

Celebrity Couple Predictions: Jessica Simpson, Miranda Kerr and Beyonce



By [Shoshi](#)

For today's column, let's consider three couples who have controversy currently surrounding them, whether it's because of baby weight, a surprise split, or anti-feminist song lyrics:

Jessica Simpson and Eric Johnson: This blonde pop star has come a long way, which makes it so easy to root for her success. Recently, she announced that she's going to stop acting and retire from the entertainment world. Her focus is now on being a business woman and mother.

All of that also means that she's finally ready to marry her baby daddy, Johnson. When I took a closer look at their relationship, it looks like everything is falling into place for them. The question of will they or won't they tie the knot is about to be put to rest. This time, the wedding *will* take place. It's a wonderful time for them to get hitched, now that they have two cute kids and Simpson has lost the baby weight.

This celebrity couple has a pretty normal relationship, and their wedding should be held in 2014. Don't expect too much drama – everything is going strong with them.

Related Link: [Jessica Simpson Welcomes Baby Boy Ace](#)

Miranda Kerr and Orlando Bloom: This beautiful couple has called it quits, which was a surprise to many people. Rumors have circled that Kerr cheated with Leonardo DiCaprio and Justin Bieber, while Bloom has recently been seen with Liv Tyler, causing the media to assume they're more than friends.

When considering the lost love between these exes, it looks like it just ran its course. Their relationship was well over before they made it official. They still care deeply for one another and always will, but it is more like a friendship. They tried to stay together for their child but realized it was just better to say goodbye.

Bloom will date around a bit before settling down again, breaking a few hearts along the way. He's going to enjoy being a single dad. As for Kerr, there are plenty of suitors circling her. After all, models hardly ever have a hard time finding rich men to love them.

Related Link: [Orlando Bloom Says He Still "Loves and Cherishes" Ex Miranda Kerr](#)

Beyonce and Jay Z: How can I not bring up this power duo considering the current controversy sounding them for the song "Drunk Love," in which Jay-Z compares their relationship to

Ike and Tina Turner? The lyrics have stirred mixed reviews from fans and feminists alike. How can a strong woman like Beyonce allow those lyrics on her album? Keep in mind that the singer has never called herself a feminist; other people just view her in this way.

This is all to say that these musical stars don't have the amazing relationship that most of their fans want them to have. I know some people will not like me saying it, but when I look into their marriage, it's not that great. There's a rumor that Beyonce thought about leaving Jay-Z because he didn't put his family first, and it definitely has many elements of truth in it. Plus, there are often reports of Jay-Z having relations with other women. His entrance into the sports world will put even more strain on their relationship.

It'd be awesome if they had the picture-perfect marriage that has been marketed. If you are one of the people who believe that they are crazy in love, it's all good. Just remember that, no matter how much money or fame someone has, we all go through the same ups and downs in our relationships.

For more information on Shoshi, click [here](#).

NoGamesLove Video Dating Tips: Get Over an Ex By Acting Like Him





By [E!'s Famously Single Dating Coach, Laurel House](#)

Dating Advice from E!'s *Famously Single* Laurel House on When to Move On

It's tempting to put yourself on a dating hold after you get out of a serious relationship, but in this week's [dating advice](#) video, relationship expert and E!'s *Famously Single* dating coach, Laurel House encourages you to take a different approach. If you want to get over an ex, start acting like him! "Guys are amazing at getting over relationships, aren't they?" the dating expert asks. Girls, on the other hand, "saturate in the pain of the breakup." They tend to obsess and go on a life hiatus, just waiting for love to happen to us again. Here, House shares her quick tips for moving on from heartbreak.

Related Link: [Heartbroken? Heal and Move On...Like I Did](#)

For more information about our dating mentor, click [here](#).

For more videos from CupidsPulse.com, check out our [YouTube channel](#).

How did you move on after a broken heart? Tell us in the comments below.

How to Know When It's Time to Get Hitched



By Lori Zaslow and Jennifer Zucher for [Project Soulmate](#)

Deciding to get married is not a choice you should not make

lightly. It's different for every couple, and timing is everything.

We're advocates of the popular rule of thumb that says it's important to see all four seasons of a person before deciding on marriage. It's easy to love someone in less than a year, but it's hard to really *know* them in that short time frame. To truly know someone inside and out, you have to make sure you spend quality time with one another and make an effort to see each other consistently. You have to be with a person through happy times, sad times, and tough times in order to see their true colors.

Related Link: [Why Celebrities Prolong Their Engagements and Hide Their Wedding Plans](#)

It's easy to love someone when it's new and fun, but what would it be like if you lost everything that makes your relationship so secure? As cliché as it sounds, marriage has to endure "for better or for worse." Know yourself first. Are you the type of person who makes hasty decisions? Or have you always known what you want? Are you secure in where you are with your life personally right now? These are all questions to consider before jumping into a bond with another human that is meant to last forever.

Think about how much you've changed in your life to date. We live in a world of fast transitions – from schools to careers to friends to homes to hairstyles and everything in between. Before you make a vow, you have to be able to honestly evaluate whether or not you know what you want in the long term. It's easy to get swept away by love, but marriage is about permanence.

As far as length of engagement is concerned, it doesn't matter how long or short the two of you are engaged. If you want to plan a quick wedding and tie the knot immediately, that's great. If you have an engagement that lasts a few years – like

Kristen Bell and Dax Shepard – then that's fine too!

Related Link: [Kristen Bell and Dax Shepard Are Married!](#)

Some couples want to be engaged and take that next step together but put off the actual wedding because the timing for marriage isn't quite right. They may know they want to spend their lives together but recognize that they need time to sort out finances, job promotions, buying a house, whatever it may be.

It's impossible to base your love and marriage on statistics and what other people are doing. People are quick to give their opinions on other people's relationships. We've all heard of the couple who dated for five years and then broke up and met their true love. We've also heard about the couples who were engaged and married within six months and are still living happily ever after...and those who aren't.

The only real way to know if you're ready to be married is if you have zero doubts when it comes to being by your partner's side for the rest of your lives. No matter what, always make sure you're getting hitched for the right reasons.

For more information about Project Soulmate, click [here](#).

How did you know when you were ready to get hitched? Tell us in the comments below!

Surviving Holidays as a Stepparent



By Michele Sfakianos, RN, BSN for [Hope After Divorce](#)

It doesn't have to be difficult.

A stepparent who has different holiday traditions from the rest of the family, especially a stepparent with no child of their own, can feel left out of the celebration. All family traditions matter, and it's vital for everyone to be considered when planning holidays.

Actress Megan Fox is stepmom to hubby Brian Austin Green's son, Kassius. Word has it that she is a stepmother to the fullest extent. She has happily looked after Kassius since he was three years old. Fox is a good example of a stepparent who most definitely includes her stepchild in all holiday celebrations as well as every aspect of their family's life. It should be this way for all children in blended families.

As a stepparent, here are a few things you should consider when planning holidays:

Related Link: [Reinventing Home for the Holidays](#)

Who is going to spend the holiday where? Holiday plans can be predetermined by custody or shared parental agreements. If you have the flexibility of options, discuss them with the children and keep their desires in mind. Some families split up the holidays each year: "I'll take Halloween and you take Thanksgiving." Or some try to do both: "I'll take Christmas Eve" (Mom) and "I'll take Christmas Day" (Dad). Several people celebrate twice, once with each parent.

Where will the gifts be opened? Parents who purchase presents for their children like to see their reactions when the child is opening the gift. How would you feel if you didn't get to see their surprise? Make sure you think of all parties involved when making plans.

