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Think about this: Your boyfriend and best friend aremaking fun of you at dinner. A warm smile forms onyour face when you look across the table at eachother. Then, though, your smile breaks. Your friend'shand brushes against his arm right next to him, andthe feeling of it gives you chills. "My friend is too friendly with my boyfriend," you think over and over, which makes you feel uncomfortable and uncertain.

Sounds familiar? You're not by yourself. It can behard to walk the fine line between friendship andromance, especially when the lines between friendlyand flirty are fuzzy. But don't worry, my fellow bravelovers!

This article will be your compass, showing you howto spot the warning signs your friend is too friendlywith your boyfriend, find your way through thecommunication maze, and keep your relationshipsafe without causing too much drama.

We'll talk about the small ways your friend might behiding feelings, give you the tools for open andhonest conversations, and give you the power to sethealthy limits that keep friendship and love alive. Puton your seat belt, grab your "sword of diplomacy," and get ready to get yourpeace back!

## MY FRIEND IS TOO FRIENDLYWITH MY BOYFRIEND: DEFINING THE PROBLEM(FRIEND ZONE FALLOUT)

You've found the elephant in the room—the onewhose hand on your boyfriend's shoulder seems toofriendly. But before we come at you with pitchforks,let's talk about what "too friendly" means in yourcase.

Does it feel like the hugs last a beat too long? Youknow those inside jokes that leave you out like aforgotten punchline? It could also be the way theireyes meet across the room, which islike aconversation only they can understand.

Remember that context is critical. These are some red flags that you might be seeing. Afriendly touch on the arm is a safe sign of friendship, and flirty chatter is how they naturally talkto each other.

Let's look into "why" this friendly fire is happening. Is your affection for your boyfriend sincere, or are you merely making an effort to be his friend? There may be fear going on underneaththe surface. Your friend might be jealous of your relationship and want to find one like it, orthey might not know how their actions might be seen.

But wait! Before you go crazy with jealousy, take a deep breath and ask yourself, "Am I overreacting?" We should all take a moment to think about this question. Has your friend always been like this, or is it something new? Have you seen a change in how they treat your boyfriend that goes along with any changes in your relationship?

In the end, your gut will tell you what to do. Something is likely wrong if it feels off. But remember that the best way to win is to talk to people. Before making assumptions, be honest with your friends and talk about your worries in a way that doesn't blame them. What you discover might shock you.