

Ready for Love, Episode 6: Finding Love in Paradise



By

Angela Zatopek

This week on *Ready for Love*, we went to one of my absolute favorite places, Hawaii. My two best friends from childhood went to University of Hawaii at Manoa, so I have been to Oahu a few times, but this was my first time in Kona.

A really funny thing that viewers didn't see is that we literally had to go straight from the plane to our date. The flight attendants kept asking what we were doing and what show we were on. We were cracking up because, obviously, we couldn't tell them anything. It was quite apparent that something was up when we're trying to do our hair and makeup in our seats and the small restrooms. Have you ever tried to

get ready for a date in an airplane bathroom? It was a bit stressful for all of us, especially knowing that it's going to be televised for the whole world to see.

Related Link: [Ready for Love, Episode 5: Drama in Vegas](#)

At the airport, security questioned our purpose for the trip, and I joked with the guard and said, "Yeah, our boyfriend surprised us all with a trip to Hawaii." He gave me a crazy stare, but I figured we might as well make light of dating the same guy!

Whatever stress we felt immediately went away the second we hit the beach. We boarded the catamaran where we all got to enjoy each other's company and the beautiful scenery.

You only saw three dates that took place with Ben: Beth, Renae and Tarryn. Ben and I had a really great date too! I was his last date, and we spent the evening soaking in a hot tub with a waterfall surrounding it. It was gorgeous, and we got to sit and talk more in depth. I really started to connect with him when we discussed our families and our similar upbringings. Our parents both divorced when we were the same age, and we're both very close to our moms, who came from big families.

I also talked to him about what I was looking for in a potential husband. This process can be especially difficult since the girl is pursuing the guy in an unconventional manner, so it was important to me that Ben knew that I had qualities that I wanted in a man. A big must-have is that my guy not only has knowledge but also wisdom and discernment when making choices. Trust, honesty and integrity are key for a solid foundation with anyone, whether it be a romantic partner or a friend.

We ended the night with a champagne toast, and I slipped Ben a little note that I wrote on the plane telling him my thoughts about the experience so far.

Related Link: [Ready for Love, Episode 4: Angela Zatopek Recaps Her First Kiss with Ben Patton](#)

Our house wasn't so "kumbaya" after we got back to Los Angeles. There were only a few of us left, and we were all becoming more private about our dates.

I am a huge family person – I believe it is one of the most important things in life. So I'm definitely excited to meet Ben's family on next week's episode. You'll have to tune in on Tuesday to see what happens!

Angie Miller's "Amazing Journey" on 'American Idol'





By [Ker](#)

[ri Sheehan](#)

The [American Idol](#) road ended last night for 19-year-old Massachusetts native Angie Miller. Known for winning over the judges during her first audition by performing an original song and playing the piano during many of the live shows, fans were surprised to see her go. She sobbed throughout her goodbye song "Never Gone," originally sung by *Idol* alum Colton Dixon, as Mariah Carey encouraged her from the judges' table.

Miller admits that she was surprised to be voted off this week, as she had high hopes of making it to next week's finale. "Every Thursday night is shocking. It's always an emotional and crazy night, but I did feel confident in my performances and everything. I honestly did. I was hoping and dreaming of being a part of that finale, and I really wanted it, so of course, it was disappointing."

Related Link: [Amber Holcomb Bids a Sad Farewell to the 'American Idol' Stage](#)

However, there were no bitter feelings towards fellow

contestants Kree Harrison and Candice Glover. “ I love both of those girls, and they deserve to be there,” says the songstress. “Kree never thinks about herself – she’s so selfless. And Candice is just the most fun person to be around.”

Staying positive, Miller is looking forward to performing in the finale show. “I’m not going anywhere; I’m still here. I’m going to start rehearsing and practicing for the finale this week. I don’t know 100 percent what’s going on yet, but I’m so excited to sing again.”

Overall, the songwriter says she’s very grateful for her *Idol* experience and believes it’s really jump started her career. “I learned so much, and I’ve grown so much in this competition. I definitely know so much more about who I am musically and as an artist.” She’s not sure what specific genre of music she wants to fall under, but she does know this: “I want to have music that has meaning and is real. I don’t want to have dance party music, but at the same time, I don’t want to put people to sleep. I definitely want to incorporate the soulful piano sound with a lot of edge.”

Related Link: [Janelle Arthur Talks About Her “Incredible Journey” on ‘American Idol’](#)

As for the future, there are a lot of things Miller sees on her horizon. “There’s the tour, and then I hope to get signed and record an album. First, I want to pursue my music, and then eventually, I want to act. I just want to do so much; I’m excited! Even though it’s the end of *American Idol*, it’s just the start of this journey.”

You can see Angie Miller on the American Idol [tour](#) or follow her on [Twitter](#) for updates.

Rejection Turns to Love for 'The Bachelor' & 'The Bachelorette' Cast-Offs Peyton Wright and Chris Lambton



By

Kerri Sheehan

Celebrity couple Peyton Wright and Chris Lambton are both alumni of the popular reality TV show [The Bachelor](#) and its female counterpart *The Bachelorette*. Neither one found a

lasting relationship and love with the final rose, but they later met through mutual *Bachelor* friends in 2010. Lambton told [People.com](#), “Every day I thank my lucky stars I was on that show because I met the woman of my dreams, my wife.” The celebrity couple celebrated their one-year wedding anniversary this month.

Celebrity couple Peyton Wright and Chris Lambton are together thanks to some friends from *The Bachelor*. What are some ways to meet a partner through your pals?

Cupid's Advice:

Meeting the person who is right for you is easier said than done. Cupid has some dating advice for finding someone special through friends:

1. Be honest: Let your friends know that you're looking to add members of the opposite sex to your friendship circle. You never know who you're going to meet, and chances are, you'll find some awesome new pals in the process. A relationship and love may not come right away, but expanding your horizon never hurts.

Related Link: [Favored 'Bachelor' Turns Down Gig](#)

2. Be open: It's often true that our closest friends know us better than we know ourselves, so let them prove that by setting you up. The worst that can happen is you add another bad date to your list and move on to the next one!

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

3. Build a foundation: Many of the best relationships and love blossom from friendships. Being buddies shows that you're already compatible on many levels, so why not give a romantic connection a shot?

Have you ever met a partner through your friends? Share below.

Ready for Love, Episode 5: Angela Zatopek Discusses the Drama in Vegas



By [Angela Zatopek](#)

On this week's episode of *Ready for Love*, Ben surprised us and told us we were going to Las Vegas. I have absolutely no complaints about the amazing house we got to live in for the show – in fact, Rihanna reportedly just bought it! – but being cooped up for so long made it feel like a prison. Plus, the tensions were really high that week, so the timing couldn't have been more perfect.

