

Just Not That Into Me

Finally, I can put this thing to rest.
No need to wait for a call that will never come.
How foolish of me to still not have realized
What "I've been busy" really means
After the hundredth time it had been used on me
By someone who was *allegedly* interested.
Contestant number 1 promised to make time.
Well, that was three years and five unreturned calls ago.
Contestant number 2 said I was a "special friend."
And then I spent several months wondering
Why I was always alone,
Basking in all my specialness.
Oh, and number 12, ah, number 12
The one who was busy but made time for every house party
And every club or social event,
Or pretty much anything that didn't involve me.
And then number 23,
Another busy person
Who had the most awesome Facebook and Twitter updates
Regarding all the interesting things they were doing
And all the interesting individuals those interesting things were being done with.
Yeah, you do look pretty busy in all the pictures,
Especially the ones with beer in hand.
And to contestant number 45,
I apologize for expressing my disappointment,
But your "I'm just busy" sounded a tad bit familiar.
Good luck with your studies, though.
I'm sure your mama must be really proud.
Contestant number 63,
I already knew you were going to tell me you were busy.
Just wondered when and how you were going to deliver the message.
Well, I got it,
Loud and clear.
Contestant number 78,
No, I wasn't exactly thrilled to hear that you were so busy.
However, I'm happy to learn about your new relationship.
I wish you two well.
I guess I can take you off the list of people who promised to call when they got a free moment.
But it was around contestant 97
That something finally clicked.
"I'm busy" doesn't mean "I'll contact you when time frees up."
No.
It means, "You're nice, but..."

You're nice, but...not nice enough for me to make time for a lunch date or two.
And maybe, you're nice, but...you aren't worth me potentially taking myself off the market for.
Or, you're nice but...not as nice as the other people and things I'm actually making time for.
So, from now on
I won't wait three months—or three years—to translate
Any variation of "I'm kind of busy" to "I'm just not interested."
Instead, because I'm a smarter guy now,
I'll know that you're just not that into me.
And as soon as you fix your lips to use the *oh so original*, "I'm busy,"
My response will then be, "I'm not interested."