Watch out for trouble on the stepsibling front when the kids have other plans. Stepchildren can feel left out if there are "whole" kids in the picture. Try to keep the presents even and have the major festivities take place when all the children are present.

Don't expect holidays to be as you had in the past. Be aware the loss of the old ways of doing things is a disappointment for the kids *and* for you. Discuss how holidays were for each of you and have each person define which rituals are most important to them. This can be hard to hear, but it's important. Incorporate a few of these old rituals into your new holiday.

Create new holidays. If all the holidays seem to be taken up with stress and other people's claims ("But Thanksgiving is mine!"), you can always select another day (Cinco de Mayo, Arbor Day, Stepparents Day) to become an annual blow-out holiday. Acknowledge you are starting from scratch. There is a

new excitement about having the opportunity to create holidays as you would like them to be. Aim for creating your own holiday spirit (with additions) and welcoming kids into it.

If you won't have the children for the holiday, create an alternate festivity for yourselves. Don't stay home and mope. Don't force false cheer. Make new memories. Get creative. Plan ahead and don't let yourself feel lonely or disappointed.

Related Link: [How to Cooperatively Co-Parent After Separation or Divorce](#)

Here are a few more simple tips to keep in mind as well:

- The first few years, try to lower your expectations.
- Don't assume holidays will be calm and peaceful if daily life is full of conflict. There is no holiday from mixed feelings, and you cannot force fun, laughter, and family spirit.
- The winter holidays are traditionally a time of family togetherness. You and your partner can have private time too, but always take the children and stepchildren into consideration.
- Take into account the religions of those involved. It's important to keep family traditions alive with certain cultures.
- Be flexible and encourage flexibility.
- If things are tense, do not force get-togethers or minimize the amount of time spent together.

No matter the holiday, remember to celebrate. You are a real family!

For more information about Hope After Divorce, click [here](#).

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Expert, Speaker and Award Winning Author. She is the owner of Open Pages Publishing, which includes her series of “The 4-1-1” books on Life Skills, Step Parenting, and Surviving Teenhood. Michele is a contributing expert for HopeAfterDivorce.org, DivorceSupportCenter.com, FamilyShare.com, and CupidsPulse.com.

How To Plan a Holiday Proposal



By [David Wygant](#)

You're in love. You're thinking, because of all the Zale's

diamond commercials on television, that this would be a great time to pop the question to your girl. You're wondering whether you should get her a gift-wrapped Lexus, a red Mercedes, or that sparkly diamond.

Related Link: [The Best Holiday Gift for Your Man](#)

I love how the commercials make you feel like you have to buy her something expensive if you want to be romantic; if you don't spend a fortune on her, she'll reject you. But here's the thing: This time of year is a great time to be engaged, but if you do it wrong, you'll end up looking like a huge cliché.

So if you're planning a holiday proposal, here are a few new ideas to help you blow her away and give her a proposal she'll be telling everyone about for decades!

1. Make sure she's ready. This is the worst time of year to propose if she's not prepared for it. She won't want to break your heart over Christmas, but if she's not ready to say yes, she may end up breaking up with you simply because she doesn't know exactly what to do next.

If you're going to propose over the holidays, be 100 percent sure that your relationship is on solid ground before you ask. Make sure you've both discussed getting married and that you've heard her talk enthusiastically about becoming your wife. Don't propose to her at this time of year because you think it will save a rocky relationship or stop her from leaving you – I can guarantee that it won't work.

2. Wrap the ring imaginatively. I love the whole idea of gift wrapping a ring, but don't wrap it in something predictable. Instead, make the special present part of a fun day. Maybe go ice skating or check out a local Christmas market, and at the end of the date, say, "I have a great gift for you." Instead of handing her a small box, wrap the ring in a child's toy.

Put it in a barrel of monkeys or around the collar of a cuddly toy and wait until she discovers it.

Tell her it's an early Christmas present. Just imagine her face when she opens a fluffy teddy bear with a ring hidden in its neck fur. She will absolutely melt because you're bringing back the little girl inside her, the girl who always felt protected and cared for.

3. Avoid the Jumbotron. Don't do anything at a sports game. Don't plan a crazy night. I think the most romantic holiday proposal is right under your own Christmas tree. Make her feel beautiful. Have Christmas music playing in the background and a fire burning in the fireplace. Cook her favorite meal and enjoy a holiday cocktail together. Just talk, have fun, hang out. And when it feels right, pop the question. A special night in with just the two of you is a perfect way to propose.

Related Link: [Don't Settle: Get Him to Commit](#)

4. Ask Santa. If you're really daring, here's a great idea. Plan a trip to visit Santa together. Have a quiet word with the man in the red suit beforehand and ask him to give your girlfriend the ring. When you get there, make her sit on his lap. Get down on one knee and ask, "Santa, can I marry her for Christmas?"

Santa, of course, will say yes and hand her the ring. Then, ask her to marry you. People will be taking photos. It's original, it's cute, and it's memorable. Hopefully, this will be the first and last time you get married, so you want to make the proposal special.

Best of luck! Happy holidays!

For more information on David Wygant, click [here](#).

NoGamesLove Video Dating Tips: When and How to End It



By [E!'s Famously Single Dating Coach, Laurel House](#)

Getting dumped is never easy, but sometimes, it's even harder when you have to break up with your significant other, when you love someone but know it won't work, or when you have to break your own heart. So how do you make that decision to finally get out of an unhappy relationship and find the love you deserve? In this week's [dating advice](#) video, relationship expert and E!'s *Famously Single* dating coach, Laurel House offers her tips for knowing when and how to end things. One way to know: "You're lonelier with them than when you are

alone.”

Dating Advice from E!’s *Famously Single* Laurel House on How to Break-Up

Related Link: [Heartbroken? Heal and Move On...Like I Did](#)

If you do everything you can to fix the issues in your relationship and still don’t see a future, it’s time to say goodbye. House warns that it will be heart-wrenching – “I’ve been there,” the dating expert candidly shares – but also assures you that you will find more happiness.

For more information about our dating mentor, click [here](#).

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How did you know when it was time to end a bad relationship? Share your story in the comments below.

How to Listen to Your Heart and Take Back Control of Your Love Life





By [Marni Battista](#)

It may sound cheesy, but listening to your heart is essential when navigating the path to a happy ending. And as important as this may be, doing so can be especially difficult with input from loved ones clouding your true feelings. Be it a long-term boyfriend, a new prospect, or a re-ignited flame, here is a simple, step-by-step guide to drown out other's opinions on your love life and follow your intuition.

Related Link: [‘Tough Love: Co-Ed’ Star Kyle Keller Says, “Listen to Your Heart”](#)

1. Take Time to Think: Before you completely shut out your loved ones, make sure you take some time alone to sort through your thoughts on your current romantic situation. And I mean *alone* time; even just talking it through one-on-one with a trusted friend can invite a trickle of unsolicited advice that leads to confusion and self-doubt. Sometimes, quieting your surroundings, making a cup of tea, and cracking open your journal are all you need to allow the truth to softly float to the surface. Whether your “thing” is to go for a run in

nature, collect your thoughts in a long, hot bath, or write until your hand hurts, the truth *will* bubble up when you take time to listen carefully.

