

# Alicia Keys: Motherhood Has Made Me A Better Person



By Jenny Schafer for

Celebrity Baby Scoop

Grammy Award-winner Alicia Keys opens up to *Scholastic Parent & Child's* December/January issue about her 2-year-old son **Egypt**, the joys of motherhood and balancing work and family life with husband Swizz Beatz.

**On being a new mom:** "Being a parent has made me more open, more connected to myself, more happy, and more creative. I'm more discerning in what I do and how I do it. It's just made me a better person all the way around."

**On balancing work and family life:** "What's been surprisingly hard about becoming a mom is being away from him and trying to find that magical balance for everything, which I kind of expected. But on the flip side, what's been surprisingly easy is just how natural parenthood feels. I feel great about how easily I've fallen into the role. I love it!"

**On family time:** “We love to go to art galleries and to the park. We love to do painting days and to visit our family—and we also love to run around our house and just go nuts!”

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## Giuliana Rancic Faces End of Maternity Leave: “It’s Hard”



By Jenny Schafer for

Celebrity Baby Scoop

After three months of a blissful maternity leave with her newborn son **Duke**, E! News host Giuliana Rancic is returning to work.

“I could give you the Hollywood answer and just say it’s been great going back to work,” she tells [Life & Style](#). “But the real answer is, it’s hard. What’s important now is different from what was important a few months ago.”

*"The other morning, I was having the best time with Duke, and he was making faces that I had never seen before, and he was being so cute. Then I looked at the clock and I had to go to work," the new mom, 37, adds. "So I keep thinking, am I going to miss something?"*

To help calm her nerves, doting hubby **Bill Rancic** regularly sends smartphone videos of their son throughout the day. "It's one thing to look at pictures," she says. "But when I see video, I feel like I'm with him."

Bill, 41, says he's never seen this side of Giuliana before. "It's remarkable to see how the baby has changed her," he shares. "Just the devotion the little guy evoked and the motherly instincts that kicked in."

But the self-professed workaholic says she'll work hard at balancing work and family life.

*"I'll make it work," she says. "I'm going to make sure I don't sacrifice anything."*

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## Love Lessons from Holiday Movies





By Amy Osmond Cook

The holiday season wouldn't be the same without Christmas movies. Even if you're bah-humbugging the holidays this year, we can learn a lot about love in these classic holiday films.

**1. Elf** . Will Ferrell is at his best in this laugh-out-loud family flick. Buddy the Elf finds out he is actually a human and goes to New York to find his long-lost father. While there, he trashes his dad's Upper-East-Side apartment, spreads Christmas cheer among cynics and falls in love with Jovi (Zooey Deschanel), Santa's elf at the mall. They eventually get together and split time between New York and the North Pole. *The message: Love can transcend all barriers.*

**Related Link:** [How to Find Love Amidst Holiday Crazyness](#)

**2. It's a Wonderful Life.** In this heartwarming story, George Bailey (Jimmy Stewart) is in dire straits, feeling he is worth more dead than alive. George's guardian angel shows him what the lives of his loved ones would be like without him in it. In this alternate reality, George's brother is dead, Uncle Billy is in an insane asylum, his friend is an exotic dancer and his wife is a librarian spinster. George realizes that he has the relationships that make a wonderful life. *The message: Love is the main ingredient of happiness.*

**3. Love Actually.** Ten love stories tell a number of tales. My

favorite is that of Jamie and Aurélia. Jamie (Colin Firth), a British writer, is crushed when his girlfriend sleeps with his brother. He retires to his French cottage, where he meets housekeeper Aurélia (LÃ©cia Moniz). They are instantly attracted to one another, but Aurélia speaks only Portuguese. When Jamie returns to England, he realizes he is in love with Aurélia—so he learns Portuguese to propose to her. When they meet, Jamie learns that Aurélia has been learning English to communicate with him. Sigh. *The message: Love means learning to speak your lover's language.*

**Related Link:** [Why You Shouldn't Buy Her a Ring for the Holidays](#)

If you're in a romantic relationship, grab some hot chocolate and curl up with your partner to watch these must-see [holiday](#) flicks. And remember: Love transcends barriers, brings happiness and inspires us to communicate better with our partners.

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## J. Lo and Casper Smart: What Their Body Language Says About Their Love







By Jared Sais

Since they began dating over a year ago, Jennifer Lopez and her much-younger beau, Casper Smart, have faced their fair share of rumors: from breakups to makeups, nobody ever thought this couple would last. Most recently, they were spotted at Tiffany & Co. in Australia – could an engagement be in their future? To better understand the truth about their relationship, I analyzed the four photos below.

**Related Link:** [Extravagant Celebrity Gifts Within Reach of Your Budget](#)

### **Picture #1 (moving clockwise from the top left): Casper's Body Language**

Casper is strutting his stuff, puffing out his chest (literally inflating himself and, perhaps, his ego), flashing a big grin and projecting a ton of confidence with his straight, head-up walk. This action could be overcompensation in order to prove to the press, his [girlfriend](#) or himself that he deserves her and this sort of attention. Of course, he could also be showing pride – and when you're a 25-year-old dude dating J. Lo, why wouldn't you be proud?

### **Picture #2: Casper as Protector**

For a four-year-old, Emme is actually quite poised, as she isn't crying or burying her head. She is showing some sort of

hesitation by extending both arms towards Casper and creating a closed-off barrier between her and the paparazzi. Emme has a startled, deer-in-the-headlights look – a mixture of surprise, fear and confusion. Still, she trusts Casper to protect her, clenching *both* her hands with his and literally reaching for that extra sense of security. This behavior indicates that Emme finds strength and support in Casper, who assumes the role of protector as he leads both ladies. J. Lo, unfazed by the cameras and sporting her patented forced, fake smile, is the consummate professional. Even so, she refuses to abandon her motherly instinct as she protectively extends her hand to guide Emme to safety.

### **Picture #3: Establishing Shot of Comfort**

To accurately interpret non-verbal cues, you must establish baseline traits for comparative analysis. This picture is a great example since, once again, J. Lo has her “paparazzi face” on: she remains unfazed by the photographers and might as well be on stage. Casper is in a variation of his comfort position; having ones’ hands close to the body is a typical and safe default position. He also has a relatively neutral face, which usually means “do not disturb” (utilized universally on subways and airplanes). There is a ton of non-verbal action going on behind the couple, as their bodyguard is giving someone the death stare along with the pinched lips of anger. Whoever it is, they are about to have a very unpleasant experience.