Related Link: [Ready for Love, Episode 4: Angela Zatopek Recaps Her First Kiss with Ben Patton](#)

When people think of Vegas, most people picture getting all jazzed up for shows, hitting the casinos and enjoying many delicious meals. Instead, we had quite a unique experience that didn't include any of those things. The date started with us arriving at the MGM Grand, where some of the world's greatest fighters have stood. It was incredible to think about the history as we entered the arena, but we soon realized that we'd be fighting one another. I'm very into health and fitness, and I have done a lot of kickboxing in the past, so I was looking forward to showing off my skills. My excitement, however, was quickly overshadowed when Tarryn Franco and Kari Krakowski hit the ring. Unfortunately, the fun ended early once it got too heated.

After boxing, we headed to the lounge where the blowout fight between Kari and Allie Wagner took place. It's important to understand that there were so many factors leading up to this argument. We're all there competing for Ben, but we can see a clear connection between him and Kari. He saved her from elimination already, so the door was obviously still open. Our feelings weren't coming from a place of crazy or jealousy but more from frustration. We're thinking, "It's great if they get back together, but don't drag the rest of us through this process."

Personally, I was in a really awkward position with “The Kari Situation,” which has definitely been a hot topic. Kari and I are both from Texas, so we have a ton of mutual friends. Plus, we were roommates in the house and ironically were in the same sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma (I went to University of Texas at Austin, and she attended University of Oklahoma). We actually got along great, but it was still a weird dynamic since we both wanted to be with the same guy. I finally put my foot down and asked myself, “Am I here for Ben or to make best friends?” I tried to stay out of the argument and just calm Allie down, but emotions were running high since we had flown to Vegas, only to have such an awesome date cut short.

Related Link: [Ben Patton Is Still Dating His Final Pick](#)

Okay, back to Ben. After we had our first kiss at the vineyard, I knew our one-on-one time would be even better when I saw him again. I blocked the fight (which he didn’t know about) from my mind and refused to let it affect my night. The view was incredible, and during our chat, we really started to dig below the surface. There’s so much to cover in such little time – and you have so many things running through your mind related to the tips from the matchmakers. I thought it was best to tell him about my upbringing first: Being the oldest of four siblings, I had a lot of responsibility at a young age. I am a very focused, task-oriented and driven person, which makes me seem stiff or guarded sometimes. I’m actually a very outgoing and fun-loving person, but it’s not my personality to not be an open book so fast, which can play against you in a process like this one.

I had no idea what to expect for this week’s elimination. As the elevator rose and I saw Allie instead of Kari, it made me realize that Ben was looking towards the future and truly trying to embrace this experience. It’s not that we were happy to see Kari gone – it was nothing personal against her, but it was more of a relief that we hadn’t wasted our time on the show.

Since Vegas wasn't really a success, we're even more excited to head to Hawaii next week. Until then...aloha!

Angela Zatopek Talks 'Ready For Love,' Saving Herself for Marriage and OneLove



By [Rachael Moore](#) and [Lori Bizzoco](#)

Angela Zatopek, the youngest contestant vying for the heart of Ben Patton on NBC's cancelled dating competition show *Ready for Love*, has always been open about her love life, even

before she joined the reality television world. What really sets her apart from other young women are her Christian values, particularly the fact that she has decided to “save herself” for marriage.

Related Link: [Ready for Love, Episode 4: Angela Zatopek Recaps Her First Kiss with Ben Patton](#)

The Texas native feels strongly about breaking the stereotypes that come along with being abstinent. “People think that when you’re a virgin, it’s a very conservative belief. But I’m not this Amish girl walking around with a bonnet on my head or a person who sits at home and knits sweaters,” she explains. “You can still be sexy and fun and have a romantic, passionate relationship even if you’re waiting to have sex until marriage. It makes it that much better when you find the right person and don’t rush the physical stuff.”

Being abstinent was an important choice Zatopek made from a very young age, and surprisingly, she says many guys from her past have been accepting of her decision. “Before the show, I didn’t have a problem finding a date. Being a virgin would never be the first thing I said to a guy, but I did let them know within the first couple of dates who I am and what I’m about.”

When it comes to sharing her views regarding the show’s cancellation, the blonde beauty says that she was very confused when it went off the air. “It was such an exciting thing in my mind, and then hearing that it was cancelled was very hard. But you have to look on the bright side. It’s on NBC.com, Hulu and On Demand, and there’s a lot of fans who still watch the show and send me supportive messages.”

Zatopek also reveals some secrets about Patton and his ex-girlfriend, Kari Krakowski, who makes a surprise appearance on the series. Of course, she had her doubts at first. “We look completely different. She is a brunette with dark eyes, while

I'm blonde with blue eyes. So I wondered if I was his type." Still, she says she really likes Krakowski. "It was hard, though, because we were roommates. She would confide in me every night and pour her heart out. I was learning all of this girl's secrets, but then we were competing against each other."

Though she claims that she tried to stay away from the drama, she did get frustrated when Krakowski had her one-on-one time with Patton on last week's episode. "He came back from his date with glitter on his face, and I saw that her lip gloss had glitter in it, so I knew they had kissed. I thought, I'm not going to be here and put my heart on the line if they're going to work it out. He shouldn't make all of us go through this show if they're going to get back together. It's a very mentally taxing process."

Throughout their conversations, Zatopek learned that they had a few things in common. She is from Houston, and Krakowski is from Dallas; the Texas social scene can be a small world. "We have a ton of mutual friends. I learned that Ben and I even have mutual friends outside the show, which is so crazy. I felt like it boosted my confidence because it gave me a connection to Ben since we have similar interests from the people we hang out with."

Even so, the 24-year-old questioned her relationship potential with Patton because of their age difference. She reveals something that was edited out of the first episode: "Before Ben chose me, he asked, 'What makes you ready to be in a relationship? It worries me because we are at different points of our lives.' And I told him that I feel like maturity is not defined by your age but by your life experiences. I'm the oldest of four kids, and my mom was a single mom. I know I'm young on paper, but I grew up quick."

Related Link: [Ben Patton from 'Ready for Love' Is Still Dating His Final Pick](#)

Before her *Ready for Love* journey, Zatopek was in two serious relationships. Her first boyfriend was a long-distance relationship that lasted for a year, and her second relationship was with her college sweetheart, who she dated for three years. The pageant girl says that both guys respected her morals, but she is ready to meet the person she'll be with for the rest of her life. "I want to get to know a guy first and then make those steps towards the altar. I also want to have a huge family."

