

# Brandi Glanville Donates Wedding Dress to Army Wife



By Nic Baird

Brandi Glanville, star of *Real Housewives of Beverly Hills*, announced with a Jan. 5 Twitter post that she was donating the wedding gown from her broken marriage to a “soon-to-be army wife,” [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com) reports. Glanville and Eddie Cibrian divorced in September 2010 after nine years of marriage. “I still haven’t heard about who received it,” Glanville said about the donated dress. “I hope it makes someone very happy.”

**What do you do with your wedding dress after your wedding day?**

**Cupid’s Advice:**

It served its purpose and now it just takes up space. A trash can is too cruel for something so personal, and too foolish for something so expensive. There are a few options to make the most of your leftover wedding-wear:

**1. Heirloom:** If you don't mind cutting your dress to pieces, you can keep its significance in your family by refashioning it as part of a blanket, bassinet skirt, or a pillow for your daughter. Otherwise, you can always offer it to the weddings of future generations.

**2. Donation:** There are charities set up to use the resale of wedding dresses to support cancer research and other causes. Consider that part of your marriage's legacy could be putting this otherwise useless dress towards a good cause.

**3. Alteration:** If you're determined to get the most bang for your buck out of this dress, than you could always try the risky maneuver of altering it into a more conventional outfit. You can definitely shorten the dress, and in some cases even dye it. Since when do you get a piece of clothing tailored to your exact measurements?

**What did you do with your wedding dress? Share your comments below!**

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**Jennie Garth Says Looks Aren't Important to Her Anymore With Dating**



By Nic Baird

Actress Jennie Garth is back in the dating game and says “looks aren’t important,” [People](#) reports. The 90210 alumna split from husband Peter Facinelli in March. “When I’m in excruciating pain, like with what I’ve been through with my breakup and that grief and loss that’s just immobilizing, it helps to remember that it only lasts for 13 to 15 minutes, max,” she told *Health* in its January issue. What is Garth looking for now? “I like positive energy.”

**How do you know when you’re being too picky about looks in the dating world?**

**Cupid’s Advice:**

There are a lot of fish in the sea. Some of them are weird, some of them are smelly, and some will explode from the pressure if they ever surface. If you get a bit, don’t let

unreasonable standards jeopardize a quality catch. These are signs you might be being too picky in the dating world:

**1. You overlook qualities:** If you find other people appreciating qualities about your partner you hadn't noticed, maybe you're not looking at them hard enough. Be sure you don't take any part of them for granted. Part of being happy in relationships is knowing when you have a good thing.

**2. You focus on a few faults:** If you're having second thoughts, make sure to ask yourself if a reasonable person would look at your date the same way. You could be nitpicking on a few detractors that you won't even notice after becoming more comfortable with this person.

**3. You expect acceptance:** If you're simultaneously hung up on trivial aspects of your partner and unable to appreciate their appeal, maybe they're not the right one for you. However, it could be you hold yourself to a lower standard. Especially if you're going to be shallow, there's a limit to just how shallow you can afford to be.

**Have you ever been too picky when dating? Share your experiences below!**

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## **Brandy Dishes Details On Her Marriage Proposal**





By Nic Baird

A marriage proposal from fiancé Ryan Press caught R&B star Brandy Norwood by surprise last week, [People](#) reports. “It was a spontaneous thing for my fiancé,” she said. The press didn’t plan any part of it, Brandy said. “He just felt it.” Though, the *Dancing with the Stars* contestant did say she’d “marry him with a bubble gum ring” last March.

**What are some ways to make your marriage proposal spontaneous?**

### **Cupid’s Advice:**

It’s inevitable for couples to eventually discuss the next step in their relationship. If you’re gearing up towards a proposal, it’s easy to get nervous and seek reassurance from your partner. There’s nothing wrong with this, but there is something to be said about the emotion in a spontaneous proposal:

**1. Practice:** If you’re scared of choking in the moment, don’t be afraid to rehearse. It’s not cheating to write out what you want to convey. Address the key questions in your speech: why

should they marry you? How do they make you feel?

**2. Pick the venue:** Whether it's dinner, a movie, or rock climbing in the Grand Canyon, make sure you have an excuse to bring your partner to where you need them and explanations for any activity. You have to avoid suspicion at all costs.

**3. Run your ideas by a friend:** Brainstorming your proposal ideas are a good way to root out the best ones. Get a friend on board who can give you some feedback. It's also important to have someone if your scheme requires any set-up or detailed maneuvering.

**What do you think makes a marriage proposal spontaneous? Share your comments below!**

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## **'Deception' Star Katherine LaNasa Says New Husband Grant Show Surprises Her All the Time**







By Nic Baird

The golden era of soap operas didn't really end in the nineties. When TNT revitalized *Dallas* last year, it gave fans hope for a new wave of the serial dramas. Genre loyalists might have felt threatened when NBC ended *Passions* in 2007, but they've responded with an interesting mid-season replacement this winter.

Katherine LaNasa stars as Sophia Bowers in *Deception*, which premieres tonight at 10/9c. This soap opera centers on the mystery of a famous dead socialite, Vivian Bowers, and her childhood best friend, Joanna Padget Locasto, a narcotics detective who returns to uncover the true story of her friend's death. LaNasa, who recently starred in the summer comedy *The Campaign* as a peppy and ambitious senator's wife, now plays the much more sombre and maleficent stepmother of the Bowers' family. She describes her character as dark, brooding, smart, alcoholic, tricky and slippery. "It's a fun role to play," she says.