### **Picture #4: Proxemics & Closeness**

Proxemics are observations dealing with space as an elaboration of culture, which means that closeness implies...closeness. Since facial expressions are easily faked (something J. Lo does quite often), proxemics can be an accurate indicator of how close a couple truly is. Consider, for example, how difficult it is to be near someone you dislike or the frequency of couples retreating to separate

areas after an argument. We have an instinctual need to be social, and there are countless studies detailing how human contact releases endorphins (that's why hugging relieves stress and why the correct handshake can lead to a promotion). So how close are these two? As you can see, they are literally intermingled, which says that on an intimate level, things are going great. However, there is more to a relationship than a physical connection.

## **Conclusion**

The jury is out on whether J. Lo and Casper are in it for the long haul, so hold off on any name mash-ups for now. However, if they can overcome an 18-year age difference, which inherently has a ton of pitfalls, I vote for J-LoCa because it's definitely going to be a wild and crazy ride.

**Do you think J. Lo and Casper's love will last? Tell us in the comments below!**

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# **12-12-12: Show Your Love & Support for the Victims of Hurricane Sandy**







Here at

CupidsPulse.com, we saw firsthand the true devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy. Our offices were located in the center of the storm, and we feel very fortunate that only a portion of our office was impacted. We were out of power for 13 days, but that is nothing compared to what so many other people faced – and are still facing. Many New Yorkers continue to experience distress: they have no place to live, their personal belongings are gone and they have no place to celebrate the holidays.

In hopes of helping these people rebuild their lives and their homes, a very special event takes place tonight: “12-12-12,” the biggest concert ever staged at Madison Square Garden, will begin at 7:30 p.m. EST and focus on the impact of Hurricane Sandy. The concert includes performers such as Bon Jovi, Eric Clapton, Alicia Keys, Kanye West, Billy Joel and The Rolling Stones. Additionally, stars including Leonardo DiCaprio, Jake Gyllenhaal, Adam Sandler, Kristen Stewart, Jessica Chastain and more will participate in the show to help the victims of the Superstorm.

Every single penny raised by the telethon will go to organizations serving the victims of Hurricane Sandy through the Robin Hood Relief Fund, which provides money, material and know-how to local organizations that are serving those hit hardest by the storm. Moreover, Tommy Hilfiger has agreed to

donate t-shirts as part of the merchandise offerings for “12-12-12.”

If you can't be there in person, “12-12-12” will be distributed to nearly two billion people through television feeds, radio and online streaming. Given that the holiday season is all about love, be sure to tune in and show your support to the many New Yorkers still suffering.

*For where to watch or listen, click [here](#).*

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## Ryan Danz and Abbie Ginsberg Tell Us How They Bonded on ‘The Amazing Race’



By Nic Baird

Viewers of ‘The Amazing Race’ can relax now that the suspense

of the CBS show's 21st season has dissipated. The competition is over, and fans can reflect on the brave globe-trotting adventurers they cheered to take the one million dollar prize at the finish line.

While we all rooted for our favorites, it's hard not to feel at least a little disappointed that couple Ryan Danz and Abbie Ginsberg were eliminated in Amsterdam with only three episodes left. The "dating divorcees" team had the first opportunity in the game's history to score double: by winning the first leg of the competition, Danz and Ginsberg became eligible to win two million dollars should they be victorious overall. If that wasn't enough to gain favor with the audience, the trials of this type-A twosome told a riveting love story.

"Because we lasted as long as we did, it bonded us in some very unique ways that most couples didn't get to experience," says Danz, referring to the three romantic pairs previously eliminated. Despite having a better average placement than any of their competitors in their ninth and final leg, Danz and Ginsberg were hit by multiple flight delays and a U-Turn penalization that forced them to take an extra detour.

The ensuing elimination did not leave any bitterness or regret in the relationship of these fierce competitors. Instead, they revel in their triumph as a couple. Rather than dwelling on the loss of a two million dollar prize, Danz and Ginsberg focus on how they learned new ways to communicate and support each other. "We ran the race really well," Ginsberg says. "And that's something that makes both of us very proud."

While still in the throws of a young relationship, Danz and Ginsberg faced five other couple teams among the total roster of eleven. The other competitors had been together much longer than this twosome, who had each ended a first marriage when they connected roughly a year ago. Besides the thrill of adventure and the lure of treasure, both teammates were looking for insight into their budding romance when they

signed up.

**Related Link:** [Get Back In the Dating Game This New Year](#)

“We took a lot from that race,” Ginsberg shares. The intensity of the competition kept them mindful of their partner’s needs. “Like any couple,” she points out, “it takes constant checks and balances.”

“The whole process has been very positive for our relationship,” Ginsberg says but admits that it could have been the opposite. “A lot of people warned us that it would probably tear us apart and make us resent each other.” Juggling the double role of teammate and girlfriend, she describes it as “a lot of managing.”

Likewise, Danz thought it was important to be supportive and encouraging as a partner outside of dating. “Going into the race, the most important thing was how I treated Abbie as a teammate.”

As viewers saw, the couple faced obstacles both on and off the race course but always did their best to overcome them. “One team can be very lucky; another can get unlucky,” Danz says. “As far as racing, we wouldn’t do anything differently.”

The pair identify specific relationship challenges they had to face during the competition. As two competitive spirits, they had a early issues sharing leadership, Ginsberg says. Danz explains this problem led to a fight at their hotel. With fresh wounds from his divorce, Danz didn’t want to engage in conflicts with Ginsberg. “She’d say, ‘Why are you pulling away?’”

The couple was able to work on their relationship by communicating during down time. “We were really mature about it,” Ginsberg says. “We got more unified and closer each race.” Ginsberg was glad to have a partner who could take the lead when needed but also share the responsibilities. “It was

successful as long as we were able to be open and honest with each other.”

**Related Link:** [5 Bachelor and Bachelorette Couples We Can Learn From](#)

Danz recalls the time when he was most amazed by his partner. The couple arrived at the Roadblock challenge in Bangladesh, and they spotted a balance scale demonstration. He describes how Ginsberg had to build a balance scale out of bamboo and rope and then figure out how much wood would balance four stones. “I was so blown away by how resolved she was to complete the task. She didn’t give up. She didn’t break down. I am still so impressed by that moment.”

Expanding on Danz’s recollection, Ginsberg shares, “Ryan was really encouraging and supportive during solo experiences.” When the atmosphere got tense, she says they still focused on the race instead of “little petty things.” As a member of the “dating divorcees” team, she describes how communicating with a new partner is like “learning a whole new language.”

For Danz, he describes the experience as extending much further than the “compressed” TV show.” He says the moments of reflection during their travels as a couple were really important and very empowering. “I’m really proud of her,” Danz shares, “really proud of how we ran the race together.”