2. Trust Your Gut: Once you've had time to develop a solid stance, you've likely also developed a nagging voice in the back of your head that's constantly urging you toward a particular decision. If you've made your list of pros and cons about staying with a long-time boyfriend and you know deep down the right move is to end it, let that nagging voice drown out that of your mother trying to convince you he will provide you the stability you need. Choices like these are not always so cut and dry, but the more time you allow yourself to process the relationship, the more strongly your gut will lead you in the right direction.

Related Link: [Should You Listen When Your Parents Advise You to Break Up?](#)

3. Be Open: Keep in mind as you dissect your thoughts that even the most unsolicited or inaccurate advice about your personal life from loved ones stems from the best of intentions. Remember that your parents, girlfriends, and siblings are giving advice based on *their* experiences, not yours. While they just want the best for you and to see you with someone who makes you happy, find a sensitive way to explain to them that, though you appreciate their concern, you have a handle on how you feel and what to do. Thank them for their support and remind them that you will certainly come to them for advice when you truly need it. Not only will this open communication show your appreciation for those you care about, but it will hopefully quiet some of those real-life opposing opinions as well!

[Marni Battista](#), founder of *Dating with Dignity*, is an expert dating and life coach with a 10-step system to manifesting love for your self and others. You can contact Marni at marni@datingwithdignity.com.

Attitude is Key



By Janeen Diamond for [Hope After Divorce](#)

“...laughing is one of my absolute favorite things.”

My husband and I have gone through about a half dozen extremely stressful events this past year. Looking back, it seems amazing we still find the energy to laugh on occasion. But that’s the way life is! And the older we get, the more responsibility we take on, the more children we have, the more complicated our lives become – the more stress we are going to have to deal with.

My kids and I have always tried to find something to laugh

about when serious things happen. It's not always easy, but at least we feel relief a lot more of the time. And hopefully, that's affecting our health in a positive way.

One of the biggest stressors in our society is the breakup of families. We live in a world where divorce has become the norm, and it's refreshing when I notice couples getting along after a divorce. I was thrilled to see that Ashlee Simpson and Pete Wentz reunited (along with their new love interests) to celebrate their son's fifth birthday. I can tell you from experience that keeping a friendship with your ex post-divorce is the only way to go. Everyone involved will be happier in the long run.

Related Link: [Exes Ashlee Simpson and Pete Wentz Reunite for Son Bronx's Birthday](#)

And, just a side note, if your new significant other doesn't agree with that logic, it may be time to get a new significant other!

I think we all believe our trials make us better. They build our character; they solidify who we are as individuals; and they give us perspective. We can all learn to be grateful for those tough times. The key to me is allowing our heartache to strengthen us rather than overtake us and beat us down. Ashlee and Pete seem to have this figured out.

Keep these three little tricks in mind the next time you've lost all hope:

Do one thing you love to do every single day. This doesn't have to be extravagant or complicated. Sure, I'd love to go out and buy a new outfit everyday, but that's simply not going to happen. Simple things that we love make us happy. I might bake chocolate chip cookies one day, or sit by the fire and read a book the next. Sitting in the hot tub before bed makes me happy, and it helps me sleep better. Call a good friend and chat, or meet up with your daughter for lunch. Figure out what

you love and do just one of those things every single day.

Make a list of all the things that are creating the stress and see if you can do something to change it. This is a brilliant plan! When we write things down, it's easier to tackle what we're dealing with. We will be able to see what we can't change, and hopefully, we'll be able to accept those challenges for what they are at that point. Making a list of possible solutions could change your life. Just don't overwhelm yourself with trying to do everything at once.

Call the one person who makes you laugh every time you talk to them. For me, this is my big brother. No matter what either one of us is going through at the time, it is absolutely certain that, before we hang up the phone, we will both be rolling in laughter, sometimes with tears streaming down our cheeks. We share a similar sense of humor, and laughing is one of my absolute favorite things. Just writing this paragraph is reminding me to find more opportunity to laugh every day from here on out!

Related Link: [Lessons from Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck: Don't Take Things Too Seriously](#)

Attitude is everything. I tell my kids that all the time, but sometimes, I have to remind myself as well. How we choose to deal with the stressful times in our lives is up to us. We have to decide how much happiness we want to experience amongst all the grief and upset we sometimes are forced to live with.

Life should be joyful. Make your list right now, and find one thing you can do today that will make a difference in the way you are feeling about your stress. I know I'm going to.

For more information about Hope After Divorce, click [here](#).



Janeen Diamond, author of Save Your Marriage in 30, was a newscaster for KUTV News until 2001. Since that time, she has been actively producing commercials and special programming through her company, Your TV Spot. She has hosted several television and internet productions and has been a spokesperson for several products and companies. She is a leader over the youth in her church and takes a special interest in helping kids stay on track with their lives. Janeen is currently co-creating "Teen Impact TV," a website for high school students to give them a creative and emotional outlet. She is a contributing expert for HopeAfterDivorce.org, DivorceSupportCenter.com, FamilyShare.com, and CupidsPulse.com. Follow her on Twitter @janeendiamond and www.facebook.com/janeen.diamond.

NoGamesLove Video Dating Tips: 10 Places to Meet Your Soul Mate by New Year's Eve





By [E!'s Famously Single Dating Coach, Laurel House](#)

Dating Advice from E!'s *Famously Single* Laurel House on Where to Meet Your Soul Mate

Are you hoping to find a guy before New Year's Eve rolls around? If so, you're in luck! With a little strategic dating, it *is* possible to meet your soul mate – or even just Mr. Right Now – before the clock strikes midnight and a new year begins. First, you must do something different. "You want to expose yourself to new people and set-up an opportunity for chemistry," says Laurel House, dating expert and E!'s *Famously Single* dating coach in this week's [dating advice](#) video. "You do that by going places you normally would *never* go."

For more information about our dating mentor, click [here](#).

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What are you going to do to meet a man by NYE? Share your tips in the comments below.

Celebrity Couple Predictions: Jessica Biel, Faith Hill and Kerry Washington



By [Shoshi](#)

For today's column, I want to look at three celebrity couples that tend to keep their relationship out of the spotlight but are faced with tabloid rumors nonetheless:

Jessica Biel and Justin Timberlake: This A-list pair recently celebrated a year of marriage – which means that this union has already lasted longer than many predicted. Every few months, there's a story about Timberlake cheating with a hot blonde or mystery brunette; it's a shame, but there may be something to it. When I look at their energy, the actress seems to be 100 percent into the marriage, while her husband isn't as present. That's not to say he doesn't love his wife; it's just to note that there is a piece of himself that isn't completely committed to their relationship. His energy appears to be up and down, which could be trouble in the long run.

Biel is a beautiful woman who seems quite lovely as a person, but she's rather boring. It can be argued that maybe that is why the marriage works. A part of the sexy singer wants stability, which his wife gives him, but there's also a side of him that craves something else.

I do see baby energy circling the couple, so expect a pregnancy announcement really soon. Wishing them the best on the pitter-patter of little feet!

Related Link: [Tim McGraw and Faith Hill Deny Divorce Rumors](#)

Faith Hill and Tim McGraw: Country music's most beautiful couple is rumored to be getting a divorce (yet again). Don't hold your breath on this one, ladies. Hill isn't going anywhere, and there won't be a breakup (at least for now). Rumors are swirling about McGraw having an affair with Taylor Swift and having bisexual relations with men. Normally, within any set of rumors, there are some truths. Even so, Hill knows who her man is, which is the only important thing.

