broken friendships, the conspirators are the reason of coming together of forming bonds. Except of course that one player the conspirators are conspiring against. The best part, everyone is a conspirator when the time comes.

No, people with a strong sense of ethics don't count.

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