*For more information about Ryan, check out [www.RyanDanz.com](http://www.RyanDanz.com). You can also follow him on Facebook and Twitter at @RyanDanz. You can follow Abbie on Facebook and Twitter as well at @AbbieGinsberg.*

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# Michael Bublé: My Children Will Be My Priority



By Kirstin Mirtich

for Celebrity Baby Scoop

Although Michael Bublé has enjoyed a successful singing career, the Canadian crooner has no qualms about putting aside his busy schedule to raise a family one day.

"It can't always be like that; I won't allow it to be like that," the Grammy Award-winner explains. "When I do have children, my priority will be my family."

"I'll continue for a couple more years, and then it's not that I'm going to stop," he adds. "But I'll definitely probably slow down the pace, so that I can not have to hate myself for not being there for the family."

The 37-year-old star says that married life to Argentine actress **Luisana Lopilato** is wonderful but admits their busy careers sometimes kept them apart.

“Yes, we are definitely apart quite a bit, but I try to hang out with her as much as possible,” he reveals. “We try to get together, and when she’s on set making her movies, I go down there, and my job is to rub her feet and bring her coffee basically.”

In the meantime, Michael is excited about the possibility of collaborating with actress **Reese Witherspoon** on his next album.

“By all accounts it would be true. I just really am a big fan, and so myself and my camp, we wanted to do this with her, and we were thrilled that she was excited about it too.”

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## The Best Holiday Gift for Your Man



By David Wygant

So let's say that you're having a very passionate holiday romance. What do you do about Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanzaa, Festivus, etc.? Well, whatever holiday you're celebrating, I'm a firm believer of wishing everybody a merry Christmas. To me, Christmas is *just* a time of year. That's all it is. It doesn't matter what religion you are—everybody loves Christmas. Who can forget "Santa Claus is Coming to Town"? Who can forget "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" and "Herbie the Dentist"?

Anyway, let's get back on topic.

What do you do if you're dating somebody new during the holidays? What do you do?

**Related Link:** [How to Find Love Amidst Holiday Crazyness](#)

Buying gifts for somebody else is always hard, because you have that "*Oh no!*" moment when they're opening them.

I know that every time a new significant other bought me a gift for Christmas, as I'm opening it, all I'm thinking is, "*Oh no, I hope it's not a shirt that I'll have to wear.*"

Or, "*Wow, I really hope that it's not something I hate and she thinks it looks great.*"

Or, "*God forbid, it's one of those horrific Christmas sweaters, and I'm going to have to wear it to some family get-together she's going to invite me to when I accept the gift.*"

**Related Link:** [QuickieChick's Video Dating Tips: Meeting Your Partner's Family Over the Holidays](#)

Here's the deal: If you just started a new relationship, forget about the gift. I've got a much better idea: gift-wrap yourself. That's right. You dress up as a little elf or Mrs. Claus.

Get some killer red lingerie. Get a Santa's cap. Put some stockings on your feet. Tell him you've got a present for him

and that he needs to be at your house at 8 p.m. so he can unwrap it.

Then, you go prep the home. Get some holiday candles – maybe cinnamon or pine tree – and make your place smell like Christmas.

When he knocks on the door, open it wearing your festive outfit and with mistletoe in your head. Then you smile and say, “Care to unwrap the gift that I got you?”

*That* is the ultimate Christmas gift that you can give *any* man in the entire world. We don’t want to unwrap a bad shirt that’s not going to fit. We don’t want tickets to a concert. We just want *you* in a holiday outfit.

Best. Christmas. Ever.

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## D-Factor Assessment: The Perfect Gift for the Singles In Your Life





*This post is sponsored by Marni Battista.*

By Marni Battista

**Elizabeth discovered the secret to having it all: a successful career AND a passionate relationship...**

When Elizabeth first came to me, she was a 32-year old divorcee with a super successful, high-powered career. She was gorgeous, intelligent and ready for love – or so she said. She shared with me that she was desperate to fall in love again but honestly didn't believe she would have chemistry or passion with anyone else. Although she proclaimed her desire for a relationship, my coach intuition told me there was *something* else going on beneath the surface – something bigger that was keeping her stuck and single.

Through the D-Factor Assessment, we discovered exactly what that “something” was. She still suffered from major unresolved issues with her ex-husband and beliefs about men in general that she'd been cultivating since middle school, beliefs like the really good looking guys wouldn't even look at me, just be smart; that way I won't get hurt; and I'm not meant to have it all. Once we addressed these issues head on, Elizabeth was unstoppable.

Despite hating online dating in the past, within two months



she had become the most popular girl online, getting asked out by men she could actually see herself settling down with. From there, she started meeting men everywhere – from the gas station to the grocery store to her dentist's office!

**Related Link:** [“No More Duck Lips!” and Other Dating Profile Rules](#)

What's more, she became more discerning in the dating world and was finally able to break a lifelong pattern of saying “yes” to men who seemed into her but weren't ready for a relationship. She quickly weeded these casual players out, and shortly thereafter met THE man for her at a work event. This year, she's taking him home for the holidays, and she can hardly believe just a few months after the D-Factor Assessment she found a man with all of the qualities on her list and more – including chemistry!

**What can you learn from Elizabeth's story?**

I hope you walk away from Elizabeth's story knowing that you *can* have whatever you want. Whether you want it all, or just a big piece, you have the power to create all that you want for your life.

What's more, contrary to popular belief “having it all” doesn't have to take years and years of bad dates, lonely nights and dinners for one. Elizabeth found her happy ending in mere months. Others have found love as soon as two weeks after taking the D-Factor Assessment.

**Related Link:** [10 Reasons Women Stay in Bad Relationships](#)

The reason why we so often hear about those individuals who have been single their whole lives, despite putting themselves out there and “trying really hard”, is because trying harder doesn't always work – especially not when it comes to love.

Take the image of the impetuous fly, furiously buzzing into

the glass door that stands between him and his destination. No matter how hard that fly tries he's not going to be able to break through the glass and get to the other side, but he can't see that from his current position. He could stay at that door for weeks, months or even years – however long it takes for him to realize that trying harder is not going to work in this situation.

But the sooner he flies away, gains some perspective and looks at his methods with a broader view, the sooner he might spot a cracked window on the other side of the house where he may enter with ease.

If you've been banging your head against your own proverbial glass door, proclaiming to the world that you are really, finally and truly ready for a relationship, but nothing is changing, it may be time to take a step back, gain some perspective, and start looking for a fresh approach.

If you're ready to truly have it all, I challenge you to take the opportunity right in front of you: my signature D-Factor Assessment and VIP private coaching session with me for just \$197 (normally \$397!).