It's the first time that LaNasa's been able to play a woman with this much weight, darkness and stillness. Underneath all

the poise of a cultured matriarch, there's a deep sort of power she unleashes to protect her family. LaNasa admits she doesn't exactly know what her character is scheming, but she definitely makes the detective's investigation even more challenging. "When Sophia yells, she's not screaming; she's roaring!"

LaNasa is eager to play someone who takes themselves so seriously, so Sophia is a nice change of pace from her recent roles. As a New Orleans native, she's often called upon to play southern belles; even so, her characters range in intensity from her upbeat portrayal in *The Campaign* as Will Ferrell's wife to the pious school teacher she portrays in the upcoming film *The Frozen Ground*. "I get a lot of really different parts."

*Deception* will, of course, feature all the romance, love triangles and twists that are known as soap opera staples. As for her own character, LaNasa hints that Sophia may not be as malicious as she seems. "I really think she just doesn't understand where the danger lies," she says. "It keeps coming up in these weird places."

**Related Link:** [Kristen Stewart Says She Understands That "Whole Love Triangle Thing"](#)

Besides her new series, LaNasa landed a new husband this summer. Fellow soap opera star Grant Show, best known for his role as Jack Hanson on Fox's *Melrose Place*, and LaNasa exchanged vows this summer. "He's a total sweetheart," she says. "And very loving."

While neither one was looking for another spouse, LaNasa says that she eventually wanted more from her man, and Show obliged. The two tied the knot in a romantic ceremony set in the scenic canyons of Topanga, California on August 18, 2012. Months later, she still gushes about her husband. "He's just so handsome," she says.



After two previous marriages, one to Dennis Hopper and another to French Stewart, the actress approached her most recent courtship with caution. "I was very careful getting to know Grant, and I didn't have any expectations of it," she shares. "I wasn't looking to get married again. It wasn't a goal or a destination for me."

Of her husband, she adds, "I'm just surprised by him all the time!"

**Related Link:** [Bachelorette Stars J.P. Rosenbaum and Ashley Hebert Tie the Knot](#)

Despite her hesitation, LaNasa finds herself completely enamoured with Show. The newlyweds don't have any problem spending time together, and they often have simple dates where they can just enjoy each others' company. The pair find a lot of couples' activities to do, she says.

LaNasa also mentions high energy dates like bowling and karaoke as well as romantic evenings at a lighthouse and spaghetti dinners. The couple has plans to play at Susan Sarandon's new ping pong club SPiN Galactic in Manhattan too. "I have so much fun with him," she shares. "We're really in love!"

*Currently, LaNasa lives in New York where she works on 'Deception,' which airs on January 7, 2013 at 10/9c on NBC. She can also be seen in the upcoming films 'Jayne Mansfield's Car,' directed by Billybob Thornton, and 'The Frozen Ground' opposite John Cusack.*

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# DWTS Judge Len Goodman Secretly Marries Longtime Girlfriend Sue Barrett



By Jennifer Ross

On the Sunday just before the New Year, *Dancing With the Stars*' judge Len Goodman married his longtime girlfriend Sue Barrett in London. The news was confirmed to [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com) by an ABC rep for Goodman. The 47 year-old dance instructor and 68 year-old judge dated for 10 years and invited only 30 friends and family members to what was called an "intimate lunch." Married by Westminster superintendent registrar Alison Cathcart, the couple wore blue for the nuptials. When asked about his wedding, Goodman told *the Daily News*, "I've had a marvelous day, and now my gorgeous Sue is the new Mrs.

Goodman.” Although the wedding plans were a secret, Goodman did tell one person – his mother. “I wanted it to be a low-key affair, so we didn’t tell anyone except my 96-year-old mum as I didn’t want her having a heart attack with the surprise.”

## **How do you pull off a secret wedding?**

### **Cupid’s Advice:**

Although your wedding day is one of the most important days of your life, planning a wedding can be too much to handle. As a result, some couples opt-out to having a secret or surprise wedding. If this sounds appealing to you, here are a few ideas when saying, “I do”:

**1. A simple party:** If you and your fiancé want to have a wedding without inviting the naysayers, plan a simple party, giving your invitees a different reason for the occasion. Whether you say it’s a pet’s birthday party or some other celebration, be sure to let them know their presence is important.

**2. Destination:** An easy way to keep your wedding day a secret is to have the ceremony performed far away from home. Plan a destination wedding in you and your mate’s favorite country and tell everyone it is just a simple vacation. No one will suspect you two are getting married.

**3. Elope:** If your idea of a perfect wedding is inviting no one at all, eloping at the courthouse is the way to go. You and your spouse-to-be can simply get dressed, grab a small flower bouquet and a couple of rings, then say “I do” in privacy.

**How did you pull off your secret wedding? Share your story below.**

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# Taylor Swift and Beau Harry Styles Kiss at Midnight for the New Year



By [Jennifer Ross](#)

It was definitely a “[rockin’](#)” night for Taylor Swift and Harry Styles on New Year’s Eve. The swooning duo celebrated the evening in Time Square with an official [kiss](#) that was captured by a [witness’](#) fuzzy photo, which has now gone viral. Swift, 23, was in New York City to perform “I Knew You Were Trouble” and “We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together” that Monday night on Dick Clark’s New Year’s Rockin’ Eve with Ryan

Seacrest. With millions of people watching that night, Swift and Styles' New Year's kiss was a romantic moment seen round the world.

