

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

Pete

by Sho Botham

That's the last time you're going to make me cry (crying emoji)

I didn't mean to make you cry (sad emoji)

You said that last time too (angry emoji)

Sorry (pleading emoji)

And that (angry emoji)

Can we meet at Jacks at 5pm? (pleading emoji)

Hi mum

I do wish you'd at least try using messagewings. Emails are such a bore.

Pete and I might have split up. We're meeting at Jacks this afternoon. Don't get anything in for the weekend. He might not come with me. I might just stay here if he does dump me. I know they say misery likes company but this misery guts prefers to wallow on her own.

Love you

Polly P

My dear Polly Pocket

I shall look forward to seeing both you and Pete this weekend unless I hear different from you. It must be serious if you think he is going to leave you. I thought Pete and

you make a lovely couple. Your father likes Pete. If you bring Pete this weekend, he could show me how to use messagewings but I don't see what's wrong with emails.

Your loving mother

Okay Pete, see you at 5pm at Jacks (confused emoji)

Brill (smiley emoji)

PamBam I can't bear it. He's done it again (confused emoji)

Get a grip girl. Pete's a nice guy. (stern emoji)

Don't you start. Mum wants me to be nice to Pete because dad likes him (rolling eyes emoji)

What's he done this time Polly Pocket? (question emoji)

He made me cry again. He thinks saying sorry makes it okay (rolling eyes emoji)

Whatcha doing about it girl? (question emoji)

Jacks at five (scared emoji)

You wanna hang onto Pete. He's a good 'un (smiley emoji)

Gotta go – later (no emoji)

Standing outside Jacks at five to five, I can feel my knees shaking. Okay they're trembling more than shaking. But they're not being still. I'm wishing I wasn't wearing my skin-tight leggings now. Pete notices things. He'll notice my trembling knees.

Back home it's not just my knees trembling. My whole body is trembling. I'm so angry - Pete stood me up. I'm not sending him any more messages. This is what I do every time - back down and end up saying sorry for something that he did. I'm not doing it any more. What is that saying? We clung to books and to our friends; they reminded us that we had another part to us. Well, we have another part to us. We can both go our separate ways.

Hi mum

Dad's wrong about Pete. He stood me up, not dad, Pete. I'm not going to be treated like this by any man. So, Pete can go take a hike.

I don't know yet if I will visit at the weekend on my own. Can I let you know on Thursday?

Love you

Polly P

My dear Polly Pocket

Are you sure there's nothing wrong? It's not like Pete to be so rude as to stand you up. Thursday's fine dear. You should come. Getting out of the city for a weekend will do you good. I've already put Patch Pocket on your bed. I don't know how she survived being dragged around by her arm when you were little. She'll help you to feel better.

Your loving mother

OMG Polly Pocket I've only just heard – so so sorry (shocked emoji)

Heard what PamBam? Sorry about what? (two confused emojis)

Pete of course (surprised emoji, questioning emoji)

What about Pete – he stood me up? (angry emoji)

OMG you don't know – Pete was knocked down (no emoji)

OMG is he okay? I didn't know (no emoji)

Polly Pocket, I'm so sorry, Pete died (no emoji)

He's making me cry again (three crying emojis)

Hi mum

Pete didn't stand me up. He was knocked down. He's dead. My Pete is dead.

Love you

PP

My dearest Polly Pocket

Come today. Patch Pocket is waiting for you.

Your loving mother and father

Hi mum

Thank you but I need to be on my own.

Love you

PP