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## **QuickieChick's Video Dating Tips: Meeting Your Partner's Family Over the Holidays**





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

## Dating Advice from E!'s *Famously Single* Laurel House on Meeting the Family

In this week's [dating advice](#) video, dating expert and E!'s *Famously Single* dating coach, Laurel House shares her advice for meeting your partner's family for the first time, just in time for the holidays. What should you discuss prior to the trip? Where should you stay: in your childhood bedroom or at a nearby hotel? Should you bring a gift? How can you fit in alone time to keep you two on track as a couple? Watch this week's QuickieChick's Video Dating Tips and feel prepared to take this next step in your relationship!

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

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

**How did you prepare for meeting your significant other's family? Tell us in the comments below!**

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# E! 's Newly-Engaged Ashlan Gorse May Head Back to France for Wedding to Philippe Cousteau Jr.



By [Whitney Baker](#)

[Johnson](#)

You may recognize Ashlan Gorse as a correspondent and fill-in anchor on E! News or the new face of Murad Skincare, but lately, she's jumping into a different role: fiancé. Last month, her boyfriend of two years, Philippe Cousteau Jr., proposed on top of the George V Hotel in Paris.

"I was totally surprised!," Gorse says of the romantic proposal. "Our friend, Jeff Leatham, is the artistic director for the hotel, and he decked out the roof with candles and

flowers. Just before the stroke of 10 p.m., Philippe snuck me up there and proposed while the Eiffel Tower sparkled in the background.”



Of course, the famous landmark wasn't the only thing sparkling that night. Cousteau popped the question with an engagement ring he designed with the help of jeweler Jorge Adeler. Considering how shocked she was at the proposal, Gorse had no input when it came to her ring. However, Cousteau did keep her opinion in mind. “I had shown him a vintage oval ring that I loved a while back,” she shares. “He used that ring when designing mine but made it his own.”

She adds, “Honestly, it's more beautiful and more perfect than any ring I've ever seen.”

The couple met in 2010 at an environmental event where Cousteau was giving a speech. Gorse knew right away that they had something special. “I called my sister the next day and told her, ‘I think I just met the man I'm going to marry.’”

**Related Link:** [‘I See Your Soul Mate’: Sue Frederick Discusses How to Find the Love of Your Life](#)

Given their successful careers and busy schedules, they've had to make an effort to ensure that they get to spend time together. Of their long-distance relationship – Gorse has to be in Los Angeles during the week, and Cousteau often travels for work – the entertainment journalist says, “It's not always easy, but you make it work. Philippe always comes home to me



in between expeditions, speeches and meetings, and we are usually together two or three weeks each month.”

Keeping a long-distance love going can be challenging, but Gorse believes that “if it’s meant to be, you’ll make sacrifices to see each other.” When she and Cousteau are apart, they talk, text and e-mail all day long – “unless, of course, Philippe is off somewhere like the Arctic.”

When they’re lucky enough to be in the same place, they always make time for just the two of them. “Philippe is the most romantic person I’ve ever met or even heard of!,” Gorse shares. “Our favorite nights are at home, cooking together or sitting in the backyard with our dog.”

Her go-to date with her fiancé is just as low-key as those relaxing nights at home: a simple picnic, something they can do “on the beach, in the hills or just around the corner.” She’s even got a menu planned: two really good cheeses, apples, radishes, cherry tomatoes, grapes, a baguette, butter and salt along with a half bottle of white wine and a half bottle of red wine.

“It doesn’t really matter where we are as long as we’re together,” she adds.

Now, in their limited time together, they have a wedding to plan. They’ve started to kick around some ideas: “We want to get married in France at a vintage estate. We want to have a fun three- or four-day party with our family and friends and lots of great wine.”

We all look to celebrities for ideas and inspiration – especially when it comes to weddings – and given her line of work, Gorse is no different. She thinks Blake Lively and Ryan Reynolds as well as Natalie Portman and Benjamin Millepied did a great job of making their big day personal, something that she hopes to emulate with her own wedding. “I really want to make the day about me and Philippe, so we are going to make

everything as meaningful as possible to us and our guests.”

**Related Link:** [Why Fans Are Obsessed with the Love Lives of Celebrities](#)

While it's easy to get caught up in craziness of their daily lives or the many details of wedding planning, Gorse keeps what is most important in mind. “We both know how truly blessed we are to have found each other, and we cherish every moment we have together, especially the little ones,” she shares.

*You can catch Ashlan Gorse on E! News or keep up with her on Twitter at @AshlanGorse and Facebook.*

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## QuickieChick's Video Dating Tips: Why Hating Your Body is Destroying Your Love Life





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

## Dating Advice from E!'s *Famously Single* Laurel House on Self-Consciousness

In this week's [dating advice](#) video, relationship expert and E!'s *Famously Single* dating coach, Laurel House tells us why obsessing over how much you hate your body can be damaging to your relationship. The truth is that your guy doesn't notice if you've gained a couple of pounds. But, if you push him on it and keep repeating yourself, he may start viewing you the way you view yourself – and you don't want that! "We are so hard on ourselves. We are harder on ourselves than anyone else," says the dating expert. Instead of complaining to your man about your insecurities, she tells us how to handle those body issues and focus on the positive things about ourselves. Remember: Your partner may love what you hate so much about yourself!

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

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# Giveaway: Spice Up Your Date Night with Booty Parlor!



*This post is sponsored by Booty Parlor.*

By [Whitney Baker](#)

Your weekly date night with your man is here again, and it's your turn to plan something. To keep your relationship from getting stale, you decide to spice things up – after all, you can only go on so many dinner and movie dates. But where do you even begin? How can you surprise your honey without blowing your budget?

Look no further than [Booty Parlor](#), America's premier sexy lifestyle brand. Built on the premise that confidence is the sexiest thing a woman can have, this company sells award-winning products such as pheromone-laced perfume, aphrodisiac

lip-glosses and kissable body toppings. Ultimately, Booty Parlor wants every woman to feel sexy and satisfied.

Founded by married couple Charlie and Dana B. Myers in 2004, Booty Parlor products are sold in many boutiques and hotels as well as online. Not only will Booty Parlor products make for a fun and romantic date night, but they will help enhance your relationship and improve your connection to your man.



WHERE SEXY MEETS FABULOUS

Lucky for you, one CupidsPulse.com reader will win a Booty Parlor gift set including the following items:

- ‘The Official Booty Parlor Mojo Makeover: Four Weeks to a Sexier You’
- Flirty Little Secret Firming Cream with Pheromones
- Flirty Little Secret Firming Bronzer with Pheromones
- Flirty Little Secret Luminizing Body Butter with Pheromones
- Flirty Little Secret Perfume Oil with Pheromones
- Kissaholic Aphrodisiac Plumping Lip Gloss (in Swoon)
- Skin Honey Kissable Body Topping
- Don’t Stop Massage Candle
- Romantic Rendezvous LoveKit

**~~GIVEAWAY ALERT: To enter for a chance to win a gift set by Booty Parlor, go to our [Facebook](#) page and click on the “like” button. Then, leave a comment under our Booty Parlor giveaway post and let us know that you want to enter the contest. We~~**



~~will contact the winner via Facebook when the giveaway is over, and he or she will have three days to respond back with his or her contact information. The deadline to enter is 5:00 p.m. EST on Monday, November 26th. Good luck!~~

Congratulations to Leisa Allen for winning the Booty Parlor gift package!

