

Melissa Etheridge's Custody Battle



Melissa Etheridge is singing a different tune these days as she and her ex, Tammy Lynn Michaels, are facing off in a custody battle. According to [RadarOnline](#), Michaels filed for full custody of the couple's 3-year old twins last week. The couple broke up after nearly nine years together, when Etheridge filed to officially dissolve their partnership earlier this month, citing irreconcilable differences. The singer asked for joint custody of the children, and that the court not award any financial support to Michaels. The actress has been verbal about her feelings concerning the issue.

What should you know before you engage in a custody battle?

Cupid's Advice:

A custody battle may be one of the biggest fights of your life. Let Cupid help:

- 1. Why the fight?** Are you engaging in a custody battle for legitimate reasons, or are you fighting just to make your ex suffer? Regardless of what happens, you're both parents to the child, and his or her best interests should be put first.
- 2. Remain civil:** As difficult as it may be, remain polite when it comes to the kids. You don't want the court to see you as a person who can't control their feelings.
- 3. Become a record keeper:** Prove you are a good parent. Record all activities you do with the child, as well as any problems you have with your ex.

John Krasinski & Emily Blunt Wed





Just a week after his costar Jenna Fischer got married, *The Office* star John Krasinski wed actress Emily Blunt, [People](#) reported Saturday. [US Weekly](#) confirmed that couple married in Italy, after spending the week with George Clooney at his villa in Lake Como. The newlyweds have been dating since 2008, and got engaged last August.

Can success at work lead to success in love?

Cupid's Advice:

Krasinski and Fischer married each other on their TV show, and celebrated real life marital bliss only one week apart. While their individual relationships are different, their work life seemed to predict their personal futures. You too can allow your professional success to influence your daily life by taking the right steps.

1. Use work to network: Colleagues who see you every day might

have a friend who's perfect for you. Just be careful not to burn any bridges at work if any consequential relationships don't pan out.

2. Mix business with pleasure: In moderation, of course. While getting involved with someone at work might not be the best idea, hanging out with work friends outside the office can open you up to a new group of people.

3. Find inspiration at home: Should a relationship bloom due to a work connection, keep those two worlds intertwined. Your partner undoubtedly knows something about your office life; use it to your advantage. He or she can be someone who can help you brainstorm a new idea, and also give you a back rub after a long day.

Country Wedding for Carrie Underwood





Country singer Carrie Underwood married Mike Fischer of the Ottawa Senators last Saturday, [People](#) reported over the weekend. The couple exchanged vows on a Georgia plantation in front of family and friends, with Underwood in a custom Monique Lhuillier gown. Underwood had previously been in high-profile relationships with actor Chase Crawford and Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo.

Can you find Mr. Right after a series of Mr. Wrongs?

Cupid's Advice:

After a succession of very public relationships and breakups, Underwood kept things private this time around and struck romantic gold with Fischer. Read on for Cupid's tips on moving past failed love and finding your happily ever after:

1. Keep your options open: After a failed relationship, it's easy to want to close your heart all together. While this may

save you from future heartache, it will also keep you from new love as well.

2. Take a jump: Should that new special someone come along, don't be afraid to open yourself up again. Scared that they aren't like the other guys you've dated? See this as a new opportunity and adventure in love.

3. Make a change: Something went wrong in your past relationships – that's why they ended. Before you try to get serious with someone you *think* might be the one for you, take stock of past mistakes and try not to repeat them.

Becki Newton Pregnant, NBC Delays New Show





Actress Becki Newton and her husband Chris Diamantopoulos are expecting their first child, Newton's rep confirmed to [US Weekly](#) last week. The 32-year-old former *Ugly Betty* star married her actor husband, 35, in 2005. While she may not be sporting a noticeable baby bump yet, Newton's pregnancy has already caused changes for her upcoming role in *Love Bites*, a new series premiering on NBC this fall. [USA Today](#) reported last week that the pilot has been pushed back until mid-season, because, as NBC Vice President Vernon Sanders told the paper, "she plays a virgin, so we have to make adjustments to that."

