

# The Bylaws of Friendship



A Humorous &  
Friendly Guide  
for Friends  
in Friendships

written & illustrated by  
**Eric Munter**

The  
Bylaws of  
Friendship

*THE BYLAWS OF FRIENDSHIP*  
*A Humorous & Friendly Guide for Friends in Friendships*

ISBN 10: 1-4636-9122-X  
ISBN 13: 978-1-4636-9122-6

Written & illustrated by Eric Munter.

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## The First Bylaw of Friendship

*A friendship requires at least two individuals; both of whom are friends to each other.*

Being friends with yourself does not constitute a friendship. In order for a friendship to exist, you need to become friends with another human being.

**Exception:** However, you can become friends with yourself, thus constituting a friendship, if:

- You travel through time to a point in the past or future and successfully befriend your past or future self;
- You clone yourself and befriend your clone; or
- You travel to an alternate dimension and befriend the alternate version of you

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# 2

## The Second Bylaw of Friendship

*A friendship should have a balance between the sexes.*

Friendships entirely made up of all guys or all gals are perfectly normal and acceptable. Still, statistics indicate a friendship whose balance between the genders closest to 50/50 have the greatest chances for success.

The tables below depict friendship data obtained from an unverifiable source. Each provides the expected longevity and general happiness of a group of friends given the ratio of men to women in the group.

For a group of three friends or less, the expected results are as follows:

Gender Balance Data for a group of 3 or fewer friends		
# of Men vs. # Women	Longevity	Happiness (out of 5)
0 Men, 3 Women	15 years	☹☹☹☹
1 Man, 2 Women	10 years	☹☹☹
2 Men, 1 Woman	8 months	☹
3 Men, 0 Women	15 years	☹☹☹☹

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For a group made up of four to ten friends, the expected results in terms of longevity and general group happiness are as follows:

<b>Gender Balance Data for a range of 4-10 friends</b>		
<b>Ratio of Men to Women</b>	<b>Longevity</b>	<b>Happiness (out of 5)</b>
< 10%	3 years	☹☹☹
10-40%	6 years	☹☹☹
41-60%	67 years	☹☹☹☹☹
61-80%	7.5 years	☺☺☺☺
> 80%	4 years	☺☺☺

Lastly, for a group greater than 10 friends, the following results can be anticipated:

<b>Gender Balance Data for a group of 10 or more friends</b>		
<b>Ratio of Men to Women</b>	<b>Longevity</b>	<b>Happiness (out of 5)</b>
< 10%	168 hours	
10-40%	8 months	☺
41-60%	18 months	☺☺☺
61-80%	1 year	☺☺
> 80%	7 months	☺



## The Third Bylaw of Friendship

*A well formed friendship should have diversity among its members.*

Diversity comes in many different forms. There can be diversity in race, in gender (refer to *The Second Bylaw of Friendship*), in religion, in eye color, in superpowers and more. A varying variety of friends can broaden your horizons while opening your eyes to different ways of thinking and doing things. Because of this, it is recommended you try to branch out and become friends with people who differ from you – even if they don't speak your language. J'ai un ami parisien qui aime manger le homard.



## The Seventh Bylaw of Friendship

*A friendship should always plan to integrate new blood and have a list of recruits.*

What's the difference between a good friendship and a great one? The great friendship dynasties know how to draft great friends, while the good friendships become stagnant and eventually fizzle out.

This is why it is important to make sure you keep a keen eye, watching for that next great Bunch's Bore (refer to *The Sixth Bylaw of Friendship*). That way, when our friend Dave expires from dysentery and a broken leg, there is new party waiting in the wings to take on Dave's vacated position.

Two ways to prepare your group for any potential voids are:

- To develop a Recruit Scouting Chart; and
- Go on a stakeout (refer to *The Fifty-Second Bylaw of Friendship*)

The next page provides an example of a Recruit Scouting Chart filled with potential candidates.



Name	Age	Special Skill	Likeability	Overall Potential
HERBERT	22	makes animal balloons	ehhh	B minus
LYNDA	19	can comb her own hair	Fun, BUT DUMB	B
BOHS	62	can swim very fast because he has webbed feet	never smiles	C
JAMIE	32	can always tell what direction is due west	not sure if he/she is a boy or a girl	C PLUS IF BOY / B MINUS IF GIRL
CARTER	5	can recite the alphabet	kinda cute ... for a kid	B PLUS
SHARRON	18	once counted to 14,239	has a bird	D
BOBBY	30	claims he can communicate with termites	nice, BUT HAS RED HAIR	D PLUS
RUTH	109	speaks dramatic	sleeps a lot	C minus

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## The Twenty-Second Bylaw of Friendship Sub Article Three

### *Celebrating Weddings*

Typically, a wedding is a once in a lifetime event. Though the odds are you will have at least one friend who will celebrate a relationship merger twice. Maybe even three times. Hopefully not four – or more.

