

**Instructions:** Read the following news article about Rudy Giuliani. Imagine **you are Rudy Giuliani** and **write a letter to a newspaper** (beginning with "Dear Editor,") to state your side of the story. In this letter you'll try to clarify the misunderstandings, accusations, or rumors reported about you--e.g., your marriage, your alleged affairs, etc. (see the article). You might also talk about your job, the Senate race, the pressure you are under, your feelings toward the press or any other subjects that you feel may appeal to the public. Try to be creative and imaginative with the content of your letter but be careful about using the expressions from the news report. 100%

### Rudy's Mid-Life Crisis

Deep inside Rudy Giuliani's Week from Hell--with his marriage wrecked and his Senate campaign close to it--the New York City mayor reached back and threw a few inside fast-balls, just to prove he still could. "Oh, get outta here," he told a pack of reporters asking him about various women not his wife. "Get lost!...Don't you guys have the slightest bit of decency? Don't you realize you embarrass yourselves doing this?"

It was reassuring, in an odd way, to see Rudy's trademark snarl. For the past few weeks--ever since he announced that he is battling treatable prostate cancer--the mayor has been weirdly reasonable. He has mused about the meaning of life. He has patiently explained that he doesn't know whether he can fight cancer and run for the Senate against Hillary Clinton. Even after the New York *Post* ran pictures of him leaving a restaurant with Judith Nathan, a pharmaceuticals executive who in the past year has often been seen at his side, Giuliani remained calm. He called Nathan "a very good friend." The nature of that friendship became clearer a few days later, when a gray, shaken Giuliani announced that he and his wife Donna Hanover would be separating.

That piece of news came as a gut-wrenching surprise to Hanover, a TV journalist who immediately went before the cameras to return fire. Blinking back tears and speaking in an icy voice, Hanover aimed for the heart. She said their marriage had been damaged in the 1990s by Giuliani's relationship with a city hall staff member. Giuliani and the woman in question, former communications director Cristyne Lategano, have persistently denied their long-rumored affair, but Hanover--breaking years of silence--reignited the story, adding that she had tried to patch things up after Lategano left city hall but Rudy "chose another path." Only then did the old, fierce Rudy spring back into action, using his brush-back pitches to shut down legitimate questions about Lategano. When the press aide left city hall a year ago--forced out, it was said, at Hanover's insistence--the mayor helped her land a \$150,000-a-year taxpayer-subsidized job with the New York Convention and visitors bureau, a job for which she was deemed "simply unqualified" by the weekly *Crain's New York Business*. This was just the sort of cronyism for which Giuliani loves to flail other politicians. Now that he was being accused of it, he had no choice but to bring out the snarl: "Get outta here! Get lost!"

Of course, everyone is waiting to see whether Giuliani will be the one who gets lost--whether his health and marital problems will drive him from a race he never seemed keen on making in the first place. By Thursday, all the rumors had him quitting. ....Everyone expected Giuliani-Clinton to be a long, strange race. It might end up being a short, strange one. Nobody expected the tough-guy mayor to be fielding questions about his mid-life crisis or confessing he has cried; no one imagined that the contest that grew from Hillary's marital woes might be called on account of Rudy's..... (Eric Pooley, *Time*, May 22, 2000)