What are some ways to balance your career while pregnant?

Cupid's Advice:

Having a baby doesn't mean that your career will take a back seat. There is a way to find balance between your personal and professional lives. Here's what you can do:

- 1. Don't get mommy-tracked:** Although job discrimination is illegal, many mothers-to-be fear that a pregnancy indicates a lack of career commitment, limiting advancement opportunities later. Demonstrate your loyalty by taking on new responsibilities, and creating a plan of action that includes a post-delivery return date. Your boss will know your job is still a priority, and it will leave more time for the baby later on.
 - 2. Do get organized:** You'll be busy getting ready for baby, so start outlining future tasks in a calendar, file folder, or pregnancy organizer. This will help you to plan in advance and keep track of any appointments that could otherwise interfere with your job or other baby-related commitments.
 - 3. Keep in touch:** It's okay to stay connected with your boss while you are out of the office, but be careful about taking on assignments or work, as there are certain labor laws that prohibit this. Stay connected, but make time to just be pregnant, too.
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Eva Longoria & Tony Parker Celebrate Anniversary in Europe





Eva Longoria and hubby Tony Parker were spotted partying it up at a nightclub in Croatia last Wednesday. According to [Mail Online](#), the Parkers and their friends have been hopping around Europe on a rented yacht for the last two weeks in celebration of the couples' third wedding anniversary. Their entourage included other high-profile celebrities, like Spanish TV star Maria Bravo, *House* actress Jennifer Morrison and her boyfriend, *Prison Break* actor Amaury Nolasco, as well as Tony Parker's brother, Terence Joseph Parker.

What's a less expensive way for you and your sweetie to spend your anniversary?

Cupid's Advice:

While a Mediterranean cruise may not be financially attainable in our economy for the every day couple, it's still key to make the event feel special. Cupid has some savvy ideas on how you can commemorate the occasion without breaking the

bank:

- 1. Under the stars:** Go for a candle-lit picnic under the stars. Find a special place outdoors where both of you can share memories and your favorite food. Spice it up by having a nighttime photo shoot with a compilation of music that you and your partner both like.
 - 2. Dine at a fancy restaurant:** Sometimes, the classic dinner-for-two is the best option. Many of couples have their first dates at dinner; try to re-create your first date! And even if you didn't grab a bite to eat the first time you laid eyes on your partner, some restaurants give out discounts for anniversaries. Take advantage!
 - 3. Movies on a dime:** You don't have to worry about spending more than \$30 every time you go to the theaters. Try checking out second-run theaters, which only cost about \$2 per person per show, or go to a matinee of a current movie.
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Larry King & Shawn Southwick Call Off Divorce





Television legend Larry King and wife Shawn Southwick collectively filed to dismiss their divorce papers, [TMZ](#) reported last Thursday. The couple had mutually filed for divorce on April 14, citing irreconcilable differences. [The Huffington Post](#) reported that in his announcement to step down from his television show, King said he was looking forward to spending more time with his wife and children.

Can you come back from a divorce?

Cupid's Advice:

Filing for divorce is a huge step that should not be taken lightly, especially when both parties feel it is necessary, as in King and Southwick's case. However, Cupid has some advice for couples who wish to give their marriage a second chance in making it work.

1. Put each other first: Though not everyone can leave their job for their family, King made a conscious decision to to

announce his desire to make his marriage and family a priority. In order to give love another try, both people need to put that chance first in their lives.

2. Spice things up: When revitalizing a marriage, take some risk. Try something new on your date night... or revisit an old haunt to relive good memories. Remember what your relationship was like in the beginning, whether you're creating new sparks or reigniting old passions.

3. Don't hold a grudge: Obviously, something drove you to the brink of divorce, and those issues need to be addressed. More importantly, don't hold past actions against each other in the future. Take advantage of the fresh start.