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## Giuliana Rancic: I Want Duke To Be A Mini-Bill



By Kirsten Mirtich

for Celebrity Baby Scoop

When it came to choosing a name for her first born son **Edward Duke**, mama and reality television star [Giuliana Rancic](#) wanted to name him after his proud papa **Bill Rancic**. However, her hubby wasn't as keen on the idea as she was.

“I’ve never been a fan of the ‘junior.’ I want to give him his own identity,” the 41-year-old father reasons in a clip from the November 13th episode of *Giuliana & Bill* – which was filmed just prior to Duke’s August 2012 arrival. “If he wants to name his son after me, then I’ve earned it.”

Although the couple considered names such as Luke and Zach, they ended up agreeing on a name that paid tribute to their own fathers.

“Our fathers are great men – your dad is Edward and mine’s Eduardo. We could name him Edward,” Giuliana comments in the preview clip as the couple finally settle on what to name their son.

Since his arrival, the couple have taken to calling him Duke – his middle name – which they chose because it means leader.

After they decide on the name, Giuliana reveals that she most looks forward to having a constant reminder of the greatest man in her life – her hubby of five years.

“I want to look at him and see you. I want him to be a ‘mini Bill,’” she says on Tuesday’s *Giuliana & Bill*. “Honestly, I want him to be just like you.”

“He’ll be better!” replies Bill.

*Giuliana & Bill* airs Tuesday at 8 p.m. (EST) on STYLE.

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## Q&A: Where Does Social Media

# Draw the Line on PDA?



## **Question from Sarah**

*J.: I've been really annoyed by the amount of relationship pictures showing up on my News Feed – all I see are photos of couples kissing or cuddling! Where does social media draw the line on public displays of affection (PDA)? How much relationship sharing is too much?*

## **Answers from Our Love Experts:**

**Tristan Coopersmith, Love Stylist:** Social media is a weird space. It's a space that encourages us to be friends with strangers, over-share personal details and solicit opinions and validation from random people... all things we clearly know *not* to do in real life. Social media is desperate for those unspoken rules of "too much information" that the real world instinctively knows. So how much skin, how much gush, how much intimate sharing is too much?

Well, in my opinion, although showing your affection for your loved one is sweet, and friends and family do enjoy seeing how

blissful you are, quantity and quality should be considered. When it comes to quantity, one post a day **maximum** should do it. Your friends and family have other stuff they are interested in beyond the inside jokes between you and your sweetheart. When it comes to quality, follow the rule that, if there is a slight chance your viewers would tell you to “get a virtual room,” your online PDA is too much. This means no tongue kissing, no cleavage, etc. If not for the sanity of your followers and their over-cluttered feeds than for the sake of your relationship’s pure need to have private boundaries, remember that less is more!

**Suzanne Oshima, Matchmaker:** You will always come across couples on social media who share way too much information about their relationship because they want the world to know about their happiness together and love for each other. But the good news is that you don’t have to see it if you don’t want to. With social media, you can always hide their news feeds or unfriend/unfollow the couples who annoy you.

Now, while that will solve your problem, I think the more important question here is: why does it really bother *you* so much? Is it because you’re jealous you’re not in a relationship too? If that’s the case, then I wouldn’t focus so much on the couples sharing annoying photos. I highly suggest you start working on getting out there and meeting the right person for you. Then, you can become a couple on social media who *doesn’t* share too much information.

**Paige Wyatt, Reality Star:** When it comes to PDA, there is a very thin line between cute and sweet and just plain nauseating. The quick smooch or cuddling pictures are pretty tolerable when they’re only posted every now and then, but I think the constant full-on make-out photos are where I draw the line. Some people don’t know social media etiquette, and that’s when they tend to post the uncomfortable status updates and pictures. One thing to consider: think about exactly who is looking at what your posting – like your boss, teacher or

even mother dearest.

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

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

How do you feel about PDA on social media sites? Tell us below!

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# Giveaway: Stand Out From the Crowd with Posh Life Bling! Celebrities Love It, So Will You!



*This post is*



*sponsored by Posh Life Bling.*

By [Whitney Baker](#)

You've been trying to catch the eye of your cute co-worker for weeks. You know the two of you would hit it off, but you can't seem to get his attention. One day during lunch at a nearby park, as you're playing on your cell phone to give yourself a much-deserved break from your stressful day, he suddenly starts walking your way! You wonder what finally grabbed his attention...and then you notice the light reflecting off of your phone case from [Posh Life Bling](#).

Thanks to Posh Life Bling, you can accessorize your phone with a custom crystal case that will make it – and you! – hard to miss. Posh Life Bling was created for the girl who loves to shine and stand out in the crowd. They say the phone you carry is an extension of your personality, so why not make your phone a creative reflection of your uniqueness?

In addition to their popular phone cases, Posh Life Bling sells crystal laptop covers, home phone covers, camera cases and more. Posh Life Bling has created custom designs for celebrities including Beyoncé Knowles, Khloé Kardashian, Jessica Alba and more. Plus, their products have been featured on television shows such as 'Project Runway.'



Khloe Kardashian.  
Courtesy of Posh

## Life Bling.

One CupidsPulse.com reader will get to choose one of the three fabulous designs for an iPhone 4 or 4s, as seen above: Tamra's Cross, Lavish or Gretchen's Peacock. With a custom case from Posh Life Bling, you'll never have to worry about capturing your crush's attention again.

~~GIVEAWAY ALERT: To enter for a chance to win a Posh Life Bling case for your iPhone 4 or 4s, go to our [Facebook](#) page and click on the "like" button. Then, leave a comment under our Posh Life Bling giveaway post and let us know that you want to enter the contest. We will contact the winner via Facebook when the giveaway is over, and he or she will have three days to respond back with his or her contact information. The deadline to enter is 5:00 p.m. EST on Monday, December 10th. Good luck!~~

Congratulations to Lynette Barbieri!

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## Top 10 Dating Dos and Don'ts





By Lori Zaslow and Jennifer Zucher, founders of Project Soulmate

Before stepping into the dating world, you should always know your target audience. In the animal kingdom, you do not see zebras reproducing with monkeys. Know your type in terms of looks, personality, goals, interests, etc. Don't date a partier if that isn't your thing; don't date a bore if you like adventure; and don't date a religious zealot if you never want to step foot in a church. You will just be wasting your time, and your relationship will likely be doomed from the start.

