

Avoiding Valentine Vengeance

Dear Tim:

I've been told in no uncertain terms not to come home empty handed this Valentine's Day. Now, not only am I feeling threatened, I'm feeling pressured. Tell me you've got some ideas, because if not, I may have to move in with you.

—Scared on Squires Ridge

Dear Scared:

Let's not panic. I know it's late in the game, but I think I can help you. If you're looking to do just enough not to get thrown out of the house, you can go with a bouquet of fresh-cut flowers. We've got those in aisle 2. If you're looking to do the classic bouquet and candy combo, we've got a wide assortment of Esther Price candies in aisle 2, too. But if you really want to explode the expect-o-meter, why not pick up all the ingredients for a romantic dinner, take them home, put on some Sinatra, pour her a glass of wine and cook for her? You'll literally sweep her off her feet. She'll not only be floored, she'll think you're a new man — which may or may not help you



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later in the evening. Either way, you won't be spending the night at my house. And that's good news for both of us. Good luck.

Dear Tim:

I've been reading that tomato-based pasta sauce is good for your heart. As glad as I am to hear that, I haven't found one yet that's got the kind of zest I'm looking for. You know, something that makes you think you slaved over the stove instead of the can opener? Any recommendations?

—Saucy on Sussex

Dear Saucy:

I know what you mean. It's hard to find restaurant-style sauce in a can. But you can find it in a jar. Especially if it's a jar of Glenda's Gourmet Roasted Garlic Pasta Sauce. It's the perfect blend of seasonings and spices, with just enough zing to make you think you're sitting at a table in the back of an authentic Italian restaurant. Glenda won't tell me what's in it, but I can tell you it's good. Pick some up in aisle 2. It'll make you say "bravisimo!"

Dear Tim:

I hear Huffman's was named Business of the Year this year in Upper Arlington. Congratulations. What's the secret of your success?

—Green on Grenoble

Dear Green:

It's no secret. Being successful in business, I've found, comes down to one thing: people. Fortunately for us, we've got 'em. Great employees and great customers. All the credit for recognition like that goes to them.

Dear Tim is presented as a public service by Tim Huffman, owner of Huffman's Market. Write to him in care of Huffman's Market, 2140 Tremont Center, Upper Arlington, Ohio, 43221, stop by and say hi, or visit www.huffmansmarket.com.