Levi Johnston Makes Nice with the Palins





After many months of a bitter war of words, Levi Johnston apologized to Bristol Palin and her parents last week. Talking exclusively with [People](#), Johnston said, “Last year, after Bristol and I broke up, I was unhappy and a little angry. Unfortunately, against my better judgment, I publicly said things about the Palins that were not completely true.” He continued, “I have already privately apologized to Todd and Sarah. Since my statements were public, I owe it to the Palins to publicly apologize.” Johnston is the father of Bristol Palin’s one-year old son, Tripp. The two called it quits in March 2009 after campaigning together during Sarah Palin’s 2008 vice presidential run. The two are making a conscious effort to reconcile and do what’s best for the baby.

What’s the best way to mend a relationship with your ex and his or her family?

Cupid’s Advice:

It’s unfortunate that a breakup can sometimes lead to

exchanging harsh words, not only between the couple, but by the entire family. Here's Cupid's advice on making amends:

1. Accept responsibility: Being aware that something you said or did was wrong makes your apology more genuine. Explain this, and reassure the family it won't happen again. No one is perfect, and everyone makes mistakes.

2. It's really about you and your partner: Before you can move onto the family, make sure both of you can forgive each other, and understand what you want out of the relationship. Trusting each other, despite being exes, should always come first.

3. Children are key: If children are involved, as is the case with the Palins, reconciliation is even more important. Everyone can agree that it's important to create a healthy environment for the child.

Love Conquers Anger for Barry Williams & Elizabeth Kennedy





Former *Brady Bunch* star, Barry Williams (Greg Brady) has chosen to let go of past drama with Elizabeth Kennedy and give love another chance, [RadarOnline](#) reported Tuesday. Previous reports of a restraining order against Kennedy for her alleged knife-wielding, death threats, and illegal ATM withdrawals totaling \$29K, don't seem to hinder the actor's resolve to reunite with his ex.

What can you do to repair a damaged relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

After a relationship has been through physical violence, emotional trauma, and overwhelming feelings of insecurity, it can be a rough road back to happiness. If a couple truly wants to recover from a rocky past, there are several methods to get started.

1. Get counseling: Find the source of anger, whether it's on

your side, your partner's side, or both. Learn how to manage it. Talk with a professional if you can't resolve the problems on your own.

2. Regain trust: All successful partnerships have a common thread: belief in each other. If you've lost it, you'll need to build it up again. Remember to keep trust as an ideal to continually strive for in your relationship.

3. Recommit to each other: You must be ready to work through your troubles together in order to recreate your happy place. Find common ground for a new starting point, and see where it goes.

Cameron Diaz Says Goodbye to Bad Boys





After years of having her relationships in the public eye, Cameron Diaz plays it coy about her current love life in the August issue of *Harper's Bazaar*. She also remains mum about her relationship with Alex Rodriguez of the New York Yankees. However, one thing the actress *is* upfront about is that she is done dating bad boys. "Who doesn't like the bad boy, until you grow up and realize bad boys are not the way to go?" Diaz said to the magazine. "I'm done with that."

What's the best way to get over your bad boy crush?

Cupid's Advice:

More often than not, good girls are the ones who end up with bad boys. If you find yourself in this type of relationship, Cupid is here to help break your bad boy habit.

1. Recognize the problem: Try to understand why you keep running back to this type of guy. Psychotherapist Caroline

Presno advises on Yahoo! Personals to write a list of the bad things your partner has done to you. Put the list up on the wall next to a picture of him to associate his face with with his actions.

2. It's not your job to save him: Many women think they can rescue a bad boy. Unfortunately, it most likely won't happen. Furthermore, continuing on this path might only hurt you in the end.

3. Build your self-esteem: Chances are, you continue to run after the wrong type of guy because you aren't happy with yourself. According to relationship writer, Allan Tan, a woman "usually does not like herself and that lack of self-respect causes her to settle for a man that is less than what she deserves."

