

Letter to CS About the Need to Know the Details

I know you are feeling the pain of guilt and confusion. I understand that you wish all this never happened and that you wish it would just go away. I want to believe that you truly love me and that your indiscretion hurts you emotionally much the same way it hurts me. I understand no one wants to have a mistake or misjudgment thrown in their face repeatedly. No one wants to be forced to look at the thing that caused all the pain over and over again.

I can actually see, that through your eyes, you are viewing this thing as something that just needs to go away, something that is over, that he doesn't mean anything to you, so why is it such a big issue? I can understand you wondering why I torture myself with this continuously, and thinking, doesn't he know by now how much I love him. I can see how frustrating it must be. But for the remainder of this letter I'm going to ask you to view reality through my eyes.

You were there. There is no detail left out from your point of view. Like a puzzle, you have all the pieces and you are able to reconstruct them and be able to understand the whole picture, the whole message, or the whole meaning. You can move through your life with 100% of the picture you compiled. If you have any doubts, then at least you carry all the information in your mind and you can use it to derive conclusions or answers to your doubts or questions. You carry all the STUFF to figure out our reality. There isn't any information, or pieces to the puzzle that YOU don't have.

Now let's enter my reality. Lets both agree that this affects both our lives equally. The outcome no matter what it is will affect us both. Our future and our present circumstances are every bit as important to me as it is to you. So, why then is it okay for me to be left in the dark? Do I not deserve to know as much about the affair that nearly destroyed our relationship as you do?

Just like you, I am also able to discern the meaning of certain particulars and innuendoes of the affair. I deserve to be given the opportunity to understand why it nearly brought our relationship down. To assume that I can move forward and accept everything at face value is unrealistic and unless we stop thinking unrealistically, I doubt our lives will ever feel complete.

You have given me a puzzle. It is a 1000 piece puzzle and 400 random pieces are missing. You expect me to assemble the puzzle without the benefit of looking at the picture on the box. You expect me to be able to discern what I am looking at and to appreciate it in the same context as you. You want me to be as comfortable with what I see in the picture as you are.

When I ask if there was a tree in such and such area of the picture you tell me, don't worry about it. It's not important. When I ask if there was a lake in that big empty spot in my puzzle, you say what's the difference, it's not important. Then later when I'm expected to understand the picture in my puzzle you fail to understand my disorientation and confusion.

You expect me to feel the same way about the picture as you do but deny me the same view as you. When I express this problem you admonish me for not understanding it, for not seeing it the same way you see it. You wonder why I can't just accept whatever you choose to describe to me about the picture and then be able to feel the same way about it as you.

So you want me to be okay with everything. You think you deserve to know and I deserve to wonder. You may honestly feel that the whole picture, everything that happened is insignificant because in your heart you know it was a mistake and wish it never happened. But how can I know that? Faith? Because you told me so? Would you have faith if the tables were turned? Don't you understand I want to believe you completely? But how can I? I can never know what is truly in your mind and heart. I can only observe your actions, and what information I have acquired and slowly, over time rebuild my faith in your feelings. I truly wish it were easier.

So, there it is, as best as I can put it. That is why I ask questions. That is where my need to know comes from. And that is why it is unfair for you to think we can move effectively forward and unfair for you to accuse me of dwelling on the past.

My need to know stems from my desire to hold our world together. It doesn't come from jealousy. It doesn't come from spitefulness, and it doesn't come from a desire to make you suffer. It comes from the fact that I love YOU. Why else would I put myself through this? Wouldn't it be easier for me to just walk away? Wouldn't it be easier to consider our relationship a bad mistake in my life and to

move on to better horizons? Of course it would, but I can't and the reason I can't is because I LOVE YOU and that reason itself makes all the difference in the world.

I often wonder if I am making a HUGE mistake by going through this. Why should I? I don't need this. It hurts badly and it's not fair. What I need is for you to go way out of your way to help me. If you can't do that please don't and let's just be done.