In any event, your contributions to your friend's wedding(s) is (are) provided in the following tables:

<i>Your Friend's First Wedding</i>	
Upon receipt of an invitation, your presence at the wedding is	<i>Required</i>
If you are in the wedding party, your gift must be at least	<i>\$50</i>
If you are NOT in the wedding party, but you traveled from out of town or this is a destination wedding, your gift must be at least	<i>\$100</i>
If you are in the wedding party and you traveled from out of town or this is a destination wedding, giving a gift is	<i>Optional</i>
If you are NOT in the wedding party and did not travel, your gift must be at least	<i>\$150</i>
If the wedding's attire is black tie / formal, you	<i>Must adhere to it</i>

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## *Your Friend's Second Wedding*

Upon receipt of an invitation, your presence at the wedding is	<i>Required</i>
If you are in the wedding party, your gift must be at least	<i>\$35</i>
If you are NOT in the wedding party, but you traveled from out of town or this is a destination wedding, your gift must be at least	<i>\$60</i>
If you are in the wedding party and you traveled from out of town or this is a destination wedding, giving a gift is	<i>Optional</i>
If you are NOT in the wedding party and did not travel, your gift must be at least	<i>\$100</i>
If the wedding's attire is black tie / formal, you	<i>Must adhere to it</i>

## *Your Friend's Third Wedding*

Upon receipt of an invitation, your presence at the wedding is	<i>Nice, but okay to miss</i>
If you are in the wedding party, your gift must be at least	<i>\$10</i>
If you are NOT in the wedding party, but you traveled from out of town or this is a destination wedding, your gift must be at least	<i>\$15</i>
If you are in the wedding party and you traveled from out of town or this is a destination wedding, giving a gift is	<i>Not encouraged</i>
If you are NOT in the wedding party and did not travel, your gift must be at least	<i>\$18</i>
If the wedding's attire is black tie / formal, you	<i>Can opt for business / informal</i>

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## *Your Friend's Fourth Wedding*

Upon receipt of an invitation, your presence at the wedding is	<i>Counted as valid if you simply send a video message of congratulations</i>
If you are in the wedding party, your gift must be at least	50¢
If you are NOT in the wedding party, but you traveled from out of town or this is a destination wedding, your gift must be at least	75¢
If you are in the wedding party and you traveled from out of town or this is a destination wedding, giving a gift is	<i>Unthinkable</i>
If you are NOT in the wedding party and did not travel, your gift must be at least	\$1.25
If the wedding's attire is black tie / formal, you	<i>Can go in streetwear</i>

## *Your Friend's Fifth Wedding*

Upon receipt of an invitation, you	<i>Throw it out</i>
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# Glossary

## *Key Words Used Throughout the Bylaws of Friendship*

**Apparel** – clothing one wears to hide the fact that underneath, they are nude.

**Belvedere Maneuver, The** – skillful tactic used in performing a friendectomy.

**Children** – young humans that are kryptonite to a friendship.

**Clandestine Affair** – a secretive hangout.

**Collateral** – items or bits of information procured to create and/or ensure a friendship to another person.

**Dave** – a friend who won't go away.

**Great White Shark** – aquatic fish not suitable for friendship.

**Fallout** – divergence of opinion between friends ranging in severity from classes 1 to 5.

**Friend** – human being with whom you share a common bond and for whom you have a general liking.

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**Friendectomy** – a procedure where one permanently disassociates themselves from a friend.

**Friendship Banishment** – typically the result of a higher class fallout, which can either be temporary or permanent.

**Group Glue** – the friend in the group around which everyone is held together.

**Hidor** – one who hides from another person or persons.

**Hidee** – one who is hid from another person.

**Outlet** – a very close friend to whom you share personal and classified information.

**Pets** – domesticated animals.

**Secrets** – private thought bound to be uncovered in a friendship after a certain amount of time.

**Stakeout** – espionage missions with friends.

**Team Mom/Dad** – group representative typically charged with interacting with non-group personnel (e.g. restaurant hostesses).

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# Appendices

## *Supplemental Materials Supporting the Bylaws of Friendship*

The following appendices are presented in support for the various friendship bylaws covered in this friendship guidebook:

- **Appendix A**, Twelve-sided Aspiration Die (as pertaining to *The Thirty-Fifth Bylaw of Friendship*)
- **Appendix B**, Secret Language Alphabet (as pertaining to *The Fortieth Bylaw of Friendship*)
- **Appendix C**, Four-friend Efficient Outlet System Diagram answers (as pertaining to *The Fiftieth Bylaw of Friendship*)
- **Appendix D**, Eight-friend Efficient Outlet System Diagram answers (as pertaining to *The Fiftieth Bylaw of Friendship*)



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(With the exception of the words “This Page is Purposely Blank” ...  
and this explanatory parenthetical)





"It doesn't take a good friendship to realize this is a bad book."

- **Anne Milne**

- former friend of the author

***The Bylaws of Friendship*** is a humorous guidebook written for human beings who claim to have friends. Each bylaw is accompanied by quips such as amusing tables, confusing charts, bizarre illustrations and silly short stories. Those who possess this book and learn to uphold its teachings, wield the unimaginable powers of an ultimate friendship.

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Eric Munter lives in Miami, Florida where he enjoys the company of his friends, laughing regularly, writing books, drinking coffee, drawing drawings and eating peanut butter. He also likes that you are kind enough to read the back of this book. Eric dislikes people who undergo humourdisectomies (removal of the humor gland), people who are too serious and Styrofoam.



**ADB**

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