Carrie Prejean Weds Raiders Quarterback





Former Miss California, Carrie Prejean, married Oakland Raiders quarterback, Kyle Boller, last weekend, reported [E! Online](#). The event was complete with a mermaid-style gown and a white Rolls Royce Phantom to take them away to their honeymoon. The pair have been together since last July, and got engaged in February despite Prejean's past media controversies, including her face-off with celebrity blogger Perez Hilton over her opposition to same sex marriage and her interview with Larry King.

How can you show support for your partner?

Cupid's Advice:

Sometimes, speaking one's beliefs can have negative ramifications, and can hurt others. If this has happened to your partner, Cupid has some ideas to help you through the experience:

- 1. Support your partner:** Stand by your mate. Show your support, and be by their side if they're going through a rough patch. Be a shoulder to lean on, and a safe place to go when they've had a bad day.
 - 2. Find others:** If your partner is dead-set on a controversial belief, regardless of what it concerns, help them find others who share the same sentiment. Help your mate start a blog, join Twitter, or connect on Facebook, where they can express their opinions with those who feel the same way.
 - 3. Keep searching:** Look for opportunities where your partner can help build their platform. Keep an ear out for local events where he or she can participate in. If you can, be at the venue if your loved one chooses to talk about their cause.
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Angelina Jolie Shares Her Secrets On Staying Together





After several years in the public eye, six kids, and a slew of movies to her name, Angelina Jolie spoke with *Parade Magazine* about how she keeps her relationship with Brad Pitt going strong. “The children certainly tie us together, but a relationship won’t hold if it’s only about the kids,” Jolie said. “You also must be really interested in each other and have a really, really wonderful, exciting time together. We do. Brad and I love being together. We enjoy it. We need it, and we always find that special time. We stay connected. We talk about it. It’s very important.”

What can you do to keep the spark alive in a relationship?

Cupid’s Advice:

Staying interested in each other, enjoying each other’s company, and talking about things are all major components for a healthy relationship. However, there are other ways to stay connected. Cupid has some ideas:

- 1. Spice up your dates:** Try doing something you and your partner wouldn't normally do, like attending a wine tasting class, or a taking a spur of the moment road trip. Opening yourself up to new options will reduce the chance of boredom. Oh, and don't forget to take turns planning the new adventures!
 - 2. Talking dirty not your thing?** Use the past as an aphrodisiac! Stroll down memory lane and tell each other your most intimate and favorite time as a couple.
 - 3. Nothing to talk about?** Sometimes couples get to a point in their relationship where they think they know everything about the other person, and they have nothing additional to share. Experience new things on your own and share it with your partner later. Not only does it make for interesting conversation, but it can help you find fun, creative hobbies along the way.
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Matt Damon Credits Spouse for Keeping Busy Lives on Track





Matt Damon may have a hectic schedule, but he told [People](#) that his wife, Luciana, “really keeps it together,” the actor said at a poker event at the Rio All Suites Hotel. “We just talk it out and work it all out.” The duo are expecting their third child this fall, (the baby will be Luciana’s fourth; she has a daughter from a previous marriage). Even their children are excited about the pregnancy, monitoring the arrival of their sibling closely. Damon said the kids can tell how their mother and her belly are doing at any given time.

How can you keep a busy family schedule on track?

Cupid’s Advice:

Many families today juggle responsibilities beyond the parents’ jobs and kids going to school. How do you keep it together? Cupid has some ideas:

1. Keep a calendar: Create a calendar that allows you to

manage multiple schedules in one place. Hang a wipe off board in a central location, like the kitchen. This will make it easy to view and add new information as needed.

2. Periodic Family Meetings: Gather regularly to discuss upcoming activities and scheduling conflicts, so the family as a whole can find workable solutions (i.e., carpooling with the neighbors) in advance.

3. Mistakes are OK: When trying to handle many events that occur simultaneously, there's always the possibility of double booking something, or forgetting to add an activity on the list. Realize that everyone slips up sometimes – including you! Discuss ways to keep one another informed and help one other stay on track.