The rumors are, however, taking a toll on their relationship. My spiritual sources tell me that these two have an understanding: What happens on the road, stays on the road. Still, it's hard to not bring some of it home. They are working through all of it as they have worked out other issues

in the past. Sometimes, McGraw may sleep on the couch, but if you're waiting for divorce papers between these two, you'll be waiting a long time. It's not even a consideration for this power duo.

Related Link: [Kerry Washington Weds Nnamdi Asomugha](#)

Kerry Washington and Nnamdi Asomugha: There are plenty of Hollywood couples that have drama around them, so I decided to take a look at a very happy pair: Kerry Washington and her new hubby Nnamdi Asomugha. Their wedding came as quite a surprise to most people because the actress doesn't like to talk about her personal life in interviews. There is even a rumor circulating that this private pair are *not* married – which is a prime example of why she kept her relationship a secret, even from her friends. Let's keep it real: Some friends cannot keep their mouths shut.

Not long ago, Washington announced that a baby was on board, and two weeks before she confirmed her pregnancy, I saw baby energy circling her when she was on a talk show. She is quite literally glowing. What could be better than a hit show, handsome husband, and baby on the way?

The only issue this couple has right now is that Asomugha, a football player, recently got cut from the San Francisco 49ers. The good news is he made some decent money from his contract, so even though he's unemployed, there's no need to worry about them being broke when the baby arrives. Other than that, these two are doing great; they are well matched and support one another.

For more information on Shoshi, click [here](#).

Dating with Dogs: When Your Pet Is a Deal Breaker



By Eric Bittman, CEO/President of [Warren London](#)

For my first expert post, I want to consider a common question: What do you do if your pet is a deal breaker? Let's say you have a two-year-old puppy, and you meet the person of your dreams – and they aren't a dog person. Do you choose your dog, or do you pursue a relationship with your soul mate? Big dilemma!

Related Link: [Must Love Dogs: More Singles Getting Pets](#)

Being a dog owner has changed for the current generation. Keeping your dog outside and tied up to a tree is no longer an option. Now, our dogs sleep next to us in our bed, and some of

us spoil them so rotten that they even have their own pillow and blanket. For many pet owners, having a dog can be similar to having a child: You drop them off at daycare; you bathe them regularly; and you take them to the vet for regular checkups.

Trading your puppy love for a new relationship will certainly be difficult, and it's an issue that you need to clearly communicate to your partner. They need to understand how important your pet is to you and that giving your dog up is not a decision that you take lightly. If you truly want a future together, you *both* must be willing to compromise.

This question affects everyone differently. Luckily, my wife is a huge dog lover, and we'll always have multiple dogs in our household. Our two Boston Terriers have been a huge part of our lives for the eight years we've been together, and we couldn't imagine not having them.

Related Link: [Amanda Seyfried and Justin Long Bond Over Her Dog](#)

This month, I caught up with Jayde Nicole, former Playmate of the Year and star of *The Hills* and *Holly's World*, to ask her some questions about dating with dogs:

Q: You meet someone who says "I'm not a dog person" or "I don't like dogs." Is it over right there?

A: Yes, definitely!

Q: Do you ever feel jealous of your significant other when they're more into their dog than you? Or is it attractive?

A: Never happened to me before!

Q: Let's say your dog eats your partner's new wallet. What do you do?

A: My dogs would never do anything like that – they're very

well-behaved.

Q: How do you handle it if your dog doesn't like your new significant other?

A: Most of my dogs hate everyone at first, but they always warm up to people eventually, so I would just give it some time.

Q: You meet someone that insists that his or her dog sleeps in the bed with you. Is that the end of the relationship?

A: All four of my dogs sleep in my bed with me no matter who else is there!

Q: And lastly, Your significant other says hi to the dog before they say hi to you after a long day of work. Do you see it as sweet or just plain rude?

A: Pretty standard – my dogs are so darn cute!

For more information about Eric Bittman, click [here](#). Stay tuned for next month's Dating with Dogs column!

5 Tips for Enjoying the Holiday Season





By Dr. Tranquility – [Lydia Belton](#), PhD, Ct. H.A.

As someone who's dating and marriage history would make the United Nations proud, I am all too aware that the holidays can add additional stressors to one's search for love. You have to consider the integration of cultural differences as well as contrasting religious belief systems and traditions. After all, Christmas, Chanukah (Hanukkah), Kwanzaa, and many more important days overlap. It's no surprise, then, that "the most wonderful time" is a great opportunity to create new memories and do some good for others. Whether you're single, dating, or happily married, here are some basic tips for a happy holiday season:

Related Link: [10 Holiday Gift Ideas for That Special Someone](#)

1. Don't sweat the small stuff: This time of year means that your friends and family (in-laws included) often want to visit. If you're single, it's a great time to travel and enjoy new cultural experiences. Or perhaps you want stay home and host your own celebration instead. No matter how you decide to spend the holidays, remember that we always stress less when

we enjoy each other's company.

2. Get ready for family time: As noted above, the holidays mean traveling for many people (celebrities included – Jessica Simpson and Eric Johnson will be splitting their time between Dallas and Boston this year), which allows for extra bonding time. Know that there will most likely be holiday traffic, so don't forget to load up your computer or tablet with your favorite books, games, and movies. Family gatherings are also a great time to learn more about your partner. Relatives won't shy away from telling stories about your significant other's childhood, even those that they would prefer be forgotten. Utilize your finely-honed listening skills and fall even more love with your beau.

3. Enjoy the ride: Do your holiday shopping together and take in the holiday decorations of your city. For a more charitable approach, volunteer at a local soup kitchen and drop-off toys for patients in a pediatric ward. Giving back always feels good, and what you receive in return just might surprise you.

4. Take advantage of being single: Now is the opportunity to *enjoy* being single! You can experience the usual party circuit or step out of your comfort zone and volunteer at a homeless shelter; either way, you'll have the chance to bond with old friends and meet new people. Plus, the start of another year is a great time to meet someone special, so keep an open mind and an open heart.

Related Link: [Three Tips to Stress-Free Holiday Dating](#)

5. Give thanks: As the year draws to a close, take a moment to appreciate your life and prepare for a wonderful year ahead. Have fun with your loved ones, old and new. Set your desires and intentions for the next twelve months, and visualize what you want. When we least worry about things, they tend to fall into place.

Follow these tips, and you are on your way to a stress-free

holiday. Happy holidays to all of you from Dr. Tranquility!

For more information about Dr. Tranquility, click [here](#).

How to Help Your Partner Through A Crisis



By [Melanie Mar](#)

During any long-term relationship, it's inevitable that you will eventually experience some form of crisis together. Whether it's a loss of a job leading to financial difficulties, the passing of a loved one causing immense sadness, or some form of addiction that is creating friction,

life is challenging, and the stresses that occur can certainly take a toll. During these times, the only choice you have is to pull together or fall apart. So how can you ensure that, while enduring a conflict, your partnership remains resilient and you strengthen your love as a couple? Below are my top recommendations for supporting your partner through a crisis:

1. Communicate. Communicate. Communicate: I cannot stress enough how important it is to communicate. The art of verbally expressing one's thoughts and feelings is becoming less frequent as texting and emailing is becoming rampant – to the point of compulsion. This way of relating is not an adequate way of articulating your needs and wants, so keep your “conversations” via typing to an absolute minimum when handling important matters within your relationship.