While she can't reveal how far she got on the show, she's staying busy until the finale airs. She's currently teaming up with Lisa and Brittny Gastineau to form a jewelry line called OneLove. "I want to make cute, trendy purity rings to represent loving yourself first and not needing someone else to complete you. When you're doing your own thing, and respecting yourself first. That's when you're most attractive."

For more information about Zatopek, Ready for Love and OneLove, you can follow her on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) or visit angelazatopek.com. Be sure to watch the remainder of the show on NBC.com!

Ben Patton of 'Ready for Love' Says He's "Still Going Through It" With His Final Pick



By [Lori Bizzoco](#) and [Whitney Baker Johnson](#)

If you've been watching NBC's dating reality competition show [Ready for Love](#), you may have been disappointed to hear that it was cancelled by the network after only two low-rated episodes. Many viewers felt like the new series presented a false reality when it came to dating and relationships, reinforcing the belief that you have to be perfect to find real love.

For those of you who are fans of the show, don't fret! NBC.com is airing the remaining episodes, so you'll still be able to follow the journey of Ernesto Arguello, Tim Lopez and Ben Patton as they search for their soul mates. Filming wrapped last August, so we can't imagine what it's been like for the bachelors to keep their final picks a secret – something that they must continue to do until the finale airs on Tuesday, June 4th. To tide us over, we caught up with Patton, who we

interviewed prior to the premiere, and chatted about his current relationship, his take on the other two bachelors and his past love with one of the contestants.

Related Link: [Ben Patton Tells Us Why He's 'Ready for Love'](#)

Since the show is still officially airing on NBC.com, the Texas businessman can't reveal his final choice. However, he did mention that it's been a pretty challenging time since the show finished filming, particularly given the constraints that the new couple has faced (they haven't been allowed to be seen together in public for almost nine months). Even so, he says that he's "still going through it" with his significant other. "After the finale airs, that's when we can see if it's the real thing. Right now, we can't even go through the real experience of dating."

Given their busy schedules, the twosome's time together varies. Sometimes, they see each other every two weeks, but other times, they're apart for over a month. They last saw each other about three weeks ago, and Patton says their relationship has become "more stress than fun. She's really stressed. I'm really stressed. I'm not going to lie, it's very hard." For now, they're learning to balance their individual lives and trying to make it work.

As for the future, the hospital CEO says he can't leave Dallas and hopes that his pick will relocate. However, he does admit that he's a rationale person when it comes to love. "I keep telling her that we shouldn't force the relationship for the sake of the show or to prove America wrong. If it's not working, then it's not working. At the end of the day, we need to think in terms of what's best for us."

He adds, "These challenges make it kind of impossible for people to be happy in a relationship. But that doesn't mean we won't be happy when we can be together."

So did the other men find love? “Yeah, I know that they did. All of us found love, and at the end of filming, we were very happy. We came off the show saying what an amazing experience it was.” As for their favorite matchmaker, Patton explains that the guys bonded most with Matthew Hussey. “He knew what was going on in our heads. We could really relate to the advice that he gave the women.”

Until the winners are disclosed, there’s one woman who’s stealing the spotlight on the show, something that Patton calls “The Kari Situation.” He first dated contestant Kari Krakowski in 2006 and describes their relationship as “on-again, off-again for about two years.” Of their past, he shares, “When I date someone, it’s monogamous. Kari, though, was still emotionally involved with her ex and not quite over him. To be fair, when I wasn’t available to hang out because I was busy working, she assumed I wasn’t into her. There was just a lot of miscommunication.” Patton admits that he really cared about her and was hurt.

Related Link: [Cancelled: Why NBC’s ‘Ready for Love’ Fueled America’s Hatred](#)

Although they tried to rekindle things when he returned to the states after spending time in Dubai, they eventually called things off for good. Viewers saw how shocked he was to see Krakowski on the *Ready for Love* stage. On the most recent episode, the pair spent some one-on-one time together and gave fans a glimpse of their chemistry. “I was smitten with her. I remember all of the good parts of being with her, and it’s really hard to let go. Plus, it’s a lot easier to kiss someone you were once romantically involved with than it is to kiss strangers. There’s more history.”

Another lady who has captured our attention is Angela Zatopek, who is writing a weekly column for CupidsPulse.com about her experience on *Ready for Love*. Patton describes her as “an amazing girl.” The bachelor shares that he never makes the

first move, so it was fitting that Zatopek went in for their first kiss on their vineyard date. Only time will tell if that kiss leads to more!

It's no surprise that the most difficult part of the experience for Patton was sending the girls home in The Garden. Since these women were emotionally-invested in him from the start, he felt like he was really letting them down. "They watched videos of me, built this idea in their minds and thought I was 'the one' before the show even started filming. It was really hard to let them go."

Be sure to watch 'Ready for Love' on NBC.com. For more information about Ben follow him on Twitter [@Ben_Patton](https://twitter.com/Ben_Patton).

Ready for Love, Episode 4: Angela Zatopek Recaps Her First Kiss with Ben Patton





By

Angela Zatopek

Last week on *Ready For Love* was the first time I actually felt present in this whole experience. Obviously, none of us on this crazy journey had ever been in a situation like this one, but it took me a few weeks to really get into this process, to completely open up my heart and be ready to fall in love. After being in the bottom three with Ben saving me, I realized this method isn't "traditional" – but is there a handbook on how love goes?

I absolutely loved that our first date was at a vineyard. You couldn't find a more romantic place for a first kiss! A part of our conversation that wasn't shown was how special it was to be there with Ben on my grandmother's 101st birthday – she grew up on our family vineyards in Netuno, Italy.

Related Link: [Ben Patton Tells Us Why He's 'Ready for Love'](#)

Each week, the relationship experts gave us tips to use on our date with Ben. I must say, most of these tips were completely out of our comfort zones, but we knew we had to do them to

show we were accepting of their strategy as our matchmaker. My tip for the week was to do a bold move.

I thought so hard about how I could do a bold move at the vineyard and came up with only one conclusion. Even though Ben was already labeled a “lip slut,” Kari Krakowski and I were the only girls in the house that had yet to kiss him. I figured I had to go in for the kill. I’ve never done anything like that in my life! As I watch it back on television, I realize it wasn’t the smoothest move..but hey! I was a rookie. Although I was one of the last girls to get one-on-one time with Ben, it was worth the wait. The vineyard date was perfect.