Melissa Etheridge's Ex Surprised by Divorce





Melissa Etheridge filed divorce papers to end her nine-year domestic relationship with actress Tammy Lynn Michaels on Saturday, [E! Online](#) reported. Michael's commented on the news that day on her blog, and wrote, "Gentle waves/ no noise for awhile/ or maybe gentle voices/and SMACK!!!!!! FILE FOR DIVORCE!!!!/ even though we both promised, agreed, handshook, pinkyswore/no filing until after tour/in the fall," Michaels wrote Saturday. "Her broken promises told to me by headlines....could you stop blind sighting me?/ Have a good concert." The 49-year-old singer filed on the grounds of irreconcilable differences, and requested that Michaels receive no financial support. The actress' response? "I know she doesn't want to give me money. trust. i'm borrowing cash left and right from people to get through this summer, and feed my kids, with a stomach full of ulcers, thank you. no stress here. :-)"

How can you deal with the financial burden of divorce?

Cupid's Advice:

Divorce is typically a financial burden for both parties.

Read Cupid's suggestions for coping with a decreased cash flow.

1. Be mindful: Before spending money, ask yourself whether the purchase will bring long-term enjoyment, or just temporary pleasure.

2. Create a budget: Creating a budget will provide the financial organization needed to save for future monetary needs.

3. Allow others to help: Let go of your pride and acceptance assistance. Help may come from friends, family, or even the government. If you need it, ask, before you dig yourself deep into debt.

Matt Bellamy Dishes on Romance with Kate Hudson





Despite attempts to keep their relationship behind closed doors, Matt Bellamy opened up to [The Mirror](#) about his relationship with Kate Hudson at the Nordoff Robbins 02 Silver Clef Awards last Friday. “We just have fun together and are seeing how it goes,” he told the paper. “Kate is great.” The Muse frontman also revealed that he’s meeting Goldie Hawn, Hudson’s mother, this week. He admits he’s nervous, and said, “You don’t want her reading daft stories about you online – it’s embarrassing when you meet someone’s family for the first time.” Cupid wishes him luck!

What are some ways to impress the parents on your first meeting?

Cupid’s Advice:

Meeting a partner’s parents for the first time is always stressful, but being uptight won’t make things easier. Here are some of Cupid’s tips on scoring points with those who may be your future in-laws:

1. Be polite: Please, thank you, and a firm handshake will go a long way. Good manners show that you've been raised well, and that their son or daughter is with someone who shows them respect.

2. Dress up a little: Unless you're going to a five-star restaurant, there's no need for a three-piece suit or ballgown, but stay away from sweats and baggy clothes on your first meeting.

3. Keep it classy: No matter what f-bombs they may throw at you, refrain from using foul language. Parents can do whatever they want – you, however, need to make a good impression. Save your potty mouth for someone else.

Megan Fox & Brian Austin Green Settle Into Married Life





After a private wedding and luxurious honeymoon in Hawaii, Megan Fox and Brian Austin Green have returned home quietly. They were spotted at a local grocery store picking up last minute Fourth of July items in Glendale, Calif. While [People](#) discusses the ups and downs throughout the couple's two-year relationship, it appears that they are in it for the long haul.

What can you do to keep the spark alive in a marriage?

Cupid's Advice:

After you've taken the leap to marriage, you may be wondering how to keep the fire going. Cupid has some ideas to get you started:

- 1. Keep dating:** Just because your partnership is legal doesn't mean you give up making regular plans to go out and celebrate each other. Aim for date nights once a month, if not more.
- 2. Talk over issues:** Every relationship has its troubles. By

keeping lines of communication open, you're more likely to resolve them together, and come up with a solution you can both agree to.

3. Be wary of advice: If people in your respective lives offer assistance – whether you want it or not – just listen. Afterward, discuss all of your options with your partner before taking any recommended guidance.

Jessica Simpson Dating Eric Johnson



Performer Jessica Simpson, currently on VH1's *The Price of Beauty*, has been seen around town with new beau, Eric Johnson (former NFL player), according to a weekend post from [TMZ](#).

