

Dear Sylvia,

I am so happy that you have found a "real job" at a "real salary" with a "real future". I am going to miss you like you can't even imagine.

I just fired Cliff tonight when I discovered that he couldn't work on the books. He wasn't working out anyway. You know that "hiring someone" for this place is like marrying them (even worse)!

I am going to cut hours, if necessary, for the slow months of summer. If you want to work a couple days (weekends, etc) I could put you up to \$10 an hour on the books for those two days.

If not, no problem. I have to find another "member of the family". You have done more than your share to help me out here. You will always be a treasure in my heart. Should I decide that cloning myself is a futile venture, I might make you a treasure in my will as well.

But, as a worldly wise girlfriend, you know such talk about wills is just that: "talk".

It is the money in hand (or the bank) that counts.

I tried to get you to get your upper teeth fixed. Like everyone else, including myself, you put off going to the dentist.

This is a great mistake. If you resist the "bait" I offer you, I will pay whatever the cost to have you upper two teeth removed and an upper plate made for you.

After all, we can't have "Mr. Sylvia Rivera" going around giving "gum smiles" to history.

However, I know all too well that a "bird in hand" is worth "two in the bush" (does that mean 'bush' like macho men talk?)

So, in case I might go bankrupt or die before you "cashed in" on my offer, I've decided to take the "cheap way out".

I've added \$500 to your check and you can also forget the \$100 advance I gave you. All the money from the check is yours if you choose to take it.

I hope you will in one sense since it will bring "closure".

However, if you want just the check due you, I will still be willing to pay the (possibly \$1200 or \$1600) to have your top teeth removed and a GOOD upper plate made.

I would simply write that as "salary" in some future month.

The choice is yours. I hope you will "opt" for the teeth. It will cost me much more but it will be better for you.

If you opt for the teeth, just don't cash this check and I will give you the cash due you and rewrite everything.

Cloningly yours,

Randy Wicker