With that thought in mind, here are our top 10 dating dos and don'ts:

**1. Be positive and warm.** Always smile, and don't be a Debbie Downer. Check out when you're not feeling chemistry, as it can come back and haunt you later – remember that it's a small world, and everybody knows everybody. Be your own PR person; you never know if he will introduce you to his brother, cousin or friend. You always want to leave a good taste in someone's mouth about you.

**2. Be present and discuss.** Nothing too deep though. Ask about his hobbies and interests, but don't interrogate a guy and act like a private investigator (where are you from, what do you do for a living, etc.). Never talk about the future because it

will guarantee no future. Examples are getting married, having kids or inviting him to a wedding in six months when you barely know each other.

**3. When you are having a great time, don't stay too long.** An hour and a half should suffice because too long will turn into too much information and too much alcohol. Leave him desiring more and wanting to see you again. Always leave on a high note. When things are going good, exit. If there is a connection, he will pursue you.

**4. Be thoughtful and initiate a plan.** It's okay for a woman to plan a date, just not the first date. Don't always expect a man to do everything. He isn't your father; he's the man you are dating. Men want love and attention just like women.

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: Take An Autumn Stroll](#)

**5. Compliment him.** If he looks good and smells good, tell him! Everyone wants to feel good about him or herself.

**6. Guys cannot stand a girl that is too chatty and catty.** It is an automatic turn-off. Another turn-off is a girl who nags. Remember that guys like a girl who can make meaningful contributions to the conversation and not just talk about other people.

**7. Dress sexy but not provocative.** Men are visual creatures. A little leg and a little arm never hurt, but do not go overboard and send the wrong message. Be sure to leave something to the imagination.

**8. Don't drink too much.** Two drink maximum, ladies! Any more, and you may become sloppy. A turn-on is someone who can hold her own and still carry on a conversation without relying on liquid courage.

**9. After a great date, you can send a thank you text, but that's it!** Don't smother a guy and over-pursue him. No one

likes desperation in a woman.

**Related Link:** [How to Find Love Online with Non-Traditional Dating Sites](#)

**10. Guys don't like when you compare your relationship to another one.** They don't want to hear about your friends and their relationships. Just remember, the male ego is fragile and needs to be handled with care.

*Lori Zaslow and Jennifer Zucker are the founders of Project Soulmate, Manhattan's premier matchmaking service for elite singles. You can follow Project Soulmate on Twitter at @ProjectSoulmate and Facebook.*

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# Wolfgang Puck of 'Top Chef: Seattle' Says Taste Is the Most Important Part of Cooking for Your Loved Ones







By Whitney Baker

Fans of reality television will recognize world-renowned chef and restaurateur Wolfgang Puck. Not only was he responsible for the food served at the infamous wedding of Kim Kardashian and Kris Humphries (filmed for 'Keeping Up with the Kardashians'), but he has also appeared as a guest judge on previous seasons of 'Top Chef: Las Vegas' and 'Top Chef: New York.' And now, Puck is excited to join the tenth season of the cooking-competition series in Seattle as a permanent judge alongside Tom Colicchio, Gail Simmons, Hugh Acheson, and longtime friend Emeril Lagasse, with Padma Lakshmi returning as host.

This season of 'Top Chef: Seattle,' which premieres on Wednesday, November 7th at 10 p.m. EST on Bravo, focuses on the contestants going back to the basics, something that Puck considers incredibly important when cooking. "I really believe that cooking to learn the foundation is the most important part," he shares.

As for this season's 21 chef'testants, Puck says, "I saw that there were a lot of talented people who did great dishes, but a lot of them also lacked fundamentals."

Having a strong foundation of cooking skills can also come in handy when preparing a dish for your significant other. When cooking a meal for your partner for the first time, Puck

recommends preparing something you feel confident cooking, “not something completely new where you are unsure of how many minutes you have to cook it or if the seasoning tastes good or if the combinations of spices and herbs are just right.” Additionally, it’s important to buy the best quality ingredients and to keep it simple.

**Related Link:** [Tips to Keep Things Exciting with a Date Night at Home](#)

Now that you’ve chosen the right ingredients and a simple recipe that you know how to cook, how do you know if what you’ve prepared is a hit or a miss? “I tell all of my young chefs – and everybody in the kitchen – that the most important thing for a chef is to taste,” Puck explains.

Another cooking lesson that ranks high in Puck’s opinion? Learning from your loved ones. After all, the chef began cooking professionally at age 14, and before that, he spent time in the kitchen with his mother, who was a chef in the Austrian town where Puck was born.

Growing up, Puck’s mother followed the farm-to-table ideology that is sweeping across America’s restaurants, and as the chef shares, it was totally logical at the time. “You know, we went outside into the garden, picked the vegetables and made a vegetable soup” – a statement that reiterates the high importance that Puck places on knowing basic skills in the kitchen!

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: Turn Up the Heat in the Kitchen](#)

Of course, Puck has come a long way since then, having changed the way Americans approach the art of cooking by combining classic French and Asian techniques. Though he’s sitting at the judges’ table now, Puck can’t help but look back and consider how a young Wolfgang would’ve done on ‘Top Chef’: “I think I would have done pretty well because I always had good instincts about food, and I was always very clear about using

great ingredients.”

Even so, the playing field was quite different when he first entered the scene. “At that time, you didn’t have as many talented young chefs who worked really hard and were really good at it.”

Considering the changing culinary landscape, none of this season’s contestants reminded Puck of a younger version of himself; however, that’s not to say that they didn’t impress him. Offering a glimpse at the upcoming season, he shares, “There are a few contestants who actually had their own ways. You know, there are so many chefs who can execute great recipes, but there are very few who actually have their own ideas for those great recipes.”

“When somebody is a ‘Top Chef’ winner, you almost expect them to have their own ways and their own ideas – and then execute them perfectly,” he adds.

*Be sure to tune in to this season of ‘Top Chef: Seattle,’ which premieres on Bravo on Wednesday, November 7th at 10 p.m. EST. For more information about Wolfgang Puck, you can visit his official site at [www.WolfgangPuck.com](http://www.WolfgangPuck.com).*

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## Dating After Divorce: How Soon Is Too Soon?





By Marni Battista

There is a certain philosophy that touts the best way to get over someone as getting *under* someone else. When we peruse the headlines and photos that cover those magazines at the check-out line, it seems clear that most Hollywood celebs certainly subscribe to this way of thinking.