Johnson recently retired from his career, and filed for divorce from his wife in February.

Are you choosing the right mate?

Cupid's Advice:

Many people stick to the same type when dating, but never seem to find their perfect match. Read how Cupid can help break up your routine and find new avenues for love.

1. Make a new list: When you find yourself alone – again – because the people you date aren't what you'd hoped, it's time to throw away your list of requirements. Start fresh with new criteria that wasn't on your list.

2. Check out different places: If you normally go to clubs or bars, try taking a class at a local dance studio, or join a writing club. Sign up for something you're passionate about. Not only do you have the chance to meet potential partners with similar interests as you, but you might also make new friends along the way.

3. Talk to your friends: A great way to change up your dating patterns is to check in with your pals that are happily coupled up. Ask what they did differently, and try out their technique.

Mel Gibson's Break-Up Takes a New Turn



Mel Gibson continues to draw attention regarding his break-up with baby mama, Oksana Grigorieva. [RadarOnline](#) reported last week that a taped phone conversation between the actor and his ex-girlfriend included less than flattering racial remarks directed towards her. Gibson has a history of potentially detrimental comments, and has a documented history of drunken misbehavior.

Are there more effective ways to break-up?

Cupid's Advice:

When a relationship ends there are going to be hurt feelings, but if you deal with them properly, you'll have a better chance of coming to terms with your break-up. Read how Cupid deals with negative emotions:

- 1. Express yourself:** When you find yourself in the middle of a nasty break-up with, it's healthy to get those feelings out. Try to turn your feelings into positive energy – and don't direct the negativity to your ex. It won't solve anything.
 - 2. Talk to someone unbiased:** When you're going through an emotional upheaval, logic tends to be forgotten. Go to a trusted family member or friend to confide in, and listen to their suggestions. They'll tend to be more objective since they aren't directly involved in the situation.
 - 3. Be understanding:** You are not the only person feeling hurt. Consider your former partner's feelings before reacting.
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Elin Nordegren's \$750 Million Divorce Settlement





Tiger Woods and Elin Nordegren's marriage is coming to an end... in a very pricey way. According to last week's *The Sun*, Nordegren will get \$750 million in exchange for keeping quiet about the golfer's affairs. Among the other deals, Woods is banned from bringing single women around his two children, and the two will split several properties. Nordegren will also get sole physical custody of the children, but they will split legal custody. A pal told the Sun, "Everything's signed. Elin is ready to file for divorce at Orlando County Court. She expects to in the next seven days."

How should you best come to terms that your marriage is over when it's time to split the assets?

Cupid's Advice:

Most couples are not dealing with the dollar figures that Woods and Nordegren are, or dealing with the public eye. However, divorce is divorce, no matter how you slice it.

Cupid is here to help:

- 1. Face reality:** Realize that the marriage didn't work out, and that life will now have new challenges. While there's no way to work through pain quickly, seek counseling, as well as help from family and friends during this difficult time.
 - 2. Communicate:** Whatever the reason for divorce, it will be hard on the both of you. Talk with a lawyer to review the assets in question, though the process may be easier if you and your ex try to work out what is best first.
 - 3. Don't put the children in the middle:** Speak with a lawyer to understand all custody options, including legal custody, child support, and visitation. As Cupid has mentioned in the past, it's important to try and maintain the lifestyle your child has become used to.
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Ali Fedotowsky: Stay-At-Home-Mom Not in Future Plans





(Spoiler alert!) Last week on ABC's *The Bachelorette*, a competitive reality dating game show, Ali Fedotowsky, had a one-on-one date with contestant Ty. She found out he ended his previous marriage because his ex-wife worked, and he was looking for a traditional stay-at-home mom. Traditional is something that Ali is certainly not. "I imagine a lot of the women cringed when they heard Ty make the comment about women being presidents of companies," Fedotowsky told Reality TV Calender last week. "Ha ha. Trust me, I cringed too." Ty ended up being eliminated last night – Ali was still concerned about his traditional values.