**What are some ways to welcome the New Year with your partner?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Who doesn't want to start a New Year perfectly by stealing a [kiss](#) from your beau at the stroke of midnight?! If standing for endless hours jam packed with thousands of strangers, waiting for the Big Apple's ball to drop, don't worry. Here are a few optional ways to celebrate the New Year with your partner:

**1. Host a party:** Just like you and your [mate](#), there are probably other couples that enjoy a great glass of champagne at midnight. If so, host a small party at home with great friends, hors d'oeuvres and plenty of bubbly to go around.

**2. Make reservations:** To take the party out on the town, make reservations for a [romantic dinner](#) for two at your favorite place. It doesn't have to be a fancy place; so be creative. Also, be sure to book months in advance.

**3. Stay in:** If Dick Clark is your idea of fun but can't be in Time Square that night, a great option is to stay in with your [partner](#). Watching the NYE countdown with a glass of champagne and sexy pajamas will surely be a night worth remembering.

**How did you welcome the New Year with your partner? Tell us below.**

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# Hugh Hefner and Crystal Harris Tie the Knot on NYE



By [Jessica DeRubbo](#)

It's official: there's a new Mrs. Hugh Hefner in the house! Hefner and Crystal Harris tied the knot on New Year's Eve, according to [People](#). Hefner, 86, married Harris, 26, in front of family and close friends at the Playboy Mansion, and the two attended the Mansion's annual New Year's Eve celebration afterward. "Crystal & I married on New Year's Eve in the Mansion with Keith as my Best Man. Love that girl!" said Hefner via Twitter after the nuptials. Guests included Joe Don Rooney of Rascal Flatts, 2005 Playmate of the Year Tiffany Fallon, baseball player Evan Longoria, Gene Simmons and wife Shannon Tweed and Jon Lovitz.



**What are some reasons to get married on a holiday?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

Many people point to the reasons to avoid holidays for your wedding, but there are also many good reasons to aim for one. Cupid has some ideas:

**1. Built-in celebration:** Take a page from Hefner and Harris, whose wedding reception was the Playboy Mansion's annual New Year's Eve celebration. Getting married on a holiday can mean much less planning.

**2. You and other will remember the date:** How many times do husbands get in trouble because they don't remember the date of their anniversary? Well, getting married on a holiday may make sure that never happens.

**3. Family/friends are already in town:** Especially if you get married in your hometown, family and friends may already be coming home for the holidays and won't have to make a separate trip for your wedding.

**What are some other reasons to marry on a holiday? Share your thoughts below.**

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**Pregnant Kim Kardashian and Baby Daddy Kanye West Spend NYE in Vegas**



By [Jessica DeRubbo](#)

Kim Kardashian didn't let her recently announced pregnancy keep her inside for New Year's Eve, according to [People](#). In fact, she did the opposite, as she and baby daddy Kanye West attended a party in Las Vegas. "I wish I could share a drink with you all, but I can't for a little while," she told the crowd at Mirage's 1 OAK. When the clock struck midnight, Kardashian and West shared a passionate kiss while the crowd was cheering and confetti was flying. "It's been so exciting," said Kardashian about finding out she was pregnant. "We're very, very happy."

**What are some ways to celebrate holidays when you're pregnant?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

It can be tempting to join in the fun with a drink on holidays, but when you're pregnant, it's not an option. Cupid

has some alternatives:

**1. Flavored sparkling water:** You may not be able to drink champagne, but that doesn't mean that you can't indulge in a sparkling refreshment with everyone else. Make a drink that looks and feels like the real thing instead.

**2. Eat instead:** One of the good things about being pregnant is that no one's going to judge how much you eat when you're eating for two. Plus, your body needs more food than it used to need. Indulge in some yummy snacks to take the place of drinking!

**3. A glass of wine:** Many doctors these days admit that having one glass of wine every now and again isn't going to hurt your baby. Make sure to check again with your personal doctor, but a strategically timed class of red wine will help you feel part of the holiday fun.

What are some other ways to keep pregnancy from hindering your holiday fun? Share your ideas below.

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## Kim Kardashian Is Expecting a Baby with Kanye West!





By Nic Baird

Kanye West announced at a Sunday concert in Atlantic City that he and girlfriend Kim Kardashian are expecting a child, according to [People](#). During the last song, "Lost in the World," West cut the music and asked the audience to applaud for his baby mama. Kardashian confirmed her pregnancy in a blog post. "We feel so blessed and lucky and wish that in addition to both of our families, his mom and my dad could be here to celebrate this special time with us," she wrote. "Looking forward to great new beginnings in 2013."

**What are some ways to celebrate your pregnancy with your partner?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

If you're going to become a parent, you shouldn't stop congratulating yourself. Make sure you and your partner take time to reflect on your happiness together. Be excited! Here's how you can channel your elation:

**1. Throw a party:** Don't be too shy to share the good news!

Throw a party together to announce the pregnancy. It's a great way to get the word out and express how excited you are to become a parent. Don't forget baby showers either. There are many opportunities for you and your partner to celebrate an upcoming child with friends and family.

**2. Find new activities:** They'll have to be some lifestyle changes during the pregnancy, so maybe you need to look at new activities you and your partner can do together. It's important to stay active, but reduce stress. Explore your options, and find activities that will work as quality time for you and your partner.