Feelings definitely heightened this week for all of us, and you will see the result of that on tomorrow night’s episode in Vegas. Let’s just say...what happens in Vegas doesn’t stay in Vegas. It’s about to get ugly.

Watch tomorrow’s episode of ‘Ready for Love’ on NBC.com, and check back later this week’s for Angela’s recap!

Amber Holcomb Bids a Sad Farewell to the ‘American Idol’ Stage





By

Kerri Sheehan

[American Idol](#) viewers were disappointed to say goodbye to 19-year-old Texas native Amber Holcomb last night. After her elimination from the competition was announced, Holcomb broke down in tears as she belted out her last song “I Believe In You and Me,” originally sung by Whitney Houston. “Before the performance, we watched the video of memorable clips, and that always gets to me every single week. It was just a lot. It was really overwhelming.”

While her impromptu waterworks may lead some to think that the elimination blindsided the singer, Holcomb says otherwise. “They always say an Idol can feel it when it’s time, and I’m not going to lie; I honestly did feel like I was the next to go.” However, she realizes that even though the competition has reached an end for her, it’s not the end of the experience. She gets to join the other contestants for the tour this summer. “I was really sad, but at the same time, I told myself that I still get to go on tour. I’ll see them all again, so I was happy. Tickets are on sale today, by the

way!”

Related Link: [Burnell Taylor of ‘American Idol’: I “Really Like” Amber Holcomb](#)

Speaking of the connections she made during her time on *American Idol*, it seems the relationship between Holcomb and former cast-off Burnell Taylor is still brewing. Holcomb played it coy when asked about the New Orleans crooner, only saying, “We text a little bit, but we’re just really excited to go on tour together and see each other then.”

In addition to the tour, Holcomb has big plans for her future. The southern songstress believes that there is room in the industry for someone with her prowess, and she plans to keep the onstage persona she developed on the show, something that judge Nicki Minaj often praised. “My style, personally, it changes depending on my mood. I feel like, right now, there’s nobody like me, so why fix something that isn’t broken?”

The sky is the limit when it comes to her career. “I see myself in magazines, on every television channel, on Billboards, on the Grammys – all that good stuff.” She also hopes to dabble in acting and thinks *Glee* is “really relatable right now” for her. When it comes to singing, Holcomb names Minaj, Lil Wayne, Rihanna and Frank Ocean as artists she hopes to collaborate with someday.

Related Link: [Janelle Arthur Talks About Her “Incredible Journey” on ‘American Idol’](#)

As a shout-out to her fans, she exclaims, “I want to say thank you to everyone who supported me. Expect great things from me!”

To keep up with Holcomb, you can follow her [Twitter](#) or catch her on the *American Idol* [tour](#) this summer.

'The Bachelor' Sean Lowe Buys Louis Vuitton Bag for Catherine Giudici's Birthday



By

Kerri Sheehan

Reality television stud, and *The Bachelor* Sean Lowe treated celebrity love Catherine Giudici to a Louis Vuitton purse and a nice dinner for her 27th birthday. "We had a big party with family and friends last night and then tonight we're just going to go out to a nice dinner and just celebrate a little bit more," Lowe told [UsMagazine](#). Lowe realized how much

Giudici has sacrificed to move out to Los Angeles during his *Dancing With the Stars* stint and wanted to spoil her a little on her special day.

‘The Bachelor’ Sean Lowe went all out for celebrity love Catherine Giudici’s birthday. How do you make your partner’s birthday special?

Cupid’s Advice:

A significant other’s birthday is always a prime time to show them that you care. How do you show your partner how much they mean to you? Cupid has some suggestions:

1. Keep it specific: Does your other half have a certain band they love? Is there a restaurant that tickles their fancy? Maybe a favorite author is doing a book signing nearby? You can never go wrong with a heartfelt gift that shows you’re listening to their likes.

2. Spoil them: A birthday is the one-day of the year that should be all about your partner. Pull out all of the stops and make that day one they are sure to remember! Relationships and love is all about being there for the other person and showing them how much you care. Their birthday is the perfect opportunity to showcase that.

3. Do something out of the ordinary: This tip is especially helpful to those who are in a long-term relationship. Keep the excitement alive by doing something totally crazy that your partner wouldn’t expect. Skydiving, parasailing, or even throwing a surprise party are all in the realm of possibility.

Have any great ideas about how to make a birthday special? Share them with us below!

‘Ready for Love’ Stars Ernesto Arguello and Ben Patton Discuss Reality Dating



By

Andrea Surujnauth

These reality dating shows are not as simple as they look. According to Ernesto Arguello and Ben Patton from [Ready for Love](#), it actually entails a lot more heartache than television networks let on. “It is more stressful going to that garden than anything else,” Arguello tells [People](#). Both him and Patton agree that letting women go is a difficult experience. “The garden is unreal,” says Patton. “You’re essentially

breaking up with someone. You're not just saying, 'Hey, here's a rose for you. And you guys didn't get a rose,' and walk off." They also have to deal with the challenges of the kissing scenes. "It's like hearing your own voice on voicemail," says Patton.

What are some non-traditional ways to find love?

Cupid's Advice:

It's not easy to find love. Going out and meeting people is getting more and more difficult to do. What are some other ways that we can find love? Cupid has some suggestions for you:

1. Online: Some people don't have time to go out and meet people, and others may be too shy. Online dating sites are a great resource and sigles are starting to use them much more often. There are so many types of dating sites to choose from that you are bound to find someone who meets your criteria.

2. Social Media: While Facebook and social media sites are a great way to keep in contact with friends, some use it as a way to meet people and start new relationships. Technology has become such a big part in our everyday lives that meeting your future spouse on Facebook is as casual as meeting them in a coffee shop.

3. Speed dating: By attending a speed dating session, you are able to meet different people in a matter of minutes to see if they are worth going out with on a (second) date. This is helpful if you are normally too busy to be able to go out and meet people.

What are some non-traditional ways that you found love? Comment below and let us know.

Cancelled: Why NBC's "Ready For Love" Fueled America's Hatred



By

Marni Battista, Founder of Dating with Dignity

Let's face it: while Disney, RomCom's and The Bachelor have consistently fueled American women's desire to be swept off their feet by the dashing handsome, successful, and sensitive man, they are, simply put, not stupid.

As a dignity dating and relationship expert who works with thousands and thousands of single women around the globe, I

can tell you that women are, in fact, ready for love. However, just as NBC has promptly cancelled its newest reality dating show *Friday*, with the same title, women are taking a stand for their dignity and what they really want to experience when it comes to finding love.