Related Link: [How to Communicate to Get What You Need](#)

2. Pay Attention to Body Language: With 85 percent of communication being non-verbal, it's important to be aware of your facial expressions, posturing, and gesturing when expressing yourself in conflict. Understanding how the brain works with verbal communication will help you stay focused on the issues you're trying to resolve. Always talk to your partner from your left lobe, which is used for thinking, acting, and doing. Recognize that your right lobe is responsible for being sensitive and emotional, and know that feelings are non-negotiable and will not assist you in solving your issues in a logical manner.

3. Make Your Commitment Clear: It's easy to love someone when everything is easy; the true test of strength in your relationship is when times are tough. It's paramount to let your partner know that you will not abandon them during these rough patches. Understanding your significant other's needs is crucial when being supportive. When in a crisis, ask them specifically, “What can I do to help us do better?” and

determine if there are solutions within your capabilities or if you need to accompany them to see a specialist.

Related Link: [Melanie Mar Offer Tips for Today's Relationships](#)

4. Give Each Other Space: In your efforts to assist your loved one, there may be a period when things become too overwhelming, and both parties agree to take a little time out for the greater good of the relationship. While you're giving each other space, it's very important to keep all points of contact open and available. Often times, after having a little solitude, each person can replenish their body and mind to a healthier place and resume communication with a positive attitude.

When a crisis strikes, there is little ability to predict the outcome or prevent the emotional chaos that may ensue. While it's easier to walk away, ultimately, it's better to face the problem as a team. Arising from the current conflict provides you with a new sense of love and support that will fortify your relationship, give you a positive outlook, and show you that you can conquer any future issues.

[Melanie Mar](#) is a celebrity relationship specialist, matchmaker, and life coach.

Reinventing Home for the Holidays





By Joanne Pittman for [Hope After Divorce](#)

Home for the holidays for a divorced family doesn't often fit into the Norman Rockwell picture-perfect moment mold. I recall my first Christmas as a divorced parent. First, there was the Christmas card photos – do we or don't we? Then, there was seeing the photos and knowing that the smiles just don't look the same, fumbling for what “tidings of joy” I could muster up to include while writing the annual Christmas card “catch-everyone-up-who-we-don't-see-very-often” letter.

One unexpectedly – or perhaps reluctantly – finds themselves embarking on an entire reinvention of what home for the holidays will look like, feel like, and be like. Regardless of whether you have the most optimal circumstances or the messiest of divorces, the reality that some things will never be the same was, in my experience, the most poignant and tangible during this special time of the year. In years past, Bruce Willis and Demi Moore have been a good example of a divorced couple who have still been able to keep life consistent and peaceful for their children, even during the holiday season.

Related Link: [Celebrity Couples Who Function as Families After Divorce](#)

Here are a few simple ideas that may help bring some cheer and light to the holidays and begin the process of building new memories, embracing old traditions, and setting the stage for a beautiful season.

1. Sit down and write a positive message of what the holiday spirit means to you. What is so special about the holiday season, and why does this matter to you and your family?
2. Create something visual to display in your home that reflects this true meaning. Involve your children. Keep your focus on the present, positive opportunities. Make or purchase something cheerful that exemplifies hope for a bright future.
3. Begin a new tradition, something that is visual and incorporates your holiday spirit message. It could be a new take on Christmas pajamas or a holiday sweater, how you present your holiday dinner, or an inspired way to decorate your home.
4. Take care of your personal image. Be sure to treat yourself to a nice haircut, holiday bobble, anything festive that reminds you of your positive holiday spirit message. You need not spend a lot of money.
5. Remove things from the “holiday bin” that may hold unpleasant memories and replace them with things that offer new hope.
6. Allow yourself to let go of the sadness and be grateful for what was good. Look forward to what will be even better in your future. Keeping a positive outlook and a soul filled with gratitude will allow your true self to shine. Nothing warms the heart and builds happy memories more than seeing someone’s eyes sparkling with happiness during the holidays.

Related Link: [How to Get Over a Broken Heart During the Holidays](#)

Reinvention of hope is the basis for reinvention of one's image. My occupation as an image consultant and stylist is often viewed by the outside world as materialistic and shallow. However, if one begins to build their image on the foundation of hope, character, and integrity with the objective to present the authentic self in order to live a more congruent life, the building of one's personal image and self-esteem becomes a powerful and deeply meaningful tool.

What a glorious time to start to understand, reinvent, and rebuild who you are! My truest wishes to you for the most joyous and beautiful of holiday seasons.

For more information about Hope After Divorce, click [here](#).



As founder of Pittman, Lamitie & Associates, Joanne has developed their proprietary IMAGE Authenticity™ Training Programs which address the multifaceted work and lifestyle demands on employees and executives in the corporate world today. Her innovative approach has evolved over the past twenty three years in the fashion, fitness, luxury retail and image consulting industries. Joanne has been writing training curriculum and presenting developmental workshops to large and small audiences for over eighteen years. She is known for raising new questions and expectations which successfully foster authentic corporate and personal brand presence.

Single in Stilettos Show: What Attracts a Man When You're Out



Thomas Edwards, founder of The Professional Wingman, answers an age-old question in this video interview with [Single in Stilettos](#) founder Suzanne Oshima: What are men attracted to when you're out? The dating expert reveals how to give men signals that you're interested; what men are looking for; why men aren't approaching you; how to give a guy your number without seeming desperate; how to tell a man you're not interested; and more. Listen up before your next night out! For more information about Single in Stilettos shows, click [here](#).

For more videos from CupidsPulse.com, check out our [YouTube](#)

[channel](#).

Tell us: What do you think guys are attracted to when you're out?

When Are You Ready To Be a Dad?



By [David Wygant](#)

One of my subscribers sent me a fantastic question the other day: When are you ready to be a dad? I'm a dad. I never thought I would be one. And now, not only am I a father, but I love it. For me, there's no greater feeling in the world.

There's nothing better than walking across the street holding my daughter's little hand. There's nothing better than sitting on my sofa while she climbs and crawls all over me – except when she bounces on my stomach after a big meal!

Related Link: [Brad Pitt Says Fatherhood Has Made Him a Better Man](#)

My daughter's still very young; she's only three years old. But the love she gives me is a love I've never experienced in my life. It's so fulfilling. And you know what? I wasn't ready to be a dad. It's like the old saying says: "You're never ready to be a father...until the kids arrive." Even then, you might not be ready, as the changes in your life are so sudden and drastic.

Remember that your wife becomes a mother; it's a completely new experience for her too. She has a little human being entirely dependent on her 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You're no longer going to feel like her number one priority, but she's going to need you more than ever.

You need to understand it's only a temporary feeling of displacement. Once you start bonding with your child, you'll start to feel a lot more involved again. Don't worry if it takes a bit of time to get to know your little one. Some guys don't feel like they bond with their kids until they hit two-years-old – it's easier to connect with their children when they're walking and talking. There's nothing wrong with that.

You need to ask yourself a different question: Is being a father something I want to do? The changes are so major that you have to *really* want it. The sleeping in on the weekends is over. The late nights over at your friend's house are done. Coming in after work and just putting on the television is no more! When you're a dad, you have to be on when you get home. You must spend time loving and connecting with your child. You need to be the role model your dad may or may not have been

for you. You have to open your mind and open your heart.

Related Link: [Celeb Dads Who Are Doing It Right](#)

You have to step outside your comfort zone and live for someone else. Is that something you can do? Is that something you desire from life? If the answers to these questions are yes, then don't worry about being ready and don't think you need to know everything. There's no guidebook. We all learned on the fly!

If you truly want to embrace the good and bad experiences that fatherhood brings, then you're as ready as you'll ever be.