**3. Prepare for the baby:** A great way to celebrate a child is to get things ready for after the birth. Research what you'll need to get for a healthy baby, and understand how you'll have to change your home. The anticipation you'll share with your partner will help build the excitement!

**Do you have any ideas on how to celebrate a pregnancy with your partner? Share your suggestions below!**

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## Ashley Tisdale Steps Out With New Boyfriend Christopher French





By Nic Baird

After a few months of single life, *High School Musical* star Ashley Tisdale is dating Annie Automatic musician Christopher French, [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com) reports. Tisdale broke off it off with music video director Scott Speer earlier this year. The recent couple made their first public appearance when they visited the Apple Store in L.A. on Dec. 26. During a short split with ex-boyfriend Speer, Tisdale also briefly dated Boys Like Girls musician Martin Johnson.

**How do you know when to make your relationship public?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Don't feel pressure to spread the word of your romance, but eventually if someone is important to you they should become an obvious part of your life. It's hard to decide when exactly to update that Facebook profile. Rather than worry about it, here are some signs to take things public:

**1. Close rapport:** You and your partner could still be testing the water. Make sure you each feel comfortable and have some



clarity about your relationship before telling the world. Wait until you know how to talk to each other.

**2. Emotional investment:** A few dates is a good start, but if you're going to be with someone publicly then you should know that you're both committed. Considering what you're both looking for in a relationship, could making things public add extra pressure? A decent stretch of dates will make it easier to tell friends and family about your special someone.

**3. Longterm options:** Be aware of the stresses your relationship could encounter. If distance, responsibilities or baggage from previous relationships are going to threaten this new one, then you have to be careful. Don't jump the gun before you've straightened out whether or not there's a future as a couple.

**When do you think you should make your relationship public? Share your experiences below!**

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**Matthew                      and                      Camila  
McConaughey   Name   Their   Son  
Livingston**





By [Jessica DeRubbo](#)

Matthew and Camila McConaughey have officially welcomed their third child, son Livingston Alves McConaughey, according to [People](#). The baby boy was born on 12/28/12 at 7:43 a.m. On his Whosay page, Matthew wrote, "He greeted the world at 9 lbs., and 21 inches. Bless up and thank you for your well wishes."

**What are some creative ways to compromise on naming your child?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

It can be hard to come to a mutual agreement on what to name your child, but here are some tips and tricks:

**1. Pros and cons list:** There are distinct disadvantages to naming your child certain things. For instance, perhaps the initials would not be ideal (i.e. E.E.W.). Make a list of pros and cons for your top three names, and choose the one with the most pros and least cons.

**2. Draw it out of a hat:** If it comes down to two names and you

absolutely can't make a decision, it probably means that you really love both names. So, you can't go wrong! Just choose one out of a hat and let randomness determine it.

**3. Decide on a theme:** A great way to narrow your name choices together is to choose a theme. Different categories may be traditional names, exotic names, short names, etc.

**What are some other ways to compromise on baby names? Share your ideas below.**

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## **'Friday Night Lights' Star Zach Gilford Marries Kiele Sanchez**





By [Jessica DeRubbo](#)

*Friday Night Lights* star Zach Gilford, 30, is officially off the market, according to [People](#). Gilford tied the knot with actress girlfriend Kiele Sanchez, 36, on Saturday after having been engaged since Dec. 2011. Gilford most recently starred in the canceled series *The Mob Doctor*.

**What are the advantages of an older partner?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Kiele Sanchez is six years Zach Gilford's senior, so what makes this age difference work? Cupid has some thoughts:

- 1. More life experience:** With an older partner, more experience is brought to the table and you can learn from those life experiences.
- 2. Maturity:** Especially when it comes to men, older age equals a higher level of maturity. Those petty things you used to fight about with other partners fall by the wayside with an older beau.

**3. Stability:** Often times with age comes more stability in life. Having an older partner may mean that you fall into a more stable lifestyle.

**What are some other advantages to having an older partner? Share your thoughts below.**

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## Jason Hoppy Sports Wedding Ring Post-Split



By Nic Baird

Four days after his wife Bethenny Frankel announced their separation after a two year relationship, Jason Hoppy is still

wearing his wedding band, according to [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com). Hoppy sat alone in an NYC cafe on Thursday as he sipped a hot beverage while talking on his cell phone. TV personality Grankel said: "We have love and respect for one another and will continue to amicably co-parent our daughter who is and will always remain our first priority." Frankel will host the upcoming talk show *Bethenny*.

## **What are three first steps toward closure after a split??**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

There is a sense of loss that's unavoidable at the end of a relationship. Don't let this sinking feeling cripple you. It's time to move past the agonies of the present and look optimistically to the future. Here's how:

**1. Accept it:** It's supposed to be hard to sever an emotional connection that was so important to you. If you saw this person as your partner, and now they can't fill that role, trying to figure out a new dynamic or identity is useless and painful. Stop picturing a future with someone who's not there.

**2. Be your best:** Be the person you want to be. Don't question your sense of worth. Fill your life with positive energy, like sports, exercise, art, music, new skills, new projects, new friends, old friends, and anything to take up your time. Here's your chance to do the things you've always wanted to do. Take action and make your plans a reality!

**3. Have hope:** You haven't lost your shot at love. There are plenty more chances at a meaningful relationship that will come along. Don't feel that you have to go looking for them, but be open to the opportunities when they arise. Rekindle old friendships, and establish your power as a single individual.

