

## Ruby master - Misc #10424

### Error message when sorting NaN

10/24/2014 09:24 PM - jmthomas (Jason Thomas)

<b>Status:</b>	Open
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal
<b>Assignee:</b>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>When sorting an array of floats with a NaN you get a very confusing message: irb(main):001:0&gt; [0.0/0.0,1.0,2.0].sort ArgumentError: comparison of Float with Float failed</p> <p>Sorting a nil is much friendlier: irb(main):012:0&gt; [nil,1.0,2.0].sort ArgumentError: comparison of NilClass with Float failed</p> <p>This is confusing for many. Simply google for "comparison of Float with Float failed" and makes for a difficult debugging session for anyone who doesn't know that NaN produces this result. What I would expect is: irb(main):001:0&gt; [0.0/0.0,1.0,2.0].sort ArgumentError: comparison of NaN with Float failed</p>	

### History

#### #1 - 10/25/2014 02:13 PM - cremno (cremno phobia)

I think `rb_cmperr()` behaves weird anyway. If `y` is a "special const" (e.g. `nil`, `true`, or even a `flonum` (boxed `Float`!)), then the result of `#inspect`, and not the class, is used. So the error message I get, is different from yours!

```
[0.0/0.0,1.0,2.0].sort # => ArgumentError: comparison of Float with 1.0 failed
```

It probably would be preferable to print both - value and class. For example:

```
[0.0/0.0,1.0,2.0].sort # => ArgumentError: comparison of Float (NaN) with Float (1.0) failed
```