

# Yes Santa Claus, There is a Virginia

Dear Rusty & Dave:

Well, it's that time of year again. The toys are ready, the sleigh is packed, the elves have paired off, the Mrs. is dead tired and tucked away in bed, and the reindeer are raring to go. But, it's just not the same for me. I have been doing this for... well, ever since I can remember. In fact I can not remember doing anything else. I don't remember ever being a kid. When I think of it, I don't even know how I got into this job in the first place!

The reason I am writing you is that I believe I've reached mid-life crisis, and depression has set in. Do you know how much I want to shave? Do you know how much I hate milk and cookies? Just once, I'd like to find that someone has left me some pretzels and a Schooner. Do you realize what it is like walking into pubs with a beard and bright red suit? Do you know what it's like dancing at Cabbagetown with big black boots on? Even if I wanted to

fool around on Mrs. Claus, I couldn't.

I think of myself as a big, fat, white-haired loser. My last resort is advice from two of the most respected journalists in the free world, as we know it today, Rusty & Dave. Can you help me out of my dilemma?

Down in the dumps,  
Santa Claus

Dear Santa Claus:

We think that you have come to the right people. You can be assured that you will receive direct, professional help, although we personally do not believe in you.

We will start with what we see as your major problem. You see Santa, you are not the only one going through mid-life crisis. Your wife is not paying you any attention because at this point in time she is experiencing **menoClaus**. This is the period in both of your lives when time should be spent together as two mature and mutually respectful adults.

You have got to look at the bright side of things, Santa. Look at your elves. How would you like to make toys all your life and know that you will never be more than three feet tall? How about your reindeer? At least your name is not Prancer or Cupid. Your certainly never get your name confused with a sink cleanser like Comet does. What about Rudolph? Dare we ask why his nose is red?

Santa, we can relate to a person of your stature, being idolized world-wide. Certainly, there is a lot of pressure, but that only comes with the job.

This brings us to an episode last Christmas Eve, which was brought to our attention. Yes Santa Claus, you need not hide your head. We know about your little incident with a certain "Virginia" last year. We realize that

you are only human, but you have an image to uphold. It has come down to this, Santa. Little Virginia is willing to drop all preliminary charges if you agree to start being the Santa Claus that we have come to love. It would not be in the Christmas spirit to blackmail Santa, but remember: Yes Santa Claus, there is a Virginia... and about ten to twenty years of hard labour.

To Our Readers:

Rusty & Dave would like to extend warm Christmas greetings. Thank you all for reading our column every week and mindlessly adhering to their contents. We want you to know that we feel there is no place for male or female chauvinism in this world. We thank those who supported our ideals and those who opposed them, for both groups show that they cared about what we had to say. But most of all, we want to thank those readers who laughed at the humour in our column when they really didn't understand the jokes.

In closing, we want to share some words spoken by an anonymous shopper many Christmas's ago: "What do you mean it's \$9.99?!? The catalogue said it was \$7.99!!!"

Merry Christmas and Peace To All,  
Rusty & Dave

Dave thanks about the meaning of Christmas....

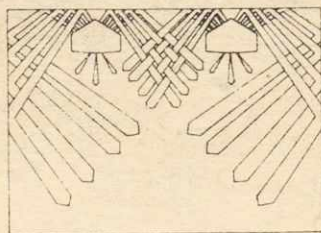


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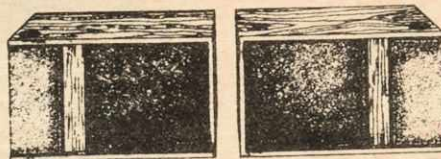
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