**How do you attain closure after a split? Share your**



experiences below!

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# Katie Holmes and Tom Cruise Celebrate the Holidays Together with Suri



By Nic Baird

For her first Christmas since Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes' divorce, Suri split the holidays between both parents, [People](#) reports. Suri spent Christmas Day with her mother in Ohio, and then joined Cruise and his two older children, according to a

source. "We have got lots of very special things planned," Cruise said at the premiere of his new film *Jack Reacher*. He mentioned he was looking forward to spending the holidays with his kids. "We are all going to be together," he said.

**What are some ways to present a united front to your children post-split?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

It's difficult to maintain a positive relationship with an ex, but when they co-parent your children you must set aside your differences. Find ways to work together, and avoid any slips that will add tension to your already worn dynamic:

**1. Respect:** No matter how you tailored your relationship in the past, it should have included respect. This must continue even now. You should be careful to treat each other well when your children are around, and avoid instigating any fights or arguments. Appreciate them as an important part of your child's life and foster a mutual respect.

**2. Team Decisions:** A united front means making decisions as a parenting unit. It's important both you and your ex understand that there has to be a consensus between the two of you before discussions with your child. Undermining a parent will make them less respected, so be careful what you say in front of impressionable eyes. Don't negate their input!

**3. Sharing Responsibility:** Make sure your child is able to experience special occasions with both parents. A child will have an easier time with a separation if both of you can offer positive feedback during their development. Even if you don't want to attend soccer games with your ex, rotate the responsibility game by game. This is how you keep a family intact after separating.

**What are good strategies for parenting after a divorce? Share**

your experiences below!

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# Recovering Neuroscientist Don Vaughn Talks About Finding Love and Changing the World With Music



By Jennifer Ross

Winner of Cosmopolitan's 2012 Bachelor of Texas, Don Vaughn is more than just a hot body with gorgeous dimples. He's also a neuroscientist, a musician, a model and, more importantly, a

man with a big heart. Originally from San Diego, California, Vaughn was a “huge nerd” growing up and found his first love in high school: science. With little attention from girls, he spent much of his spare time learning music and figuring himself out. Fast forward to today, his hobbies have stayed the same, but some things have definitely changed.

After winning the title of Bachelor of Texas, Vaughn was automatically nominated into the Bachelor of the Year competition, going up against some of the hottest men in America, one from each of state. Ultimately, the winner was Mr. Louisiana. Even so, Vaughn is very grateful to have been considered at all and wouldn't change anything about his experience. “The world has ways of working things out; you don't always get what you want. I'm happy with everything that happened.”

When it comes to finding that special woman, this 25-year-old bachelor is keeping his heart and mind open. Coming from a science background, he understands how experiments – even in love – usually don't turn out exactly how you plan them, no matter how strict you are with the parameters. So for him, having an idea of his “perfect girl” is out. “What ends up happening is somebody comes along who's totally different and better than you expected,” he says. “So, while there are a couple of things I want in a girlfriend, I'm open.”

Even though he doesn't have an official checklist, he still has two important traits that he looks for in women: “I need someone who's incredibly supportive, given all the demand on my time, and someone who's definitely fun.”

As for starting a relationship with someone new, Vaughn skips out on the traditional “drinks or dinner” for a first date. Instead, he prefers to learn about a potential partner's personality through her passions and by spending time with her in her natural elements. “Who cares about what kind of pink

lipstick you wear for three hours at dinner? I want to know what you normally do, where you normally drive, what you normally eat," he shares. "That's the real person I'm going to be with at the end of the day."

**Related Link:** [How to Tell If He's 'The One' After One Date](#)

Until Vaughn finds his perfect woman, he is focusing his time and energy on making this world a better place through music. In his first attempt to revolutionize this industry, Vaughn and fellow neuroscientist David Eagleman have created a mobile iPhone application called eyeFi, which allows you to "see the world through auditory feedback." Essentially, you can view your surroundings by listening to musical notes rather than using your eyes. By combining these two passions, Vaughn and Dr. Eagleman have created a way to help visually impaired people "see" through their ears.

However, this neuroscientist won't stop there. Inspired by his undying love for music, Vaughn routinely disc jockeys or plays the drums while teaming up with local DJs at various clubs and events. His next experiment is to create an app that will forever change his music gigs. Think in terms of a major jam session where every audience member can participate as Vaughn performs on stage. The concept is to allow concert goers to share what they want to hear through their phones; the information will transfer to Vaughn, who can integrate the ideas into his music set. "Everyone's a part of it," he explains with excitement. "Now, we have the technology to make it happen. We didn't have that 20 years ago."

Even with so many projects in the works, Vaughn still finds time to share his love of music through teaching. Currently a member of the Rotary Club of Houston Skyline, he was introduced to Darren Hightower of the Children's Music Foundation. From there, he began volunteering his time with sick children at the Ronald McDonald House, teaching them to play a song on the guitar. As simple as it is, a song brings a

moment of comfort to the children and a world of joy to Vaughn. “Some of the kids have so many IVs in them, living with cancer, lung transplants and all sorts of serious stuff.”

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: Volunteer Together this Holiday Season](#)

By the end of the visit, the children’s lives are brighter, even if only for a moment, and they have learned a new skill to help them cope with heartache and pain. When Vaughn leaves the Ronald McDonald House, he always lets the kids keep the guitars. He shares, “We always say something like, ‘You know what? This guitar is your’s forever. We just ask that you play it forward and teach someone else that song.’”