Related Link: [Guiliana and Bill Rancic Talk About Marriage, Parenthood and Hosting NBC's New Dating Reality Show 'Ready for Love'](#)

My clients (who posted hundreds of comments in a private Facebook group on Wednesday morning, the day after *Ready for Love's* second episode aired) became disheartened by the message the show was sending to single women just like them, reinforcing the beliefs they are desperately trying to shake.

Amy posts...

...after watching last night, there was a part of me that feels as though the show reinforced some of my limiting beliefs that in order to find love you have to be America's version of perfect (two of the women were runners-up in the Miss Universe pageant).

Luckily, Amy has the benefit of being in a community of women who have drawn a line in the sand and are beginning to understand how important it is to, in Amy's words, "really know and believe in oneself to combat subtle messages the media relentlessly broadcasts that impact my thoughts."

So, does NBC's cancellation of the show as result of dismal ratings mean that they are ready to finally admit that American women no longer want to watch flawless looking women with low self-esteem throw themselves at men they don't know?

And, while having the matchmakers on the show was brilliant in that it pointed out that pretty women actually do not necessarily have any sort of advantage when it comes to

surviving in the dating jungle (FACT: when gorgeous blondes talk about farting on a first date or share that they have a list of 50 characteristics a man has to have in order to be her partner, looks become insignificant), it quite frankly isn't enough.

Related Link: [Matthew Hussey Helps Women "Get the Guy" as One of Three Coaches on NBC's 'Ready for Love'](#)

If television executives want to produce dating shows, perhaps they ought to create programming that real women want. They want advice. They want direction. They want tips and strategies they can apply now, in real life. They want to know how to love themselves even when Disney, RomCom's and *The Bachelor* say that pretty girls always finish first and that love doesn't last. They want hope. And they want inspiration.

Perhaps, it's time for something akin to *The Biggest Loser* meets *The Bachelor*, except that there aren't three men himbos whining about wanting to find their "best friend," and the women have, in fact transformed, realizing that THEY have the power to choose their partner, and that getting "rejected" means it wasn't the right match, and that they are still valuable, loving and love-able humans with or without a man in their life.

I believe it is time for a new era in the television dating arena. Perhaps my mission to help women love themselves so that they can then find someone to love is actually taking hold.

Bravo to the viewers who said "no," and thank you to NBC for listening.

As the founder of **Dating with Dignity** and with more than 25 years of personal relationship and dating experience, Marni Battista dated, was married for 17 years and divorced, and then successfully dated again in the 21st century. She has undergone professional training in dating and relationship

coaching as well as training in the Core Energy Coaching Process from the Institute of Professional Excellence in Coaching (IPEC). Marni also has extensive training as a Facilitator with the Hoffman Institute, one of the world's foremost organizations in personal development. More importantly, as a divorcee for more than five years, Marni truly understands what it feels like to be lonely and sick of wasting time on dates with men that go nowhere. A woman who is not your mother, best friend, or therapist, Marni is the professional relationship and dating expert who will stand behind you to provide love, compassion, support and honest guidance as you embark on one of the most important, fulfilling adventures in your life.

Reality TV: 'The Bachelorette' Star Arie Luyendyk, Jr. Says, "When You Stop Looking, You'll Find What You're Looking For"





By

[Whitney Baker Johnson](#)

Most women know Arie Luyendyk, Jr. from appearing on Season 8 of *The Bachelorette* with Emily Maynard, but this eligible Dutchman made headlines far before ABC's popular reality competition show.

Growing up the son of a two-time Indianapolis 500 winner and Indy speed record holder, Luyendyk initially made a name for himself in the car racing world. "I grew up at the track, so being a driver felt natural to me," he says of his career choice.

Being a driver wasn't enough, though. "Honestly, I needed a break from racing after Dan Wheldon's tragic death, so when *The Bachelorette* producers called, I thought why not! I've always been a very open and optimistic person. I went into the show with that mentality and met an amazing person."

Although he didn't win Maynard's heart, the handsome runner-up formed lifelong friendships with two of the men he strongly competed against: Sean Lowe from *The Bachelor* Season 17 and

Jef Holm, Maynard's final choice. "Sean and I still chat every now and then, and I'm really happy for him and Catherine. Jef and I have a blast hanging out – we kick it quite a bit." He adds, "You definitely grow close to the other guys. I think it's because being on the show is so crazy and hard to explain."

Related Link: [‘Bachelor’ Sean Lowe Fires Back at Rumors Pointing to Troubled Relationship](#)

When it comes to dating, he confesses that he definitely learned some important love lessons from being on the show. First, "love potions don't work!," he jokes, referring to his last date with Maynard in Curacao.

On a more serious note, his relationship advice to others would be "when you stop looking, you'll find what you're looking for." It seems like he's strongly committed to this motto because, simultaneous to our interview with him, he took to Twitter to share the same quote with his fans.

Could these words of wisdom be a result of his short-lived relationships with Courtney Robertson, *The Bachelor* Season 16 winner, and Selma Alameri, one of Lowe's eligible bachelorettes?

"Dating is more difficult now because there are some big expectations." Still, he believes that he'll find "the one" someday. "I think falling in love is rare and the way that you are with someone special is unique. Hopefully, I can meet someone who loves me and not the idea of who they think I might be."

When it comes to the right woman, he says he wants someone who is "witty, amazing and has a good sense of humor." And whenever she comes along, he'll be ready. "When the time is right, I'll know it, but you can't plan a wedding if you don't even have a girlfriend."

Related Link: [Desiree Hartsock Is the New 'Bachelorette!'](#)

So would he ever sign on to be *The Bachelor*? "I think I would if it didn't conflict with racing and if I wasn't dating anyone."

For now, though, ladies, when it comes to dating, this man is taking to slow. It seems like he's back to focusing on his career.

Earlier this month, Luyendyk returned to his racing roots, finishing fourth at the season-opening race in Phoenix. This coming Sunday, he'll be driving at The Long Beach Grand Prix in Robby Gordon's Stadium SUPER Truck Series and IndyCar's 2-Seater. "I'm super excited for the weekend. This race is the only one we have on pavement, so I feel like I have the advantage going in," he shares. "I hope the fans enjoy the race and come out to our stand-alone event at the LA Coliseum on Saturday, April 27th."

Plus, he's working towards a new show of his own, so we should be seeing the good-looking driver on the screen again soon. Cross your fingers!