What should you do if you're dating a man who expects a "traditional" wife, and you are anything but?

Cupid's Advice:

While more women opt to work and pursue a career than be a stay-at-home mom, many men still expect a 1950's housewife. Here's Cupid's take on dealing with this outdated stereotype:

1. Talk before you walk: Make sure you're both clear with what you are looking for from the other person. Also, consider that some men look at women working as a loss of power. In the book *Choices in Relationships: An Introduction to Marriage and the Family*, the author says many men who want a traditional wife think that a woman earning more money threatens their masculinity, and their status as head of the household.

2. Think of the kids: According to family therapist Gayle Peterson, studies show that children who have working mothers tend to have higher self-esteem, since working mothers feel happier with themselves, and those good feelings spread to family members. Also, some families might need that two person income to provide for the children.

3. Figure out work/life balance: Talk with your partner to figure out the best way to balance work and house duties. Map out schedules and share responsibility.

Zoe Saldana Engaged





Avatar star Zoe Saldana is engaged to My Fashion Database CEO Keith Britton, [E! News](#) reported last week. Saldana and Britton have dated for roughly ten years, but have managed to keep their relationship out of the spotlight. [CNN](#) confirmed the engagement, as well as the couples' "low-key" status, even revealing that one of the few times Saldana ever referenced Britton was at this year's Crystal + Lucy awards night.

How can you keep your relationship low-key?

Cupid's Advice:

Though Saldana and Britton might have taken the under-wraps relationship a bit far, it's refreshing to see a connection that speaks for itself. No matter how long you're dating someone, it is always possible to keep a low-profile on your relationship.

1. Make it mutual: Not all people are into quiet

relationships. Before you go into secret-mode with your significant other, make sure that's what he or she wants, too. Some people are shout-it-from-the-rooftops kind of lovers; get a feel for what your partner is like.

2. Be a family: No matter how low-down you keep things between you and your partner, make sure your family gets to know them if you want to get serious. That's one group who should know all about your relationship.

3. Don't be anonymous: Just because you like to keep your private life separate – and well, private – that doesn't mean your mate has to be a ghost in other aspects of your life. Involve each other when you can, while still maintaining a subtle profile.

Jon Gosselin's Gets Tattoo In Honor of New Girlfriend





Reality TV star Jon Gosselin, told [RadarOnline](#) that he is celebrating his “rebirth” by getting a giant dragon tattoo on his back. According to [US Weekly](#), the tattoo features a name written in Korean, in honor of his new 23-year old girlfriend, Ellen Ross.

Hold on there, Picasso! Before you decorate your body in works of art, you’ll want to consider if getting a tattoo with your significant other’s name is a wise thing to do.

Cupid’s Advice:

While it may seem like a declaration of love at the time, Cupid is here to help paint a clear picture. Think before you get inked.

1. Love is not always forever, but a tattoo is: If you’re considering getting your partner’s name tattooed on your body, don’t rush into it, and *don’t* get one to please the other person. Once it’s on your skin, it’s there forever. Removal procedure are painful, costly, and time consuming. And never

make this decision when alcohol is involved.

2. Love is stronger than body art: Do you really need a tattoo to show your commitment to someone? About.com cites a tattoo artist who gives his opinion on the matter, and says there are lots of reasons not to do it. "I have rarely done this type of tattoo on someone who didn't have some notion of the possible regrets one might encounter in the future," the artist said. "Names tattooed upon your body won't make you or the other person any more committed to each other and it is not like a shirt that you can take off. Think about it."

3. The sag factor: What looks great on your young, toned body now may not look as attractive as you get older. Your skin changes with age (sometimes for the worse), but your tattoo will still be there. Also, be conscious of where you get the tattoo. Placement is key, as there could be several ramifications, including a lost job opportunity, if it is difficult to hide.