Given what Vaughn has already done to combine neuroscience with music, there’s no telling what ventures will come next. Of the future, he says, “What I want is to connect and inspire the world through music in a personalized concert for everyone with generalized empathy, which is the focus of my neuroscience research. How do we access and let people show empathy for more than just friends and family? How do we generalize this feeling to the entire planet?”

“Imagine what a world that would be,” Vaughn adds. “A lot of people may say, ‘That’s just ridiculous. That could never happen.’ But I don’t buy that.”

*For more information about Don Vaughn, you can visit his site at [DonVaughn.com](http://DonVaughn.com). You can also follow him on Facebook and Twitter.*

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# Best of 2012: Celebrity Babies Of The Year



By Jenny Schafer for Celebrity Baby Scoop

There's always reason to celebrate a baby's birth. But when our favorite celebrities add to their families, we can get downright giddy!

As we look back at the high-profile arrivals of 2012, we are overjoyed for new parents like Jessica Simpson and Eric Johnson. And we couldn't be happier for Uma Thurman who welcomed her third child – **Rosalind Arusha Arkadina Altalune Florence Thurman-Busson** – this past year. Look through our list of 2012's celebrity babies of the year.

**Blue Ivy Carter:** R&B royalty **Jay-Z** and **Beyoncé** welcomed

daughter Blue Ivy on January 7, 2012. The superstar couple released a touching statement to announce the birth of their first child.

“Hello Hello Baby Blue!” they stated. “We are happy to announce the arrival of our beautiful daughter, Blue Ivy Carter, born on Saturday, January 7, 2012. Her birth was emotional and extremely peaceful, we are in heaven. She was delivered naturally at a healthy 7 lbs and it was the best experience of both of our lives. We are thankful to everyone for all your prayers, well wishes, love and support.”

**India Rose Hemsworth:** The Avengers star **Chris Hemsworth** welcomed first child, daughter India Rose, with his wife **Elsa Pataky** on May 11, 2012. The Snow White and the Huntsman actor said fatherhood has been smooth sailing so far.

“She’s been great,” Chris gushed of his newborn daughter. “She sleeps very well. Not out of any skill on my behalf, but my wife has been amazing.” The Aussie actor adds that fatherhood has already shifted his perspective: “Just her being here. It’s certainly taken all my focus and attention away from work – or what have you – but that’s the main thing on my brain right now. It’s wonderful.”

**Samuel Garner Affleck:** Already parents to daughters Violet, 7, and Seraphina, nearly 4, **Jennifer Garner** and **Ben Affleck** finally welcomed a son, Samuel Garner, on February, 27, 2012. The proud mom-of-three opened up about their newest family member.

“He is so chill... He reaches when he sees me and he laughs a lot,” Jennifer said. “He thinks I’m super funny. What more do you want?”

**Olive Barrymore Kopelman:** E.T. star **Drew Barrymore** and husband **Will Kopelman** welcomed their first child, daughter Olive, on September 26, 2012. “We are proud to announce the birth of our daughter,” the newlyweds announced.

“I can’t wait until I have my children,” Drew said just weeks before welcoming baby Olive. “I love the idea that they don’t have to do something that they have no interest in, that they can do something completely opposite if they want to. I will be so surprised if they don’t want to do something involving food or wine or art, but I’ll be OK with it. I just want to build fun, great things for my family.”

**Maxwell Drew Johnson:** Singer-turned-entrepreneur **Jessica Simpson** and fiancé **Eric Johnson** welcomed their first child, daughter Maxwell Drew, on May 1, 2012. And by all accounts, it seems the Fashion Starmentor has taken to motherhood like a duck to water.

“I am so in love with baby Maxwell,” the new mom gushed. “I want to cry every time I look at her. Motherhood is by far the best thing I’ve ever experienced.”

To read the rest of this article, click [here](#).

*CelebrityBabyScoop.com is one of the most popular blogs on the topic and the foremost provider of everything celebrity-baby, featuring baby fashion, baby names, baby trends and up-to-the-minute celebrity baby gossip and pics. Get all the latest news, updates, and photos about Hollywood’s most beloved celebrity moms, dads and their babies.*

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## **Prince William and Kate Middleton Attend Christmas**

# Mass in England



By Jennifer Ross

This year, the royal family was out! On Dec. 25, Prince William and Kate Middleton attended Christmas mass service with the rest of the Middleton family at St. Mark's Church in Englefield, Berkshire, England. Both the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge dressed in festive red, with William, 30, wearing a red tie and Middleton, 30, wearing a red coat and scarf, which also covered her pregnancy. Younger brother Prince Harry was said to celebrate this Christmas with British troops at Camp Bastion in Helmond in Afghanistan. Also not celebrating with the Duke and Duchess, Queen Elizabeth II gave her annual speech in 3D. "For many, Christmas is also a time for coming together. But for others, service will come first... And those who have lost loved ones may find this day especially full of memories. That's why it's important at this time of year to

reach out beyond our familiar relationships to think of those who are on their own.”

**What are some holiday traditions you can create with your partner?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Whether this is your first Christmas together as a couple or your 50<sup>th</sup> one, making the holiday special by creating traditions together will always strengthen your relationship. So get together and start planning for lots of holiday fun. Here are a few ideas on enjoying Christmas as a couple:

**1. Hybrid tradition:** Chances are you and your partner will already bring to the relationship your own holiday traditions. This is the perfect time to combine the most important ones together and create a hybrid tradition for moving forward as a couple. Have fun and be creative.

