

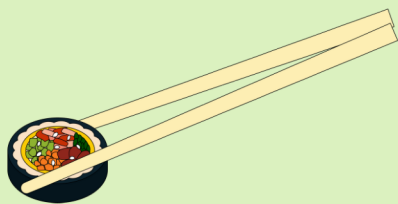
ALL the Reasons WHY

VOL I: Why I'm still single, according to
those around me

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MY VILLAIN ORIGIN STORY:

첫사랑 in the 90s

Nothing like being a teenager and falling in love for the first time during the era of landlines, bulky “cellular” phones, and beepers.



Met him in July. By summer of the next year, he was gone. POOF! No phone calls. Nothing. Just like that. On the bright side: When you had nothing but ancient modes of communication, at least there was no way to embarrass myself by begging him to take me back.

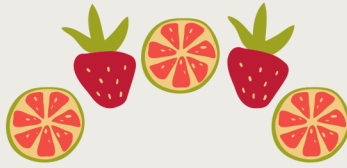
Six feet tall and two years older than I. The quiet, reserved type whose sense of humor ran dry and sarcastic. Gentle baritone voice. Love for basketball. Great with numbers. I know, what a contradiction. Two of the things I loved about him: He was funny and smart.



Summed up like this, it all seems so light. Something I could've easily gotten over with by snapping my fingers and BOOM! Eye-bye, first love. Best believe the younger me had such.a.hard.time!! getting over him. *cue “Every Now and Then” by Earth, Wind & Fire*

Teenagers can be so dramatic. Ugh.





Buckle up. This one touches on religion

Apparently, the Lord our God has taken it personally that I don't go to mass on Sundays. So he gave me the fate of being single for the rest of my life.

Or, at least, that's what a friend told me. I beg to disagree because I'd like to think that He is more open and forgiving than that. To be honest, I think my friend is projecting on me what she thinks being single is. That it's a semblance of punishment for something that I don't do. The key words being "a semblance of punishment."

I've always found this anecdote funny. I didn't even feel offended when she told me this. Surprised, sure. But offended? No. (That's saved for the next one.)

I think it's sad that those around me keep looking for reasons that would satisfy them, instead of listening to what I say about preferring to stay single. It always feels like they're putting me in a box that fills society's norms, because God forbid that I dare to stay single by choice in this day and age.



Chill Out

"If you don't have feelings for him, that's it. Dating isn't musical chairs. You don't have to sit next to someone just because the music stopped and someone blew a whistle."

"You Are My Spring" kdrama



Next contender: Something is wrong with me.

This time around, something is wrong with me. I was referred to as a third person, even though I was in the same room.

We were in an enclosed room with other friends and he and another girl were talking. I can't remember why the topic of me being single came up, but it's what I remember: He said I'm still single because something is wrong with me.

My initial reaction was to feel offended, and I felt that in my very bones. Then it was followed by the thought, "Wait. Aren't we all broken?" *cue some emo song*

There is nothing left to say about his comment because I really don't care anymore at this point. My being single has always been a table topic during get-togethers and I've grown weary of it. I have exactly zero fucks left to give about it. 😂 Thank you for coming to my Ted Talk.





Bonus.
Extra,
Extra!



Anyone who knows me personally, has read my [blog](#) and/or my [newsletter](#), or has seen my Instagram knows I am a kdrama addict. And so this zine wouldn't be completely mine unless I drop some kdrama things here.

Fine folks of the internet, I present to you: The kdramas to watch when you're single as a Pringle, whether single by choice or single while waiting for the next one. They're fun, heartwarming, and comical. Nothing too heavy on this list.

- I. When the Camellia Blooms
- II. One the Woman
- III. Hotel del Luna
- IV. To All The Guys Who Loved Me
- V. Love to Hate You
- VI. Hello Me
- VII. Doctor Slump
- VIII. Was It Love?
- IX. Reply 1988
- X. Single's Inferno season 3 (a variety show)

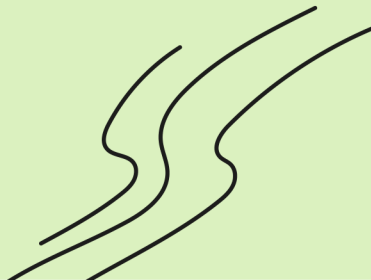
P.S. Here's a fun video clip from Netflix K-Content, "The best things about being single | According to Korean dramas." [Click here](#) to watch it.





Being single, despite living in this so-called modern world, can still be challenging. It's true that people see things as they are. So forget what others say and think about how you should live your life. As long as you're not hurting those around you, then do what you want. It is only when we are happy with ourselves that we become a positive force around us.

Chase those dreams. Be your own authentic self.





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THANK YOU FOR READING.

