

# *Heart\_Emoji*

## Winona Young

“have\_you\_checked\_my\_other\_Spotify\_playlist\_titles?\_one’s\_based\_off\_our\_old\_inside\_jokes\_remember?????”

is a name I’m brainstorming for one of my music playlists about an ex of mine.

If I was less of a coward,

I would post it on my public Instagram Story asking —

Do you know what an autoclave is?

Autoclaves are massive machines that sterilize things through hot steam.

The OED says the process of steam sterilization takes its time. It is not sentimental. Autoclaves are resolute. Although autoclaves are not toxic, autoclaves can “effectively destroy” any bacteria, fungi, viruses, but mostly — all signs of life.

I am sad our relationship ended via text, sad face emoticon. All pixels, no physical touch, all aching and yearning.

I hate how I cannot haunt the hallways of our university

And be a bitch (derogatory) in your face as I hover around you in the AQ in-between classes.

I cannot believe that I still think of you.

Is it a bitch-move that I wish you still think of me, regret how you ignored me, look at my fine and dandy selfies on my Instagram Story with lots of silly filters.

If so, would you rue (verb) your existence without me?

Is it a bitch move to say your heart is an autoclave?  
May I be angry? May I spit at the phone screen and be disgusted with how  
distant you are from me? Can you please like me in a way I understand?

[myusernamehere: \_\_\_\_\_ reacted (emoji) to your Instagram Story]

(I'M SORRY! CURRENTLY, I AM TOASTED! I JUST NEED  
TO DO SOME BREATHING EXERCISES AND PRACTICE  
MINDFULNESS TECHNIQUES.)

[\_\_\_\_\_ started a video chat]  
[myusername: joined]

Hey girl — yeah, I'm fine. Ah, yes yes, your video is showing and I can see you  
and your cat and your boyfriend clearly. May I read you this poem I'm writing?  
“have\_you\_checked...”

Is this what healing is? LOL.

I haven't felt a rush like this since I was in high school theatre.

*bamboo buffoon*  
by Kitty Cheung