**2. Holiday greeting card:** A great tradition for a couple to have is to take an annual Christmas portrait of you two and send to family members as a holiday card. To get even more creative, you can even create a new dress-code theme every year.

**3. Be a kid again:** With so many adult stresses in general, why not spend your holiday season being a kid again. Whether it is spinning the dreidel, taking a photo with Santa or making snow angels together, take the time to remember your best childhood Christmas fun and enjoy them as a couple each holiday season.

**What holiday traditions did you create with your partner? Tell us below.**

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# 'Glee' Creator Ryan Murphy Welcomes a Baby Boy



By Jennifer Ross

*Glee* creator is singing with joy! On Dec. 24, [E! News](#) confirms that Ryan Murphy and his husband David Miller have welcomed their first child – and what a name?! Son Logan Phineas Miller Murphy was born at 9:47 am, measuring at 21 inches long and weighing a good 6 lbs., 6 oz. The couple quickly sent out a birth announcement of baby Logan photographed in a Christmas stocking to their family and friends. This past October, Murphy had mentioned to *The Hollywood Reporter* that he wants to start a family very soon. “I think I’ll be incredibly fun and overwhelmed and all about manners.”

**How do you announce the arrival of your baby?**



## Cupid's Advice:

Announcing the birth of your baby is a very exciting time. However, gone are the old fashion days of handing out cigars. For innovative ways to spread the word, here are a few modern ideas:

**1. Update Status:** Social networking sites, such as Facebook and Twitter, are easy ways to announce your baby's birth. Besides it virtually costing you nothing, you and your partner can even update friends and family during the delivery process.

**2. Family Website:** Consider creating a family website. Here, you can share more than just the announcement, such as pictures and any family news. It's a great way for your family to stay connected throughout the years.

**3. Say it sweetly:** For something more substantial than a birth announcement card, why not order edible announcements in the form of a chocolate bar. The wrapper can have printed all the vital information. You can even have the bar hand stamped with the baby's name.

**How did you announce the arrival of your baby? Tell us below.**

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## Channing Tatum Shows Off Wife Jenna Dewan's Baby Bump





By Jennifer Ross

On Christmas day, Channing Tatum posted a picture of himself holding Jenna Dewan-Tatum's baby bump. *People's Sexiest Man Alive* had just announced earlier this month that he and wife are expecting their first child. The picture was posted on Tatum's *WhoSay* page with the comment, "Merry Christmas." The day before, on Christmas Eve, Dewan-Tatum, 32, tweeted to her fans, "Merry Christmas and happy holidays to you all!! Hope you are having fun with loved ones! Xox." When first talking about starting a family, Tatum, 32, told [People](#), "The first number that pops into my head is three, but I just want one to be healthy and then we'll see where we go after that."

**What are some ways to get involved in your partner's pregnancy?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

A pregnancy is usually considered to be a woman's thing. However, as her partner, there are many things you can do to become involved before the baby arrives. Here are a few ways you can support your partner and feel involved:

**1. Be present:** Understand that you can be present during the entire pregnancy by being an active observer. Memorialize every step of the way with photos, keep track of the baby's development, give massages when needed and prepare a hospital route.

**2. Get healthy too:** Since mommy-to-be will need to change her diet to nourish the baby, why not change your diet as well. This means, give up alcohol and any bad-for-baby foods so as not to tempt your partner. Also, take in a little added exercise together.

**3. Make decisions:** With a baby on the way, you and your mate will need to make many decisions, such as buying clothing and baby furniture, whether to breast feed or not, and whether to use disposable diapers or reusable ones. To help out, take the initiative to make some of these decisions for her in order to relieve extra stress.

**How did you get involved in your partner's pregnancy? Share with us below.**

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## **Rihanna and Chris Brown Spend Christmas Together at Lakers Game**





By Jennifer Ross

It was Christmas in LA for Rihanna and Chris Brown this year. On Dec. 25, the returning duo celebrates Christmas together at the LA Lakers vs. New York Knicks basketball game being held at the Staples Center. An eyewitness tells [Usmagazine.com](http://Usmagazine.com) Rihanna, 24, and Brown, 23, were “laughing and chatting.” Also, they seem to look “happy together.” The attire for the evening is all black, with Rihanna bearing her midriff and Brown wearing a leather jacket. Although Rihanna and Brown have spent more time together lately and tweeted photos showing them together, Rihanna still considers herself single. On Dec. 18 she tweets, “Being single sucks.”

**How do you know when to give your ex a second chance?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

The fact is, there are many reasons why a relationship doesn't work the first time. Yet, no matter what broke you and your ex apart, you both are once again ready to rekindle your love for each other. Should you do it or move on? Here are a few clues to tell you whether or not to reconcile:

**1. Better timing:** Perhaps one of you wasn't ready for a serious relationship in the past. Now, you both are ready and in the right place/right time, mentally and emotionally. Only when you two are on the same path can your relationship have a real chance at flourishing.

**2. Things are different:** After analyzing your first time around, you and your ex have realized where things went wrong and want to try again in a different manner. Without understanding the past, you and your mate will return to being exes again.