Although Kim Kardashian's divorce from Kris Humphries isn't even finalized, there's talk about Kanye West designing her engagement ring. Plus, we've seen photos of their romantic trip to Italy for her birthday and heard rumors of them moving in together. Her recent marriage, albeit a short one, should have still been a significant part of her romantic life. It seems as though it's long forgotten – almost as if it didn't exist at all.

Thus, we wonder, when is “too early” to start dating after divorce? Here are a few lessons learned from Kimye's whirlwind romance and a few tips on navigating the dating world after divorce and answering the question, “How soon is too soon?”

**1. It's okay to stay private about your romantic life.** Kim's relationship with Kris, their wedding, and their subsequent divorce was splashed across every news outlet, gossip rag, and television station, practically documenting every minute of every day of her most private moments. Then, just weeks later, we got to watch concerned Khloe meddling in her sister's

relationship business further as she questions Kanye about *his* relationship with Kim.

After a somewhat catastrophic end to a 72-day marriage, Kim pledged to keep her private life under wraps. But it seems as if she's been more enthusiastic than ever to share her life with millions, which could prove to be her downfall. While we know *People* will most likely not be camped outside your door, it could be yours too. If you were recently divorced or your divorce was just finalized, it is not necessary (nor do we recommend) to announce to the world your newfound status. (This includes minute-by-minute tweets and Facebook status updates.) There's no glory or dignity in "punishing" your ex by going public.

**Related Link:** [6 Things Women Should Never Do in a Divorce](#)

Moreover, subscribing to Facebook as "Vaguebook" is also not recommended. Posts such as "So over it" or "Remind me never to trust men again" aren't going to help you recover in the long term. Avoid sharing your pain publicly, as it ultimately only creates ill will, makes friends of both you and your ex uncomfortable, and leaves everyone feeling shocked and helpless.

If you feel ready to date, however, get out there! Whether it's six months post-divorce or two years, there's no need to call everyone in your social circle and ask if they have anyone to set you up with. We say keep it on the down low and take it easy. Also, consider your underlying motives for putting "the word out" to the general public. If it makes you fiendishly delighted that your ex finds out your "good news," thereby thinking you have "moved on," it's time to re-think your dating readiness. Any sort of delight in his possible pain means you still have some healing and forgiving to do before diving into the dating pool.

In fact, Kim may even be taking a bit of our advice; she *has*



stated that if she does indeed get married again, "The next time, I want to do it on an island with just my friends and family, and that's it." Kim, we gotta tell you: we 100 percent agree.

**2. Take your time.** Kim says of her marriage to Kris Humphries, "I think I fell in love so quickly and wanted that to be my life so badly, but I just didn't take the time to find someone." Taking your time applies to standard dating as well as dating after divorce. Some of the biggest losses you'll experience in divorce are things like having regular love in your life, a warm body next to you, an activity partner, and someone to rely on.

So while it may seem like Kim is barely heeding her own advice by jumping quickly to a serious relationship with Kanye, she does note that they have known each other for 10 years; perhaps she did, in fact, "take her time." What's important to remember is that jumping into anything will not get you any closer to happiness if you forget about your actual needs.

**Related Link:** [Breaking Up Without Breaking Down](#)

Check in with yourself post-divorce and evaluate if your needs have changed. You might be looking for someone different because you yourself have also changed. Remember, more than 60 percent of second marriages fail, and more than 70 percent of third marriages fail. That's typically because men and women marry the same person with a different face again and again. Make sure you reflect on your dating patterns and do the internal work necessary to change those patterns. Fixing your broken picker now, before you head back into the pumpkin patch to look for your horse and carriage and the Prince Charming who comes with it, can help you prevent making the same mistakes.

**3. You are in control of your life.** Kim has a string of rocky relationships and two failed marriages behind her, but she

hasn't let that affect her faith in love, marriage or happiness. One of the main reasons people wait to start dating after a divorce is caution about the prying eyes of family and friends, along with worries about what others will think about your new dating life. Kim seems to have skipped over that part rather breezily, and she has many more people to contend with than you probably do.

She has stated she ignores negative comments and no longer follows gossip blogs. If you're worried about what people around you will think when you begin dating again, avoid bringing up your dating escapades right away. But if it's making you feel good, just remember that **you** are in charge of your own happiness. When it comes down to it, it's you, yourself, and you – not anyone else.

*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](mailto:marni@datingwithdignity.com).*

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## How to Understand Man-Talk





By David Wygant

How many times have you tried to interpret man-talk? Woman-talk is the polar opposite of man-talk. It is all about *feelings*. It is all about coming home, talking about your day, and getting it all out in the open. But man-talk is different. Man-talk requires some time apart so he can sort out what he's thinking and feeling. For women, it requires some patience not to bother him and to let him work it out on his own.

For instance, what happens when your man retreats and goes into his cave for a day? Think about it: How many times have you been dating a man, and he just goes into silent mode, driving you crazy? You want to talk about your feelings as they happen, but he needs to process his feelings before he feels comfortable talking about it.

When men go in their caves, women want to pull them out as quickly as possible. **But here's the deal:** that's not the most effective way to deal with their mood at that moment.

So next time he goes into his cave, ask him, "Are you okay?" If he says, "I'm fine. I just don't want to talk about it right now"—believe him. Look at him and say, "That's okay. I'm here for you. I'm here to listen whenever you're ready to talk about it."

When a man feels safe, he *will* talk about it, and he *will* come

to you—believe me, you'll be the first person who he tells whatever is on his mind. But if you try to force him out of his cave, if you try to force him to talk about things when he's not ready, then he's not going to relate to you. He's going to go darker and deeper into that cave.

When a man tells you that he finally wants to talk about something, you need to listen to his every word **without interrupting**. Let him get it out. Remember that it's hard for him to talk to you about his feelings, so when he does, he wants to make sure that it's safe.

The problem with a lot of women is that they want to interject. You immediately want to jump in and start sharing your feelings too or at least comment on something. But when he comes out of his cave to speak with you, he just wants you to listen to him. He wants to feel safe. Because it's so hard for him to talk about his feelings in the first place, he wants to know that you really care about what he has to say. He *wants* to get closer to you, but he finds it very hard to do so with a woman who doesn't allow this process to happen.

So if you understand these principles of man-talk, it's going to help you get closer to your man. Isn't that what you want anyway? You're looking for love. You're looking for ways to relate. But it all starts with your man feeling safe. He wants you to listen.