Nothing will prepare you for it, and it won't be anything like you imagine. But honestly, it's the most beautiful, rewarding, and humbling experience any man can have.

For more information on David Wygant, click [here](#).

NoGamesLove Video Dating Tips: Heartbroken? Heal and Move On...Like I Did





By [E!'s Famously Single Dating Coach, Laurel House](#)

Dating Advice from E!'s *Famously Single* Laurel House on How to Move On

In this week's [dating advice](#) video, relationship expert and E!'s *Famously Single* dating coach, Laurel House addresses a tough question: How can you heal and move on after a broken heart? The dating expert reveals two heartbreaks of her own and uses her experiences to encourage others to pick up the pieces and focus on the future. "I found myself again. I realized I had lost myself in a lot of ways," she candidly says. "I was so concerned with making him happy that I forgot how to make myself happy." If you're struggling with heartache, listen up for more great tips!

For more information about our dating mentor, click [here](#).

For more videos from [CupidsPulse.com](#), check out our [YouTube](#)

[channel](#).

How did you heal and move on after a broken heart? Share your story in the comments below.

Q&A: How Can I Ask My Friend to Stop Being Dramatic on Twitter?



Question from Emma P.: My best friend is a Twitter addict, and although I find her tweets hilarious, whenever her and her boyfriend are having issues, my timeline turns into a soap

opera. How can I get my friend to stop the dramatics?

Answer from Our Love Experts:

[Suzanne Oshima, Matchmaker](#): When it comes to social media, you're always going to have a friend or two who are complete drama queens and feel the need to publicly vent about their love life for the whole world to see. While you can tell your best friend to stop being dramatic with the public soap opera, I have to warn you that you run the risk of it negatively affecting your friendship. She probably won't want to hear it from you, even though you may be right.

If you really enjoy her humorous tweets when she's not having issues with her boyfriend, then I highly recommend you accept what you can't control...which is her life and how she chooses to tweet. And if you just can't accept it, then you should stop following her on Twitter because that's something you *can* control!

[Robert Manni, Guy's Guy](#): One of the challenges we face with so much technology at our disposal is that people no longer confront their problems face-to-face or even by phone. Texting, e-mail, Facebook, and Twitter are great ways of conveying digestible snippets of information, but using these mediums to deal with emotional issues can be problematic. After all, it's hard to make an emotional connection in 140 characters or less. Your friend's tweeting as a way of dealing with her boyfriend is, ironically, probably exasperating what's wrong with her relationship. Instead of tweeting it out, she'd be better off talking things over with her boyfriend.

You can't address your timeline issue by tweeting back. Instead, reach out to her by phone or meet up in person to make a real connection where you can tell her how you feel. If she thinks that your getting together is "interrupting" her life, you might ask yourself is she really worth having as a

friend.

For more information on our three dating and technology gurus, click [here](#).

If you have any questions you would like answered by our experts, please submit them on our [Contact Page](#).

Have you dealt with a friend who shared her relationship drama on Twitter? Share your story below!

How to Cooperatively Co-Parent After Separation or Divorce





By Rosalind Sedacca, CCT for [Hope After Divorce](#)

Since they're parents of a two-year-old son, Orlando Bloom and Miranda Kerr's separation is more than just celebrity news. They have become role models for how to handle divorce. At the Child-Centered Divorce Network, we watch celebrity divorces carefully, honoring them when they do things right – and admonishing them if they're doing things wrong.

So far, we're hearing the right messages that every couple facing separation or divorce should heed. I value what Bloom said recently on a TV interview: "We love each other. We're a family. We're going to be in each other's lives for the rest of our lives." That, in essence, is the reality divorcing parents face. Why not approach it cooperatively for the well-being of your children? Bloom added, "For the sake of our son and everything else, we're going to support one another and love each other as parents to Flynn. Life sometimes doesn't work out exactly as we plan or hope for. But fortunately, we're both adults, and we love and care about each other. And we, most of all, love our son."

Related Link: [Can You Really Be Friends With Your Ex?](#)

I love this response and am delighted to share it with others. No doubt, life for parents after divorce can be enormously complex and challenging for several reasons.

- Both parents are bringing the raw emotions resulting from the divorce into a new stage in their lives.
- Mom and Dad are also bringing previous baggage from the marriage – ongoing conflicts, major disputes, differing styles of communication, unresolved issues, and continual frustrations – into the mix as they negotiate a co-parenting plan.
- Both parents are vying for the respect and love of the children – and are easily tempted to slant their parenting decisions in the direction that wins them popularity with the kids.
- Anger and resentment resulting from the divorce settlement can impact and influence levels of cooperation in the years to come.
- Parents may disagree about major issues ahead that weren't part of the parenting dynamic in the past, including visits and sleepovers with friends, scheduling after-school activities, handling curfews, new behavior problems, consequences for smoking, drinking and drug use, dating parameters, using the car, and scheduling vacation time.
- Parents may not share values and visions for the children as they grow and may also not agree on the plan of action required to honor those values.

When these types of differences appear, parents might find themselves struggling to find ways of coping. Agreement on how to co-parent effectively in the present and the future is not a one-time discussion. It takes on-going communication, both

verbal and written, as well as regular meetings via phone or in person. And it takes a commitment to make co-parenting work – because you both want it to.

Related Link: [Must We Remain Friends with Our Ex-Husband?](#)

The consequences, when it doesn't work, can be considerable. Your children are very likely to exploit any lack of parental agreement or unity, pitting Mom and Dad against one another while they eagerly take advantage of the situation. This is a danger sign that can result in major family turmoil fueled by behavior problems that neither parent can handle.

When Mom and Dad are on the same page, so to speak, they can parent as a team regardless of how far apart they live. These parents agree about behavioral rules, consequences, schedules, and shared intentions regarding their children. They discuss areas of disagreement and find solutions they can both live with – or agree to disagree and not make those differences an area of contention.

Keep in mind that when you're more open and receptive to your co-parent, you are more likely to get what you really want in the end. Good listening skills, flexibility, and the commitment to do what's best on behalf of your children are part of a smart co-parenting mindset. Remember that co-parenting will be a life-long process for the two of you. Why not do it in a way that will garner your children's respect and appreciation? It looks like Bloom and Kerr recognize the importance of that. I hope other co-parents do as well.

For more information on Hope After Divorce, click [here](#).

Rosalind Sedacca, CCT is a Divorce and Parenting Coach and author of the ebook, How Do I Tell the Kids about the Divorce? A Create-a-Storybook Guide to Preparing Your Children – with Love! Acclaimed by divorce professionals, the book provides fill-in-the-blank templates that guide parents in creating a family storybook with personal photographs as an ideal way to

break the news. Rosalind is a contributing expert at HopeAfterDivorce.org, DivorceSupportCenter.com, FamilyShare.com, and CupidsPulse.com. For her free ebook on Post-Divorce Parenting: Success Strategies for Getting It Right!, her free ezine, articles, coaching services, and other valuable resources, visit Rosalind's personal website, www.childcenteredddivorce.com/ or follow her on www.facebook.com/ChildCenteredDivorce/ and Twitter @RosalindSedacca.

Why Do You Want to Be Friends With Your Ex?



By Lori Zaslow and Jennifer Zucher, founders of [Project Soulmate](#)

While it is possible to be friends with your ex, it's very hard and circumstantial. Everyone's relationship is different, but we believe that the general rule of thumb is to cut all ties unless there are third parties involved.