For more information about Luyendyk, you can follow him on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Reality TV: 'The Bachelor' Sean Lowe Fires Back at Dating Rumors Pointing to

Trouble in His Celebrity Relationship



By

Meghan Fitzgerald

[People](#) reports that *The Bachelor* star Sean Lowe and celebrity love Catherine Giudici are still going strong despite dating rumors of a troubled celebrity relationship. Lowe, 29, told *People*, "We are happy and could not be better." Backstage at *Dancing with Stars*, Lowe also discusses the dating rumors he has recently encountered. He says, "Nobody knows anything outside of me and Catherine and the people who are closest to us." The celebrity couple is getting through these hard times together.

'The Bachelor celebrity couple Sean Lowe and Catherine Giudici have to fight off dating rumors about their relationship and

love life. How do you keep unfounded rumors from affecting your relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

It is essential to keep unfounded rumors out of your relationship. If you allow said rumors to pry themselves into your relationship, it is a possibility of suffering immensely. Although it is possible for rumors to affect your relationship and love, there are numerous ways to keep them out. Cupid has some relationship advice:

1. Communication: It is necessary to talk to your partner when there are unfounded rumors surfacing around your relationship. You and your mate both are probably not looking to have your relationship affected by some measly rumors. If you talk to your beau about these rumors going around, your relationship will not suffer. As long as you and your mate are on the same terms and aware of everything going on, you're great.

2. Eliminate: Get rid of the rumors. Of course it may be challenging to find the source, cause, and distinguish them. However, it is helpful to have them washed away if you don't want your relationship to be affected. Do not get yourself into heated debates about said rumors. Make sure you and your mate keep calm and collective, with your head high. Do not let others get under your skin because that is exactly what they're trying to do in the first place.

3. Keep busy: Keep yourself busy when rumors are around your relationship and love. Make sure people know that the rumors going around are not affecting your life. People will realize how strong you and your partner are for not allowing the rumors to hurt your relationship. Silly gossip can't get in the way of the love you and your mate have. Now go keep busy.

Have you kept rumors from affecting your relationship? Explain your experience below.

Celebrity Couple: AshLee Frazier and Brad Womack Are Dating!



By

Meghan Fitzgerald

UsMagazine.com confirms that former *Bachelor* contestants AshLee Frazier and Brad Womack are now dating. Womack split from fiancée Emily Maynard a few weeks after proposing in March of 2011. "Now, Womack, 39, and Frazier, 32, are together after initially meeting at an event in Texas," reports NYDailyNews. Frazier left the past season of *The Bachelor* with barely a word to Lowe, and Womack stated that he

“dodged a bullet” with his past relationship. Hopefully, this one is better for the couple!

What are some ways to keep past relationships from affecting your current one?

Cupid's Advice:

Keeping your past relationships from your current one is a skill you should acquire if you don't have it already. Many problems can arise if you let your past baggage interfere with your current relationship. Of course this is challenging to do, but it is necessary. Cupid has some more advice on this:

1. Comparisons: You do not, and I repeat, do not want to compare your ex to your current mate. You will get inside your head and think of all the things your ex was better than your current partner at. You should not compare your ex to anyone, especially your partner now. This is a main way to keep your past relationship from affecting your current relationship.

2. Live in the now: It is not healthy nor acceptable to look back on your past and attempt to live in it. It is over ladies and gentleman, and now time to move on and get going with your life. Live in the now, live with your current partner and ignore any temptations to think about the past relationships. The more you live in the now, the less you are to think about all your past relationships.

3. Leave baggage: Leave your baggage from the past to the side of the road as you continue on with your current relationship. Yes, it happened. However, it does not matter anymore because you are with someone new. Someone you should spend all your time on. Not spending your time on thinking “what ifs” and how things could of been different. The past is the past, and so is your baggage. Move on.

Have you kept past relationships apart for your current one?

Explain below.

‘American Idol’ Contestant Lazaro Arbos Says, “I’ve Always Been the Kind of Guy Who Wanted to Do Something Big With Myself”



By

[Whitney Baker Johnson](#)

Lazaro Arbos was a fan favorite on this season of *American Idol* from his first audition, capturing our hearts with his rendition of "Bridge Over Troubled Water." He struggles with stuttering when he speaks, but when he sings, it's not an issue. Ultimately, his talent carried him to a sixth-place finish, outlasting the other male contestants and leaving an all-female top five for the first time in the show's history.

During his time on the show, the Cuban-born singer says he got to meet a lot of amazing people who he'll be friends with for life. Plus, it helped improve both his confidence *and* his speech impediment. "It definitely gave me a stronger mindset," he explains. "My stuttering has subsided a bit, and I think it has a lot to do with me learning to control my nerves better."

Related Link: [Burnell Taylor of 'American Idol': I "Really Like" Amber Holcomb](#)

Arbos wasn't surprised that it was time to go, and he's excited for what the future holds. "I'm so far from sad. Winning the competition wasn't my main goal," he shares. "My goal was to become known and become a better performer, and I think I achieved that."

Still, saying goodbye is never easy. "The part that was the hardest was that I made such good friends with all of the remaining girls. So the thought that I wasn't going to be with them anymore on the show really got to me."

As for what comes next, Arbos says that he loves love songs and wants to record a pop album. Until the tour kicks off this summer, he's excited to return home to Naples, Florida. "The first thing I'll probably do is go to the park with my family. I miss them a lot," he says. "Plus, my old high school has a pep rally planned for me, so I'm looking forward to that."

Related Link: ['American Idol' Performer Paul Jolley Talks About His Future Plans](#)

He has no plans to step out of the spotlight either: “I would love to be on *Glee* – that’s one of my goals after the tour. I’d love to be on *Modern Family* too.”

The contestant also shares that he’s hoping to sing with icon Cher on the *American Idol* finale. “I met her at the start of the show, and we’ve been talking back-and-forth since then. She follows me on Twitter, too.”

Despite some criticism from the judges and mentor Jimmy Iovine, Arbos has no regrets. “I believe that everything happens for a reason,” he says with optimism.

“My love for performing and for music motivated me to audition for the show,” he adds. “I’ve always been the kind of guy who wanted to do something big with myself.”

You can keep up with Arbos on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). You can also catch him on this summer’s *American Idol* tour.

Is ‘The Bachelor’ Sean Lowe & Catherine Giudici’s Celebrity Love Affair in Trouble Already?





By

Meghan Fitzgerald

A source told UsMagazine.com that Seattle native Catherine Guidici has been 'bored and lonely' since she moved to L.A for fiancé, Sean Lowe. While celebrity love Lowe attends *Dancing With The Stars* practices, Guidici typically stays home and watches TV. Her friends are so-and-so with her relationship and love life with Lowe, mostly because she was previously a driven, career woman. Plus, she gave up an Amazon gig to be on *The Bachelor*.

