

The case

Vlaho said, "So what's up with Valentine's Day? We have been married for six years, and you still want me to buy you expensive gifts and take you for an even more expensive night out. Why isn't a box of chocolates okay? I really don't see what could be wrong with it."

Maria said, "You have always used to bring me beautiful presents when you get off the ship, especially for Valentine's Day but this time I feel as if you have forgotten about me. I've got nothing but that box of chocolates."

Vlaho said, "The last thing I wanted to do, was to make you sad and upset because everyone is supposed to be happy and romantic when Valentine's Day comes around; well at least that is what all media is bombarding us with. To be honest, I have never liked St. Valentine's Day, because, in my opinion, that is a consumerist holiday designed to make people spend as much as possible on all sorts of "romantic" things. I also feel pressure to be extremely romantic even though I don't feel like that at that moment, for no reason."

Maria said, "We have spent two months apart, so at least we could go out for dinner like other couples do, since I didn't even get a proper Valentine's gift."

Vlaho said, "I don't really want to go out just to show off and show to others how much we love each other. Love has deeper meaning than that. I suggest we all stay home. Having you and our daughter around me is the best gift I could ever wish for."