

**Bourne**  
**toWrite...**  
creative writing  
workshops

## Something you could give up

A timed exercise

by Victoria Cooper

I could give up you

Your wily ways and fake smiles

I could give up your cheesy emoji grins

and facetious comments

You always try to outdo, out shine,

out manoeuvre

Just move out the way; I'm sick of you

I think I know I've had enough of you

but then there you are with your arm

around someone new

I could unfriend you without a backward glance

I could do without your annoying self-satisfying posts anyway

I could give you up and shut you down

But could I?

Could I bear to be without you?

Could I stand the big empty gap of blinking cursor

where you used to be?  
Would it annoy me too much when I noticed others  
were still in cahoots with you?  
Would I care?  
Would I wake up feeling refreshed  
that your cloying ways  
were no longer something I had to endure?  
Your perfect life no longer being held up for me  
and everyone else to marvel at  
No news of your holidays,  
children's sporting achievements  
or happy birthday parties  
No sun tans, no apres-ski shindigs  
no vomit inducing wedding anniversary clinches  
No chilling out shots with a perfectly poised wine glass  
no good deeds or charity events  
Yes, I think I would  
I could give you up  
Just... like... that  
But just after this one last scroll down