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**I AIN'T CALLIN' HER A  
GOLD DIGGER...**

Advice for a trader who's smarting from an expensive vacation with an unappreciative girlfriend



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Dear Dr. Cass:

I recently returned from a one-week, "romantic" vacation in Aruba with a woman that I've been dating for three months. She's absolutely gorgeous and I definitely would describe her as very high maintenance.

Things were pretty good with us before the trip, though she never really understood what I put up with on a daily basis as a hedge-fund trader. Anyway, I spent a fortune on her between staying at the Radisson hotel and eating at the best restaurants in the area. Money is not an issue for me. I was really into this woman and I thought that she was into me before the trip.

However, I felt she was not appreciative of me taking her away and, during the trip, she rejected every idea I had, even when I offered to take her for a walk down the beach! The best part was that she came on the trip with no money and, when she tried to buy a new bag, both her debit and credit cards were denied, leaving me with the bill.

She became cold and aloof and spent more time text-messaging her friends in New York City than she did talking to me. I might as well have gone by myself. So I'm back from the trip and I think the move is to let this woman go, but I'm not sure. What happened to her on this trip? Should I give her another chance?

- Bitter and Out \$4,000

Dear Bitter and Out \$4,000:

I'm sorry to hear about your lost fortune and your missed opportunity at a romantic getaway. She does sound like a piece of work.

Many men have been burned by taking away a girlfriend too prematurely in the relationship. One-week vacations can make or break a relationship, and it appears this experience achieved the latter. It sounds like you were having some communication difficulties even before you left, namely the fact that she didn't understand the stresses of your job.

Kudos for taking the initiative in asking to take a walk on the beach and for being strong enough to stomach paying for her new bag when her cards were denied. If she was appreciative and you were able to have some fun as a result, then it was a good idea. If not, you were probably the victim of her looks. If these passive-aggressive and unappreciative behaviors were noticeable early in the trip, you should have told her to improve her attitude or you would be happy to pay for her cab and put her on the next flight back to New York. You can't be a pushover!

This was your time to relax and get away from all of the chaos. You certainly don't want to be with someone who sounds like she needs a new bag to boost her mood. If you want the honest truth, this woman probably wanted a vacation. More than likely, she isn't your soul mate or the mother of your children, and I doubt she has any intention of giving you anything that is important to you. She existed on the trip like she was entitled to do things her way, and this is what you get for going with high maintenance. I hope, for your sake, that the sex was at least good.

Sorry, buddy, I would cut my losses and get out! - Dr. Cass

**Dr. Alden M. Cass, President of Catalyst Strategies Group, is a licensed clinical psychologist who works with traders and risk managers to help them achieve financial, corporate, and personal goals. See full profile, or visit his website, <http://www.catsg.com/>**

alden cass

AlgoFX 2007 is the only industry event addressing the latest in Algorithmic trading and electronic connectivity for the FX asset class.  
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