**3. Acceptance:** At the end of the day, you and your ex partner truly accepted each other in true form. Furthermore, you both realize that the things that broke you two apart weren't really that serious at all. Having someone that loves you for you is a great foundation to start with in a relationship.

**How did you know to give your ex a second chance? Share your story below.**

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## Katy Perry Brings John Mayer Home for the Holidays







By Jessica Simpson

It looks like things between Katy Perry and John Mayer are turning serious! Though the two have only been dating for a few months, they reportedly spent Christmas together, according to [People](#). “They’re happy together and with her family for the holidays,” said a source. “John really likes getting to know Katy’s family better.”

**When is it time to introduce your partner to your parents?**

### **Cupid’s Advice:**

Taking that next step in your relationship and introducing your mate to your family can be intimidating. Here are some signs that it’s time to take the plunge:

- 1. It’s sure to be long-term:** If you have made plans with your partner months away, it’s probably a good idea to introduce them to those who are important to you.
- 2. You’re past the lust stage:** If that shiny glimmer you get at the beginning of a relationship has dissipated and you



still want to be with your partner, consider taking the next step.

**3. Comfort level:** If you don't feel comfortable around your new mate yet, then don't introduce them to your family. That being said, if you've never felt more comfortable around someone, your family is sure to feel the same way.

**What are some other signs it's time to introduce your partner to your family? Share your ideas below.**

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## Jessica Simpson Confirms She's Pregnant Again



By [Jessica DeRubbo](#)

The rumors are true: Jessica Simpson and fiancé Eric Johnson are set to become parents for the second time! According to [People](#), the singer/actress announced her big news via Twitter with a picture of her 7-month old daughter, Maxwell Drew, in Christmas pajamas next to some sand with the words “Big Sis” carved into it. Speculation of a pregnancy has been circulating, as Simpson has been spotted in loose fitting clothing around town and a tight black dress showing a slight baby bump at Cacee Cobb’s wedding.

**How do you support your partner through an unplanned pregnancy?**

### **Cupid’s Advice:**

Finding out you’re pregnant when it’s not planned can certainly be a shock. Here are some ways to support your partner when the event isn’t part of your calendar:

**1. Make plans:** You may not have had plans to have a baby in the first place, but now that you’re having one, it’s time to nail down some plans. Talk it over and encourage your pregnant partner to calm down and get organized.

**2. See a therapist:** This may sound extreme, but it never hurts to unleash your feelings to an objective third party. Just letting out your fears about this unplanned period of time will help you cope.

**3. Be supportive:** Perhaps this may seem obvious, but being supportive every step of the way through an unplanned pregnancy is priceless. Just knowing that you are there for her to lean on will help immensely.

**What are some other ways to support your partner during an unplanned pregnancy? Share your ideas below.**

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# Queen Elizabeth II Invites Kate Middleton's Parents to Join the Royal Christmas



By Nicole Weintraub

Queen Elizabeth II is breaking with tradition by inviting Kate Middleton's parents to the royal Christmas gathering at Sandringham Estate, according to [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com). Prior to now, only royals have been invited to attend. However, the queen is hoping that by extending the invitation to the pregnant Duchess's family, it will encourage her to attend as well if she feels up to it. Recently, Middleton had been hospitalized

for severe morning sickness. Since being released from the hospital, she has been taking it easy with husband Prince William by her side, taking it day by day. Middleton will decide the evening before of the morning of if she will attend the holiday nuptials based on her health.

**What are some ways to involve your in-laws in your relationship?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

We've all heard the dreaded rumors regarding the in-laws. Though, believe it or not having a good relationship with your partner's family can strengthen your own relationship. Cupid has some advice:

**1. Invite them over:** Nothing will bring you closer with your in-laws than inviting them over for dinner. The more time you spend with them, the stronger your relationship with them will become.

**2. Ask them to babysit:** If you have kids, ask them to babysit for them. This will give them a chance to be more involved in your lives as well as your kids' lives.

**3. Call them:** If your in-laws live far away and you don't get to see them too often, give them a call every now and then. Just by showing them that you are thinking of them will mean the world to them and your partner for showing an effort.

**How do you involve your in-laws in your relationship? Share your stories with us in the comments below!**

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# Blake Shelton Told Kelly Clarkson's Fiancé to 'Marry This Girl'



By Nicole Weintraub

Blake Shelton is taking all of the credit for Kelly Clarkson's recent engagement to fiancé Brandon Blackstock, according to [People](#). Prior to popping the question, Shelton reportedly advised Blackstock to pop the question to Clarkson, even going as far as to promise to perform for four hours straight at their wedding ceremony. "She's the best thing to happen to him," Shelton explained in regards to Clarkson and Blackstock's relationship. The couple just recently became engaged after Blackstock presented Clarkson with a large yellow canary diamond, which she is over the moon about.

## **How do you know if you've met "the one"?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

With plenty of fish in the sea, finding your supposed "soulmate" can be difficult, especially with a lot of dating blunders. Here are some key tips on how to know you've met that one:

**1. You feel it:** As cliché as it sounds, when you are with the right person you feel it in your heart. You can see a future between the two of you and you have no question about one another's feelings towards the other.

**2. You're a better person:** When the person you are with makes you a better person, that's when you know that they are right for you. When you strive to be kinder, more generous, etc. you know that you are in the right relationship.

**3. There's no sacrifice:** Every relationship has a little give and take. However, if you are constantly making sacrifices then you are not with the right person.

**How do you know if you are dating "the one"? What signs would you look for?**