'The Bachelor' winner Catherine Giudici needs some more attention from celebrity love Sean Lowe. What are some ways to keep the spark alive in your relationship and love life after the honeymoon phase?

Cupid's Advice:

The honeymoon phase in a relationship makes couples believe that the entirety of the marriage will be dreamy, trance-like, and full of passion. Unfortunately, this is not always the case. Once the honeymoon phase is over, your relationship and

love may differ. Fights may arise, intimacy may become rare and in between. The honeymoon phase doesn't last forever. Cupid has some advice on how to keep the spark alive:

1. Try new things: Usually in new relationships, couples tend to try new things almost constantly. After the honeymoon phase, you adapt to a certain routine. A way you live both of your lives, sticking to the same daily events. Keep the spark alive by trying new things. Go to the new bar three blocks away for Spanish tapas. Check out rock climbing, get out of your comfort zone with your mate.

2. I love you: In relationships, it is essential to tell your partner how much you love, care, and appreciate them. Especially after the honeymoon phase when arguments may arise and complications are met. Relationships and love are not typically easy, they require effort and patience. It is easier to fix and have a healthy relationship when you express your love to your partner.

3. Romance: Date nights and spontaneity are a great way to keep romance in check with your relationship. Cook your partner their favorite meal: maybe he likes rigotini and meatballs? Or pack a picnic for your mate and take them to a local park on a warm spring day. Friday date nights are also a great way to get the romance going. It's important to keep the intimate time between you and your boyfriend.

Have you kept the spark alive after your honeymoon phase? Share your experience below.

NBC's 'Ready for Love' Contestant Ben Patton Says, "When You've Fallen in Love, You Can't Deny That It Exists"



By

[Whitney Baker Johnson](#)

It's no secret that dating-based reality shows like [The Bachelor](#) and *The Bachelorette* are a huge hit among fans – even if they very rarely end with a match made in heaven (or on some Caribbean island, as is often the case). In twenty-four seasons of the ABC shows, only two couples, both from *The Bachelorette*, have made it to the altar: Trista Rehn and Ryan

Sutter and Ashley Hebert and J.P. Rosenbaum. For those of us who can't give up the hope that someone *can* find their soul mate on television, NBC introduces [Ready for Love](#), a show that enlists three talented matchmakers to help three eligible men find the one thing missing in their lives: true love. Adding credibility to the show, which premieres tonight, are three big names: Eva Longoria is an executive producer, while Bill and Giuliana Rancic are the hosts.

One of those lucky bachelors is Ben Patton, a 30-year-old international financier from Dallas. Patton moved back to Texas from Dubai in 2011 because, even though business was great overseas, he was missing balance in his life. "I didn't have a personal life that was really growing, and I wanted to move back to the states so that I could establish my roots a little more," he shares. "Truth be told, I wanted to start dating again and hopefully meet someone special."

Related Link: ['Ready for Love' Host Giuliana Rancic Says, "Having a Strong Marriage is the Greatest Example You Can Set for Your Child"](#)

As for why *now* was the time to look for love, Patton says it was mostly social awareness. Attending wedding after wedding without a date – "I've attended more weddings as a single guy than anyone else I know!" – he realized that a part of his life was missing. "Everyone I know is getting married, and all of the sudden, it started moving up on my priority list. Everything was great, but I wanted to fill that gap – and really, that gap, at the end of the day, is the most important thing."

Of course, even fans of similar shows would be skeptical of actually finding love on television. And Patton was no different. As he explains, "I wasn't home but eight months before I got a call from NBC. Eva got on the phone, and she's pretty good at selling you on an idea. She convinced me that the format was completely different than other dating shows."

Unlike *The Bachelor*, *Ready for Love* shows the process of picking the girls who will be the best fit for the three guys. Matchmakers Amber Kelleher-Andrews, Tracy McMillan and Matthew Hussey each select four compatible girls to introduce to each bachelor. "It's not about finding a bunch of cute, little girls who are going to be dramatic for the cameras," Patton says. "It's about introducing you to the other guys first; then, when women apply for the show and the matchmakers see real compatibility, that's when they decide who they want to put on the show."

He adds, "If there's any sort of competition, it's among the matchmakers to prove that they know what it takes to find a match for us – not among the guys or the girls."

During the first week, the guys talk to their twelve matches and get to know each of the ladies without ever meeting them face-to-face. Based on the chemistry that they feel, they eliminate three girls and then start the dating process with the nine remaining contestants.

Related Link: [Tracy McMillan Says 'Ready for Love' Will Change the Way America Dates](#)

Like many people, Patton had never worked with a matchmaker prior to the show. In fact, he never felt like he needed help from a professional when it came to his love life. He describes *Ready for Love* as a "learning experience" and says it definitely changed his mind. "I started to realize that it's really okay to go to someone for help and admit that you're obviously doing something wrong. At the end of the day, 90 percent of what matchmakers tell people is pretty much common sense, but it's easier to hear it from a professional than to hear it from your best friend, your girlfriend or your parents."

Even with professional help, Patton still had to believe that true love exists. It's easy to become jaded after a few failed

relationships, but this bachelor didn't let a broken heart deter him. "When you've fallen in love – and I've been in love before – you can't deny that it's there, that it exists," he says with conviction. "When you are really, absolutely in love with someone, everything takes a sideline to that relationship. You just want to make sure that person is okay because she means so much to you."

So did Patton find that all-consuming, lasts-for-a-lifetime love? While he can't reveal too much about the show's ending, he does say that he's very happy. Of course, it's been a struggle to keep his relationship under wraps for so many months. "We're always having to see each other in secret," he shares. "It's like, 'Hey, I'll meet you in Arkansas for the weekend.' We're going to towns where people won't recognize us so that we can go out to dinner together."

Filming the show last summer, he's had a lot of time to reflect on his journey, and given the outcome, he encourages people to never give up. "It's really easy to get frustrated in relationships and just throw in the towel. For a long time, that's what I did," he explains. "But you should just hang on because there's somebody out there who probably feels the same way. You guys will run into each other one day and be like, 'Where the hell have you been my whole life?'"

In other words, always be *Ready for Love*.

Don't miss the two-hour series premiere of '[Ready for Love](#)' on Tuesday, April 9th at 9/8c NBC. For more information about Ben, follow him on Twitter @Ben_Patton.

