

UNCHANGING DOM

You can't even remember one morning where you didn't get up early, climb on the usual ride, and go to do your duty. Every single day. And for what?

People think you're boring, or worse, that you're utterly insignificant. It's not the occasional snicker or the sideways glances that bother you, the worst thing about it is the unshakable certainty that nobody even remotely cares about you. You are a fish out of water, no, an alien who doesn't even have any exotic charm. People never listen to you, not at home, not at work. The only exception is Lu.

It may sound pathetic, but the only friend you've ever had is somebody who takes the same ride as you on the subway. Even though you only spend five minutes together each day, it's been something of a set appointment for years now. And, as incredible as it may sound, when Lu asks you how things are going, they're actually interested in the answer. They give you advice when you ask for it. Sometimes they just do. In short, they're the only real person in a sea of lifeless dolls.

When you finally decided to change your life, your only regret was ending your chats with Lu. But they never gave you their phone number, and you aren't even sure yours counts as a real friendship. No, you can't go on like this. In two weeks, you take off: You already have your tickets.

You've already told Lu the news and they seemed really upset. Even shocked. The face they pulled! Their reaction was somehow flattering, it even gave you pause. After all, you've never been very good at decision-making: You are plagued by guilt and regret. From this point of view, the idea that Lu is the only one who's going to miss you feels almost liberating.

They're a dynamic fellow, always traveling, always ready to change interests and opinions. They certainly won't have any trouble turning over a new leaf. Yes, people like Lu live three or four lives at once, while you... Well, it's no use crying over yourself, that's what old Dom would have done. Now it's time to change your tune.

You'll empty all your drawers and air out the dreams you'd locked in far too long ago. You'll live without regret, even if you have to shove a few skeletons into the closet to do so. No more hesitations, you'll sweep them all under the carpet. And since we're talking furniture, maybe you should call a moving company... No! Have you ever heard Lu talk about installation expenses? They just live day by day.

Before you go, however, there is one last thing you feel like doing as Dom. You need to thank Lu for opening your eyes. Though you have never been a champion of intimacy, you can't deny that you're an emotional fellow: Once and for all you want to come out and say what you really feel. It's perhaps the most pressing issue you want to address before you leave.