Dear Barry,

I have been with this woman for over a year now and recently got engaged. We are both in our late 20's and have professional careers. Recently, we went on a vacation to celebrate our engagement. What should have been a fun romantic getaway to France, turned out to be about her career?

Everything we did revolved around getting together with people in her industry, or people she does or should do business with.   When I tried to talk to her about it, and what I wanted to see and do, it got brushed off.   I started to feel like Sophie in the movie, Letters to Juliet.

My feelings for her have started to change after this vacation. When we talked upon returning, she told me that this is who she is, and that she isn't going to change. I never really paid much attention to it before,   I love her, and want this to work. Do you have any words of wisdom of how I can deal with this, as I have never been in love before, and am afraid I will never find someone else?

Signed Letters

Dear Letters

I am glad you saw the movie and related your situation as being in Sophie's shoes. What worked for you before in the relationship, is no longer working. I hate to tell you this, but I think your fiancé is right. It is not going to change. Vacations, home life, work, and family will always be about her needs and what she wants.

I think that you have some work to do on yourself. Why you never thought your needs or wants were that important. She obviously does not care enough to compromise. The vacation ended being a blessing, at least for you. It is allowing you to re-evaluate your relationship and yourself.

The best words of wisdom I have is, take stock in what your needs are in life, and see if they will be meet in this relationship. If not, start packing, get your ring back and move on to better pastures.

As the movie says, do not live in the "what ifs" live in what can be. By taking your freedom back, and learning from this relationship, you might find someone who will truly make you happy. Good luck and happy hunting.

Barry