## why you want

I like the way Alex looks, feels, smells. I take comfort in having her next to me in bed at night. I'll see Alex again in 3 days, and I get goosebumps thinking about what great sex we're going to have when I'm back, and then I'll fall asleep laying with my chest to her back, holding her close. I think about other women I've been with/dated recently, and I don't want that with them. I want her.

When I look at pictures of Alex from our date nights, I lose my breath a little bit. I'm taken aback every time at how stunning she is.

I like cooking with Alex. I'm looking forward to making meals with her when I'm back Alex is smart in so many ways. She's street smart; she's business savvy. It's impressive and it makes me want to be a better man.

Alex is great in bed. I love watching her cum while we have sex. The way her butt feels when she's riding me is incredible. Our sex never gets old. She always wants me to fuck her doggystyle and she gets me super hard every time.. I love to finish inside of her. I love watching pictures and videos of Alex and the two of us together. I'm excited to explore more sexually with her.

Alex has a tiny dog that likes me.

Through all our ups and downs, and being away from Alex for almost three weeks, I want to work to build a stronger relationship, because I love her. I want to have a relationship that continues to deepen and that we can both be happy sharing. Alex is important to me and I want her to be with me.

Alex is extremely charming. She has an energy around her that asserts attention with any room she walks into. People respect her, they want to listen to her, they want to earn her respect. Alex is a great writer. Her blog is wildly successful and she inspires me.

I love hearing Alex laugh, especially when she kisses me in bed and giggles.

Alex is very adventurous and has inspired me to want to try so many new things and places. As I look over our photos of sailing, traveling, going to Vegas, going to Altura, I think about all the things I want to do with her leading up to anniversaries 2,3,4.. of our relationship.

Alex has always been a great support as a friend. Very early on in our friendship I felt like she was the person I could open up with most and who I could come to for support. She listened to stories about my dating. I would love for her to continue to be that support for me, and I hope I can provide that same comfort for her.

- 1. Is there anything I can do more or less of to support you and make you feel appreciated? When you see me trying at something, encouragement or acknowledgment. If I am struggling, try to ask me questions to understand my struggle and find empathy. Don't make comparisons or try to talk me down from an idea I have without first asking questions to see clearly how I feel about the situation and if I'm leading with that.
- 2. In what capacity do u want anya and jenn to be in your life? What are your intentions with them? Do you want them to be other partners?

No I don't want them to be in my life. I'm sorry I blew you off for Anya and I'm sorry for violating what you asked about Jenn. I know their presence and my actions with them have upset you and I'm sorry I hurt you. If there's anything specific you'd like to talk about with them, how you want me/don't want me to handle any potential future interactions with them I would like to

discuss that. I have considered them sexual partners primarily and don't see any emotional connection developing with either of them. Most importantly I don't want a sexual relationship of mine, past or present, to hurt you or us.

Ultimately I don't consider myself poly and feel I'd be a stronger partner if I focused on one partner and avoided distractions of other girls, and especially other girls who are only ever going to be sexual partners. While there's excitement to finding new partners, I would be happier if I focused on building a stronger sexual and emotional relationship with you.

- 3. When I upset you, what do you need from me so that u can process your feelings or the situation in the best way? What's your process in dealing with us when we fight? Space to make myself heard; to let you know that what is happening is not ok and needs to stop right away, that it is a violation of my boundaries. I need the ability to process calmly and to not have something that involves yelling, or public humiliation, ie, dinner at Barolo with Larry and Molly. The issue should be addressed immediately and calmly and ended, and if it is too much to process and resolve right then should be stopped and tabled for discussion later. If I ask for a conversation to be tabled that we table it and come back to it; if I ask for space physically, ie at home, or no texting, that you respect that.
- 4. How have most of your relationships ended? Why did they end?

  I'll come back to this one. A pattern I've had is giving too much in the relationship in terms of compromise or not being met in the middle; getting frustrated, then finding someone else. I think learning to express this better, setting clear boundaries and respecting boundaries, and knowing when to walk away from a person or relationship that doesn't meet my needs, before it becomes toxic.
- 5. Have you ever cohabitated with someone? What was that like? What did you like or not like about that experience?

It's been so long (more than 10 years ago) that I don't even consider those experiences relevant. I wouldn't have dated them if I met them today.

Cohabitating is an interesting thought. I imagine what life would be like if we lived together. I imagine things are back to normal and after a day of working I come home to you and that makes me smile. We'd need a bigger place though. And another dog, a King Charles Spaniel.

For what we have now - I want to have more dates with you, I want to enjoy nights in with you, to fall asleep on the couch with you and wake up next to you. I want to lean into you in the kitchen, grab your butt and kiss you.

## new notes since we talked

I know our relationship did not start off ideal, and we have different ideas for what a relationship is. I know we'll hurt mutual friends if we were to date exclusively. I've thought through all the cons that would come up if we were to agree to be monogamous and explain that to our friends. It's unfortunate but I'd prefer to go through that then to continue to be your secondary. There will be fallout, people will be upset with me and you, but I'd rather make that decision, own it, and be with you and carry on with life.

My ideal picture of a relationship and especially of us is monogamy.. if there were some circumstance that involved bringing someone else in to the picture we could talk about that but I don't envision myself dedicating time to another partner the way I want to dedicate to you or would expect you to commit to me. I'm not convinced the benefits of bringing other partners in outweigh the cons, and the research I've done has screamed this will never be otherwise.

I won't put a timeframe or expectation on our relationship, but if another Alex were to come into my life and offer to make me her primary (and especially her only), I would choose that over being your secondary and waiting to become more. I won't plan life decisions around waiting for you to agree to something I want that you're not sold on.

I'll give you time to figure out what it is that you want from an ideal relationship. But if I'm always going to be your secondary, or third, or fourth.. I will at some point walk away from us if it comes to me picking a relationship over being your side piece. I consider you the most important relationship in my life and I can't be on your back burner forever.

I don't know when another Alex will come into my life. Maybe she won't. She'll have very big shoes to fill and high expectations to meet. I'll look for every reason why she won't measure up. I don't think there will ever be another Alex. I'd rather tell whoever shows up that I do love you and that she has a lot to live up to if she wants to be exclusive with me.

I've looked for excuses to walk away and then I think more about how I can make our relationship work. And I know we will. And I'll explain to anyone who asks that I love you and we're committed to making it work and so I'm going to give it a full shot. I don't care what their opinion is.