*David Wygant is an internationally-renowned dating and relationship coach, author of the new book **Naked and speaker**. Through his boot camps, personal coaching and his website at [www.DavidWygant.com](http://www.DavidWygant.com), his advice has transformed the dating lives and relationships of hundreds of thousands of people from every corner of the globe.*

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# QuickieChick's Video Dating Tips: Moving In With Your Man



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

## Dating Advice from E!'s *Famously Single* Laurel House on Moving In Together

In this week's [dating advice](#) video, relationship expert and E!'s *Famously Single* dating coach, Laurel House will be sharing her secrets and tips for dealing with those common dating dilemmas and relationship woes. For the dating expert's first video, she tackles the tricky subject of moving in with your man, answering questions like: How do you keep the spark alive? How do you forge a deeper bond with your partner? And how do you avoid becoming just roommates? Time to take notes, ladies!



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

Tell us: What did you learn after moving in with your man?

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## He's Texting His Ex: Should You Be Worried?



By Whitney Baker

When it comes to your boyfriend and his ex, be sure not to let your own insecurity and jealousy make you crazy with worry. If you trust your boyfriend, you should trust him until he gives you reason not to – and texting his ex may have a perfectly acceptable explanation. Did they remain close after they broke up and before you came into his life? Do they share the same group of friends and often hang out in groups? Does he always tell you where they're going and what they're doing



– and even invite you too? If so, you may need to accept her role in his life and not let it ruin your own relationship with him.

Of course, there are a few situations that warrant your worry. If any of the circumstances below sound familiar, it may be time to have a heart-to-heart with your boyfriend about his ex and their texting habits.

**Related Link:** [3 Times in Your Relationship When It's Better to Be Safe Than Sorry](#)

**1. He is often unreachable or cancels your plans without a good excuse.** Honesty and good communication are two markers of a strong relationship. If your partner is being completely open with you about his friendship with his ex, then you have no reason to worry. However, if he starts to hide details about their time together or acts elusive about his activities, it may be time to have a chat.

**2. He seems distant and uninterested in your relationship.** Regardless of your boyfriend's ex (or exes), your relationship should be his number one priority. Sure, he once loved her, but that doesn't give him the license to forget about the special connection that you share. If you're starting to feel like the third wheel, remind your guy of how great you are together: surprise with him a home-cooked meal and nice bottle of wine, and over dessert, let him know that you feel like you're drifting apart and want to do whatever it takes to keep that spark alive. Maybe a gentle reminder from you will keep his ex off his mind – and his list of texting buddies– for good.

**Related Link:** [Is Dating Your Ex Off Limits?](#)

**3. Your friends have started to notice his interest in her and have expressed their concern.** It's understandable that you don't like when a third party butts his or her head into your

life and interjects unwanted opinions. Even so, when it does happen, it usually comes from a place of love. If your friends are worried about your relationship, there's a good chance you're acting too lenient when it comes to your man's ex. After all, you want her to stay in his past, not become his present.

Before you get too bothered by your boyfriend's behavior, it's important to remember one thing: most guys are going to have ex-girlfriends. While you may not like the fact that they're friends, it's ultimately his decision. Plus, he is choosing to date *you*, so don't spend too much time worrying about *her*.

**Tell us: What would you do if you caught your man texting his ex?**

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## **Event Discount: Single in Stilettos in NYC!**





Are you always looking for love and coming up empty-handed? Do you feel like the man of your dreams is just beyond your reach? Are you getting discouraged trying to navigate the dating scene without any help? If so, Single in Stilettos is the event for you! Hear from a renowned panel of dating experts that will empower, inspire and motivate you in your search for Mr. Right.

This one-day event takes place in New York City on October 6, 2012 with speaking sessions and panels from noon to 6 p.m. EST. Afterwards, enjoy a happy hour of free cocktails sponsored by Balls Vodka as well as goody bags provided by Babeland. Plus, win raffle prizes such as a date-coaching session with a matchmaker, dating books and more!

### **Speakers include:**

- Bill Collins, Movie Director and Producer
- Dr. Ian Smith, Best-Selling Author
- [Lori Bizzoco](#), Executive Editor and Founder of CupidsPulse.com
- Nando Rodriguez, Dating and Relationship Coach
- Thomas Edwards, Jr., Professional Wingman
- And more!

The last time that Single in Stilettos hosted this event it was SOLD OUT. So don't wait – get your tickets today! If you sign up now, you'll be able to buy them at the discounted rate of \$25 (full price: \$80). Use the exclusive CupidsPulse.com discount code LCP12 to receive this deal.

**Date:** Saturday, October 6, 2012

**Location:** 1115 Broadway, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10010

**Speaking Sessions:** 12:00 noon – 6:00 p.m.

**Happy Hour:** 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

We hope to see you there!

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## Pros & Cons: Splitting the Bill on a Date



By Whitney Baker

"Going Dutch" is becoming more and more popular, not only with

your closest friends but also with your partner. While it's still typical for your man to pay for your date-night bill, it's equally common for couples to split the bill. Of course, for a special occasion, such as your partner's birthday or an announcement of a job promotion, it's nice to cover the entire bill as a surprise to your significant other. But other times, you may want to go halvesies to show them that you can still pull your own weight. Still, there are both pros and cons for splitting the bill on a date.

**Related Link:** [Celebrity Women Who Are the Breadwinners of the Relationship](#)

### **Pros:**

**1. It keeps things fair and balanced.** It's nice to feel like you're contributing to your relationship: emotionally, financially or otherwise. If you want to split the bill on your next date, approach your partner about it. They're sure to appreciate your effort. There are even apps like Tip Calculator Free to make the math easy for you.

**2. It shows your independence.** This is especially important for women, who still sometimes suffer from the old-fashioned notion that their boyfriends are expected to pay for every meal. Modern women are proud of their financial freedom. In fact, some women make more money than their significant others. One way to show your success to your date is by footing your half of the bill.

**3. It's just a nice thing to do.** If you're in your twenties or thirties and going out on a first date with a new guy, he's probably paid for his fair share of dates already. Offering to split the bill will defy his expectations, which could make him like you even more.

### **Cons:**

**1. It may signal a financial problem for your partner.** What if your man is asking you to split the bill because he can't afford to pay for it? It's never good to assume anything, but if you notice that he wants you to cover your half of the bill every time, he may be hiding something from you.

**Related Link:** [Five Signs Your Partner Is Using You for Your Money](#)

**2. It makes the date more platonic.** If a guy asks you on a date, chances are, he'll take care of the bill, especially if he plans to ask you out again. However, if he offers to split it with you, he may be more interested in just being friends. Either way, it's important to make sure that you two are on the same page, so this can help you make that judgment.

**3. It takes away the "treat" aspect of the date.** When you split the bill, it's kind of like taking yourself to dinner rather than going out for a special evening with your significant other. Sure, it's perfectly fine to go halvesies for a random pizza lunch on Wednesday afternoon, but don't let that habit carry over into Saturday night's fine dining.

**Do you think that the advantages of splitting the bill outweigh the potential problems? Tell us below.**