West and Fitzgerald Wed at Family Castle in Ireland





[E! Online](#) covered actor Dominic West's (*The Wire*) wedding last weekend to college sweetheart, Catherine Fitzgerald, at her family's castle in Limerick, Ireland. They spared no expense for the ceremony, including the bride riding in on a horse drawn carriage. The pair have three kids together, and immediately following the ceremony, whisked their two youngest up to have them christened while the audience was still seated. Some of the guests included West's *Wire* co-stars Sonja Sohn and Wendall Pierce.

Can the perfect wedding be attained without losing your bank account?

Cupid's Advice:

Everyone dreams of having an elaborate wedding, but the logistics aren't always attainable. Check out Cupid's suggestions on how you can have your perfect wedding without losing your savings:

- 1. Set up a savings account:** As soon as you agree to a marriage proposal, it's a great idea to set up an account that you make weekly deposits into to help minimize the dent to your wallets as the wedding date moves closer.
 - 2. Determine your budget:** Once you've accumulated a decent savings, begin planning your nuptials. Start with the most expensive such as the bride's dress, or the cake of your dreams, then work your way down to the rings.
 - 3. Keep up your plan of action:** Maintain a list of everything you want to include, and as you accumulate the funds, take care of it and cross it off the list.
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Rascal Flatts' Jay DeMarcus & Wife Are Expecting!





After six years of marriage, bassist Jay DeMarcus from Rascal Flatts, and wife Allison, a former Miss Tennessee and presenter on CMT, are expecting their first child, the *Associated Press* reported Wednesday. “I’m looking forward to hearing the pitter-patter of little feet around the house and all of that wonderful stuff,” DeMarcus told [People](#). After celebrating the announcement with band-mates Gary LeVox and Joe Don Rooney, the father-to-be added, “I’m ready for the challenge.” The couple’s baby is due in January.

Are you ready to have kids?

Cupid’s Advice:

Children are a big step in a relationship. While they are bundles of joy that bring meaning to life, they can also bring frustration, exhaustion, and a little pinch of doubt that causes you to ask, “Am I doing this right?” Here are some things to consider before the water breaks:

1. Plan on spending: Raising a child costs money, from the beginning of pregnancy through the child's life. Stats show that you can expect to spend at least \$11,000 on just the first year of your baby's life. Budget your money early so you can become accustomed with your new allowance when you need to.

2. Evaluate you and your partner's emotional health: Being a parent can bring out the best in you, but it can also bring out the worst. Realize the negative aspects of your personality, and work to control bad habits. Being emotionally stable will help your children to grow, as well as show them how to develop security in their lives as well.

3. Are you doing it for the right reasons? Don't have a child if you think it will save your marriage, make your partner settle down, or if you feel forced into it. A person convinced into having children may feel resentment, annoyance, and even anger when the baby arrives. Make sure you and your partner both want to take this step.

Divorce Finalized for Sandra Bullock & Jesse James





Sandra Bullock and Jesse James finalized their divorce last week, [People](#) reported. Though it's uncertain if the couple had filed a pre-nuptial agreement, the *Associated Press* confirmed that the papers cited "discord or conflict of personalities" as the reason for the split, and the proceedings were amicable.

Is it possible to have a cordial divorce?

Cupid's Advice:

When it comes to divorce, the nature of the marriage often indicates how things will go after it ends. Despite the sticky nature of their split, Bullock and James seemed to have a mature and respectful marriage while they were in it.

1. Over is over: Make sure all of the issues of your marriage are resolved before you sit down at the table to negotiate a divorce. If not, any festering issues could come out at the

table and affect the proceedings.

2. Keep it private: Other than you and your respective lawyers, there is no reason to get anyone else involved – even good friends. It only makes things more complicated after the settlement.

3. Take time: After the divorce is finalized, separate yourself from your ex. No calls, emails, or other communication unless it's about the kids, or an emergency. It's important to heal the wounds and be alone. Once you have things figured out, maybe you can be a part of each other's lives again.