If you have kids together, it's mandatory to maintain a friendly relationship. Putting aside the differences that exist between you and your ex-partner is vital for the wellbeing of your family. A divorce means that children must make so many adjustments, but they still need both of their parents in their lives in consistent ways.

Related Link: [Bruce and Kris Jenner Announce Their Separation](#)

Turning to Hollywood for inspiration, Kris and Bruce Jenner are making a good business decision as well as a smart choice for their kids by choosing to still film their show despite their separation. There is nothing worse than divorce for a family, so why make it any harder than it has to be? By choosing to put aside their personal differences for the sake of their empire, they're keeping the Kardashian-Jenner crew connected and together.

Similarly, Miranda Kerr and Orlando Bloom were recently spotted kissing only a day after they announced their split. They appear to be on great terms despite their separation, which will certainly help their young son Flynn cope with the changes in his life.

Now, let's look at relationships without children involved. It'll be especially difficult to maintain a friendship with your ex if one or both of you still have lingering feelings. However, if both of you are happy in other relationships and enough time has passed, then the possibility does exist. Even then, we still think the relationship should be kept

“minimally friendly” – no need to try to be best friends.

Related Link: [Five Ways Being Friends with Your Ex Can Ruin You](#)

If you're in one of the above situations, the real questions to ask yourself are: Why do you want to be friends with your ex? What makes his or her friendship so important to you? And does your ex feel the same way? Are you secretly hoping that sparks will fly again? Figuring out the answers to these questions will help you determine what path to take.

Remember: It may be possible to be friends with your ex, but that doesn't necessarily mean it's healthy to do so.

For more information about Project Soulmate, click [here](#).

Tell us: Have you ever maintained a friendship with an ex?

What Your Halloween Costume Says About You





By [Jared Sais](#)

Halloween: To some, it's a day of fear and horror; to others, it's a day to trick or treat; and to even more, it's a day to dress up and just have fun. Since this special celebration is upon us next week, I wanted to analyze what your costume choice says about you, so below, I looked at eight popular outfits. Proceed with caution; after all, sometimes, the truth is the scariest part.

1. Black cat (or other animals): It's no secret that you're playful and fun to be around. You're also the alpha in your group of friends and can be a bit controlling, though it's only because you know what you like and what works best for you. You can be reserved and tough on the outside, but you're very vulnerable, caring, and sweet on the inside. You're intuitive by nature and pick up on the vibes of other people – it's like your sixth sense. Finally, you're passionate and tend to see the world as me versus them.

When it comes to love, you need someone who is just as playful

as you. You want a boyfriend or girlfriend who has a sense of humor but can be serious when necessary, someone who can take control. For you, the chase is just as fun as being in a relationship.

Your best costume matches include: a police officer, firefighter, hero, or royalty.

Related Link: [Our Favorite Celebrity Couple Halloween Costumes](#)

2. Royalty, including an evil queen: You know your worth when it comes to love and friendship. You're good at keeping yourself organized, and you're very charming. Even though you're always willing to help others, people tend to want to help you just as much. You're gentle and elegant. Plus, you have a wonderful sense of style. You have many admirers – not only in love but also at the workplace. You also strive for greatness, and your effort is usually unmatched.

You need a man that not only treats you like a princess but also keeps you grounded (because, let's face it, sometimes, your ego can get out of control). The only way for you to really be happy is to be spoiled every day, which isn't a bad thing. You also need someone who matches your high intellect level and someone who can take control when you don't want to. You walk the walk and talk the talk, and your partner needs to fit the role just as much as you do.

Your best costume matches include: royalty, a hero, or a black cat.

3. Police officer and firefighter: You have a fire in your eyes. You're strong, caring and sometimes overconfident. You're extremely protective of your friends and family, and you won't let anything happen to them. Sometimes, you even put your loved ones before yourself. You're demanding of others but can phrase your thoughts and words in a strategic manner to make sure you don't hurt anybody's feelings. You're also sensual and have high moral standards.

For you, it's important that your partner is just as passionate as you. Things can get hot and steamy when you find the right person. Sometimes, though, too much of this passion can backfire, and arguments can form.

Your best costume matches include: a police officer, firefighter, someone in the military, a vampire, a hero, or any other costume that represents power and authority.

4. Native American or Eskimo: You're sensitive, caring, and calm. When you truly want something, you go after it, working day in and out to reach your goal. You're very selective of who's in your life, and the people within your circle are more like family than friends. You can sometimes be too controlling of yourself and your emotions, but you're very in touch with your sensitive side.

Your perfect relationship is with someone you can count on and respect, someone you know will remain loyal to you. Your love needs to be in touch with himself and his feelings. Because of your personality, you have the chance to have one of the most meaningful and passionate relationships out there.

Your best costume matches include: a 60's flower child, DIY outfit, or a vampire.

5. Burlesque dancer, Geisha or vampire: Sexy is your middle name! You're very aware of your own body and know what looks good on you. Plus, you're confident, ambitious, and passionate. You encourage others to follow your lead, and men are constantly noticing you. You're more dominant than most people, and you want a partner who will take care of you for a change. Still, you're a planner: You're the one who usually takes action or makes plans for your friends.

Passionate, sensual, and sincere – these are the three main characteristics you want in a lover. You have a strong understanding of who you are; what matters to you is finding a partner in crime. It's okay if they don't know exactly what

they want, just as long as they're willing to figure it out. You like someone who can be dominant one day and give you power the next day. It's also important that your significant other is powerful and sexual.

Your best costume matches include: a vampire or hero costume.

6. 60's flower child: The Woodstock generation paved the way for one of the most iconic times in American history. Though we live in 2013, it seems like the 60's never go out of style. The music still echoes throughout the bars, clubs, and malls, and on this holiday, the costume of choice for many folks is hippy gear. Your parents may have been hippies and taught you an appreciation of the culture. You're laid back, and people like to be with you because of your relaxing vibe. You're a free spirit who loves the thrill of life. You have spunk and don't always play by the rules. You know life is fun, and there is no better day than Halloween to live it up!

Your best match is sensitive, caring, and sweet. You need someone you can bring home to your family but who is still dangerous and thrilling. You want a partner who enjoys life and doesn't always follow the rules. Your significant other is your best friend, and you're okay with spending most of your time with this person. Most importantly, they need to be open to new adventures.

Your best costume matches include: a Native American, Eskimo, 60's flower child, or hippy, as there should be humbleness and earth colors in the outfit.

Related Link: [Best Celebrity Couple Costumes for Halloween](#)

7. Hero: Whether you're Wonder Woman, Mario or Zelda, if you're portraying a hero, your personality is one of strong character. You're the first to take action; you're an outgoing leader, and you never shy away from expressing your feelings. You believe that love conquers all, that good always prevails over evil, and happy endings do come true.

You need a hopeless romantic or a daydreamer who embraces the magic of life just like you. You want to take over the world, and though you don't need a partner to do it, it's much better with someone by your side. Your significant other should be your rock, someone you can rely on when life gets tough.

Your best costume matches include: anything that relates to fantasy and heroics, like another hero, royalty, black cat, or vampire.

8. DIY: Do-it-yourself costumes can come in all prices – from a quick trip to the dollar store to a full-on makeover. I've seen a girl become a very sexy Sriracha hot sauce by wearing a red shirt with a Rooster taped on it and rolling up a green piece of paper into a cone shape and placing it on her head. If you're a DIY guy or gal, you like to take things into your own hands. You're extremely crafty and don't mind taking the time to put your skills the test. You have a fun personality and want people to respect the work you put into making your creativity come to life.

