

## **Letter to my mates**

Dear friends,

I address this letter to all my fellow insecure college buddies letting you know that we have classes together and I, like most of you would unwillingly accept the fact that I feel exactly the same way you all do.

As students, we all are taught and moulded to behave in a socially responsible manner – in a way that people would feel that we have everything together even though we don't. Everyone has flaws that they try to conceal and avoid acknowledging. No one is perfect, no matter how invincible they seem. Not even the scholar you know who multitasks his studies along with the extracurricular – we're all human and its okay. Just do what you feel like that's correct for you and don't give a damn about others. It's alright if you didn't score 80% in the exams. It's alright to enjoy some extra cheese and cakes and not count the carbs. Don't feel ashamed for sleeping extra hours on a Sunday morning – sometimes your body needs the extra sleep. Don't be so harsh to yourself.

It doesn't matter whether you're studying arts, commerce or science; the message would always be the same. Since you are smart and deserving, you belong here and you've worked hard to get where you are. Don't ever doubt yourself, or allow the presence of an extra smart or a supermodel to change your opinion, because you are what you believe!

Even though I don't know you personally, I just want to tell you one thing. I've told this to no one except you all. Do not accredit this someone else, or brush it off as though this is something I'm saying to be really nice (I'm rarely nice). But right now, I'm just honest. And all that I need to make you all believe very badly is that, I'm proud of you 😊

- Saima Mukadam, TYBAF A