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July-August 2009

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By Tanna Guthrie

The Love Bug

Having an affair gave her a reason to shave her legs in the morning. Those legs are now hairy. Yes, the affair ended. Badly. For the past 18 years, he had told her that he loved her. She was special. But he couldn't leave his wife, not until after the kids were out of school. They are. He's still with his wife.

My friend feels adrift. Over a coffee at Starbucks she confessed that it wasn't the sex but rather the thrill of having a secret lover. Someone to plan a future with. Oh, the places they would go: London, Paris, New York. Exotic locales where they would sit at sidewalk cafes, sipping wine and marvel at their love for each other. Instead, she's sitting in an overstuffed chair at a coffee chain in Overland Park, having a latte with a girlfriend who knows all her secrets.

No one plans on an affair. It starts innocently enough. "Oh, you like mustard on your mashed potatoes? I thought I was the only one." Commonalities that bind.

A business lunch turns into a flirty business lunch, which turns into making out in the stairwell of the Crown Center parking garage.

But what if we expended that same energy on the one we walked down the aisle with? Or, painted our toenails for him? Or, wore sexy lingerie for him?

My friend may have lost the man she considers the love of her life, but he did leave her with something. He showed up at her door sniveling, shoving four ammo boxes full of change at her as a parting gift. His version of 30 pieces of silver, enough to buy herself a used Volkswagen. Roll on girlfriend.

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