Your creative ability is priceless, and your perfect match is someone who has his own creative spark but can also be your muse. You need someone who lets your dreams take form; instead of bringing you back to reality, they help you soar higher than the birds. Most important, they inspire you.

Your best costume matches include: a DIY costume like you or someone dressed as a hero, vampire, hippy, or Native American.

Tell us about your favorite partner costumes in the comments below!

Facing a Divorce? Don't Take the Adversarial Approach



By Lisa LaBelle for [Hope After Divorce](#)

In any divorce situation, the ideal way to settle disputes is by finding solutions together. Keeping a semi-friendly, amicable relationship with your soon-to-be ex-partner is definitely the wiser choice. With that being said, both spouses must be willing to work together on their divorce settlement; otherwise, the adversarial approach will play out. Unfortunately, much of the advice given in our society today concerning divorce is oppositional. Dissolving a marriage by force and “winning” is far more common than showing mutual respect and making decisions as a team.

Related Link: [Must We Remain Friends With Our Ex-Husband?](#)

What Will You Choose?

If rebuilding your marriage is not an option, will you choose to work out your divorce settlement peacefully, or will you choose to take the adversarial approach? Bruce and Kris Jenner, who recently announced their separation, are a good example of a celebrity couple facing this question. The estimated \$125 million net worth of the Kardashian empire is serious business, and they have **NO PRENUP**! California is a community property state, meaning they'll have to split that net worth 50-50. Hopefully, neither of them will choose to take the adversarial, "fight to win" approach if they indeed divorce. In a perfect world, the best solution for this couple is to rebuild their marriage. However, if they do choose to divorce, working through their financial settlement respectfully will be in their overall best interest.

When Divorce Is Unavoidable

When divorce is unavoidable, issues to be aware of are: temporary support, custody and visitation (if you have children), financial worth and combined income, property division, spousal support, child support, retirement, assets, debts, insurance, and everything acquired as a married couple. Be transparent; otherwise, you'll need to hire a forensic accountant, which will further drain your financial reservoir. Costly attorney fees take a financial toll on divorcing couples if they take the adversarial approach. Staying on friendly terms with a peaceful exit strategy is always the best choice.

Taking the Adversarial Approach

Choosing to take the adversarial approach puts an emphasis on "winning the fight." Our society has taught us to take sides. If you and your spouse choose to battle as a way of protecting yourselves, you end up spending negative energy and money

fighting for survival instead of finding solutions. No one wins! Actually, the only ones who win are your attorneys and legal and financial teams. Years down the road, you will most likely find that this approach wasn't worth it financially, emotionally, physically, or mentally.

Related Link: [Maintaining a Positive Image While Going Through Divorce](#)

When you are facing divorce, do your part to be a peacemaker. If your partner is leaning towards being adversarial, encourage him or her to not go there. It's up to you both to take the high road, which will allow you to move on and rebuild your lives in a much healthier, more positive manner. Someday, you will thank each other and so will your family!



Lisa LaBelle is Co-Founder and Co-Executive Director of Hope After Divorce and DivorceSupportCenter.com. She is co-author and co-editor of the book, Hope After Divorce. Lisa is a family and child advocate, having worked as a consultant with divorced women across the country. She was lead advocate for the reforming of family law child support guidelines, which were successfully signed into law. Lisa is a publicist at Osmond Marketing. She is currently pursuing her master's degree in counseling, marriage and family therapy, and mediation. Lisa is a special guest host on numerous radio shows and a contributing expert at HopeAfterDivorce.org, DivorceSupportCenter.com, FamilyShare.com, LAFamily.com, and CupidsPulse.com. You can follow her on Facebook and Twitter. Lisa is the mother of two grown sons who continue to be her greatest joy.

NoGamesLove Video Dating Tips: How to Deal When Your Ex Moves On



By [E!'s Famously Single Dating Coach, Laurel House](#)

Dating Advice from E!'s *Famously Single* Laurel House on What to Do When Your Ex Moves On

In this week's [dating advice](#) video, relationship expert and E!'s *Famously Single* dating coach, Laurel House lets you in on why you're stressing so much about your ex's new relationship

and what you can do to get over it. You need to learn to be happy again – without him. “Get yourself out there in a better, stronger, wiser way,” the dating expert explains. “This is the time to work on you.”

For more information about our dating mentor, click [here](#).

For more videos from CupidsPulse.com, check out our [YouTube channel](#).

How did you handle it when your ex moved on? Share your story in the comments below!

Celebrity Couple Predictions: Paula Patton, Miley Cyrus and Catherine Zeta-Jones





By [Shoshi](#)

For this week's celebrity couple predictions, I want to consider three duos who have been plagued with breakup rumors – some of which have been confirmed.

Related Link: [Paula Patton Says “Passion” Is Key to a Successful Relationship](#)

Paula Patton and Robin Thicke: These two have been one of the most interesting couples to watch lately – who knew they could be so entertaining? Fans have been waiting for Patton to get upset with her husband for being racy with Miley Cyrus on stage at MTV's Video Music Awards.

From a clairvoyant point of view, they are a couple with a lot of layers. Thicke was recently quoted as saying that his marriage was “the most dysfunctional functional relationship in Hollywood.” That's actually a fair assessment; the thing that keeps them solid is trust.

The famous pair are doing quite well in their relationship despite all of the shenanigans. The actress doesn't freak out

when he checks out another woman, and she knows, at the end of the day, Thicke is coming home to her. Don't expect any separation or divorce headlines. In fact, in less than a year, they'll be pregnant again.

Miley Cyrus and Liam Hemsworth: Speaking of Cyrus, it's no surprise that her rep confirmed her engagement was over on Monday. As recent as last weekend, she stopped following her alleged beau on Twitter, but this relationship hit "hot mess status" months ago. Hemsworth tried to hang in there, and it's time for him to officially move on.

When looking at their energy, what kept these two together was sex; they weren't destined for anything more than hot nooky. The pop star's energy is all over the place, and she isn't focused on love, which will make it difficult for anyone trying to have a serious relationship with her.

As for what's next for these two, Cyrus will have a few flings. Once she's finished trying to be the next Lady Gaga with a splash of Madonna from the 80s, she'll be ready for a relationship that has meaning. Hemsworth, on the other hand, will end up with a dark-haired actress on his arm.

Related Link: [Celebrity Couple Predictions: Katy Perry, Kate Middleton and Fergie](#)

Catherine Zeta-Jones and Michael Douglas: When it was announced that this married pair separated, the only surprise was that it hadn't happened years ago. Their 13-year marriage lasted longer than most people predicted, as many critics gave it only 5 years. There are many theories on why their relationship fell apart, but it's all speculation; instead of paying attention to the tabloids, I decided to take an in-depth look at their love. I have no doubt that they'll divorce. The actress is a bit lost at the moment; it's important to note that her bipolar disorder is not that main cause for her detachment in their relationship. She is seeking

something that she's not getting in her marriage.

They signed a pre-nup when they first got hitched, but the brunette beauty will want a different settlement. Let's just say she thinks that she deserves more money. After a lot of nasty back-and-forth, Douglas will give her what she wants to get rid of her.

After the smoke clears and they're divorced, Zeta-Jones will end up with someone younger who will help her learn to live again. She is known for having an appetite for older men, so this will be new ground for her. Expect her to become known as a full-fledged cougar. Douglas will be fine, as he has a new outlook on life. If he does look for love again, it'll be with someone closer to his age.

For more information on Shoshi, click [here](#).