

SEX 'N' STYLE

Catfight

By Claire Shropshall

1. Accessorize, Floral Oversized Bag, £30
2. Accessorize, Africa Print Silk Scarf, £9
3. Dorothy Perkins, Coral Shoes, £35
4. Freedom at Topshop, Wood Carved Bangles, £8
5. River Island, Purse, £14.99
6. River Island, Chunky Wooden Necklace, £12.99
7. New Look, Gypsy Top, £18
8. New Look, Multi Dress, £40



Chasing Amy

Our resident singleton talks about hacks, exes and the g-word.

My friend Sharon, a fellow hack, liked a "dishy" vicar. But his church was a problem. She also fancied a lawyer who lived with his ex-girlfriend. They'd only shacked up when they split up. He felt "sorry for her" but swore "nothing was going on". But his ex was literally in the way.

"Apart from that it's going great," Sharon said.

Meanwhile I'd become worse than Warnie and started bombarding a guy I'd liked with texts.

He'd gone to ground like Bin Laden. I think he also preferred his style of communication – sending messages down mountains on donkeys.

Just as I was about to hurl my phone into the Thames and move to the Isle of Silly, there the three of us were at the same pub one Friday night: Sharon, me and him.

As I began employing the brush-off method, it was then that I decided I should actually do some research and look into the g-word (last week it was the f-word). G as in girlfriend. You'd think as a hack I would have done the groundwork before I'd started the pursuit.

When my source came back to me, the verdict wasn't good: "serious girlfriend" as of two months ago.

Mind you my source was also someone whose idea of a "serious" relationship involved a two-day trip to Ibiza.

I wondered why Bin Laden hadn't inserted the g-word higher up into the conversation and texts – or at all.

"We need to forget them," Sharon said. "No!" I cried. "Do you think Angelina ever considered that an option with Brad?"

Two weeks later she had dinner with the lawyer.

"I just didn't mention his ex," she explained.

Meanwhile I still hadn't managed to pin down Bin Laden, or uncover more about his mysterious other half, but was still pursuing him – now via email instead of text – and had received limited responses.

What can I say, all's fair in love and war.

But more importantly sometimes the thrill of a chase, especially for a hack, is just too enticing.

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MAGNIFIED: DELTA GOODREM

Goodrem stepped out at this year's Tropfest in Sydney looking decidedly cool, calm and collected in this retro chic ensemble. Recreate the look with some bargains hot off the high street coupled with a slinky bangle, trademark giant sunglasses and you're all set...who needs designer labels?!



TOP: John Rocha at Debenhams, £15

NECKLACE: Next, Bronze Overlay Necklace, £12



TROUSERS: Boohoo.com, Black Skinny Jeans, £12



SHOES: Beyond Retro, Vintage Black Lace-up Boots, £28