Burnell Taylor of 'American Idol': I "Really Like" Amber Holcomb



By

[Whitney Baker Johnson](#)

American Idol viewers were surprised to see New Orleans native Burnell Taylor sent home last night. Even mentor Jimmy Iovine predicted that he would be the last guy standing, saying at the start of the elimination show that Lazaro Arbos should be voted off. Taylor, though, says he “had a feeling it was going to be me this week. I was prepared – it’s always a possibility.”

Still, he’s proud of himself for his performance of Bon Jovi’s

“You Give Love a Bad Name” on Wednesday night. “I can’t believe I performed a rock song on live television,” he says with a laugh. “If somebody would’ve told me I was going to do that, I never would’ve believed them.” He adds that he “learned to roll with the punches” during the competition.

Related Link: [‘American Idol’ Performer Paul Jolley Talks About His Future Plans](#)

Of his save song, the singer says that it wasn’t about him being saved by the judges. Instead, he wanted to leave his mark. He certainly did that, ending the song by kissing fellow contestant Amber Holcomb on the cheek. Of his relationship with the singing beauty, he says, “We’re still learning about each other. We’re not moving too fast. We’re both young, but we really like each other.”

Taylor also had a big effect on judge Mariah Carey and contestant Candice Glover, who were both in tears over his departure. “I never knew how much they cared about me. To see that they were so genuine really touched me. I broke down too.” As for Carey’s advice, Taylor says, “She told me that this wasn’t the end, that I should run with it. And that’s what I’m going to do. I feel like it’s about what you do after the show.”

So what does the crooner want to do now? “I want to be a storyteller and get as personal as I can with my album. I want to be honest. That’s what I feel is missing from the industry.” When asked about comparisons to John Legend, he shares that the Grammy winner is definitely of his inspirations. “As far as my music, though, I want to be as original as I can and do something that nobody’s ever done before.”

He graciously thanks his fans – who he calls family – for their support and adds, “We shall meet again – and it’s won’t be too long.”

You can follow Taylor on [Twitter](#). Be sure to check him out on the American Idol summer tour too!

‘Ready for Love’ Host Giuliana Rancic Says, “Having a Strong Marriage is the Greatest Example You Can Set for Your Child”



By

[Whitney Baker Johnson](#)

Giuliana and Bill Rancic have a relationship that many of us admire, so it only makes sense that the couple was tapped to host NBC's upcoming dating competition show *Ready for Love*. They've opened up their personal life to fans on their own reality show *Giuliana and Bill* on the Style Network, and now, they'll be taking on a new role in front of the camera. "We absolutely love working together," Giuliana says of the experience. "We banter back and forth quite a bit, but it's all in fun."

She adds that deciding to host the show was a no brainer. "We're always traveling and working apart, so it was the perfect opportunity for us to not only be a part of such a great show with amazing people but to spend some time together while doing it."

The premise of *Ready for Love* is different than other dating shows. The three bachelors – Ben Patton, Tim Lopez and Ernesto Arguello – were each paired with twelve ladies by three matchmakers, Amber Kelleher-Andrews, Tracy McMillan and Matt Hussey. Giuliana knows firsthand that *Ready for Love* is the real deal. "By using relationship experts, the compatibility between the bachelors and each girl is really tested," she explains. "This is, by far, the most realistic dating reality show I've ever seen."

So did the Rancic's share any of their wisdom and experiences as a madly-in-love couple with the single men? "Well, the matchmakers are experts, and they don't necessarily need help from us, but we did throw in little pieces of advice to the guys here and there. You'll have to tune in to find out!"

That's not to say that the couple didn't get to know the bachelors both on and off the set – Ben and Ernesto even came to their baby shower! "We really bonded with each of them and truly rooted for them while they searched for love," the host says. "They are all such great guys."

If the men had asked for their advice, the twosome believes that communication is most important for a successful relationship. When they're in different cities for work, they're "always checking in and trying to put each other first – that's what keeps us strong."

Related Link: [Ready for Love: Three Extraordinary Men](#)

Of course, they have a new member of the family who they have to make a priority too: their seven-month-old son, Edward Duke. Even so, becoming parents hasn't changed their relationship. "If anything, it's just brought us closer. We're both so happy and grateful."

"Baby Duke is so adorable, and we're loving every minute of parenthood" the first-time mom adds. "Every 'first' he has is the greatest moment in the world."

For new parents who are struggling to fit romance into their lives, the television personalities say spending one-on-one time together is a must. "It's so important to stay connected to your spouse as a new parent," Giuliana shares. "Having a strong marriage is the greatest example you can set for your child."

Be sure to check back next Monday, April 8 for our interview with Ben Patton and Tuesday, April 9 with Matthew Hussey! Catch the premiere of Ready for Love on Tuesday, April 9th at 9/8c on NBC. For more information about Giuliana, you can follow her on [Twitter](#) and watch her on E! News.

Relationship Expert Tracy McMillan Says 'Ready for Love' Will Change the Way America Dates



By

[Whitney Baker Johnson](#)

Unlike both Matthew Hussey and Amber Kelleher-Andrews " her fellow matchmakers on NBC's upcoming reality show, [Ready for Love](#) " Tracy McMillan considers herself to be a best friend matchmaker. "I come from the loving perspective of a friend who's going to tell you the things that your real friends are afraid to say because you might get mad."

Related Link: [Matchmaker Amber Kelleher-Andrews Chats About Being 'Ready for Love'](#)

She further explains, "My philosophy isn't about getting the guy. It's about opening your heart wide enough that the guy can walk into you're life and that you're ready for him."

With that said, in today's world, there's not a "one size fits all" approach to dating. "It used to be that you'd date in your early 20s, settle down in your mid-20s and be married for the rest of your life," McMillan explains. "Now, there's a lot of confusion because people don't understand that you don't date the same as you do when you're 25 and 38."

Still, the author of *Why You're Not Married Yet: The Straight Talk You Need to Get The Relationship You Deserve* believes that it's "not necessarily harder to date." There's just more circumstances to consider when looking for love " which is where she can help.

Related Link: [Matthew Hussey Talks NBC's 'Ready for Love,' 'Get the Guy' and Being a Life Coach](#)

The matchmaker believes that *Ready for Love* is going to change the way America dates. "I don't think anybody's ever seen a show get into the process of meeting someone, dating and falling in love. There's something very riveting about it. You'll laugh; you'll cry; and you'll say, "No, she didn't! " McMillan shares. "It's just not like anything else on television."

Be sure to watch McMillan on "[Ready for Love](#)," which premieres on NBC on Tuesday, April 9th at 9/8c after "The Voice." To purchase her book "Why You're Not Married"Yet," click [here](#). For more information about the matchmaker, check out her site tracymcmillan.com or follow her on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

Relationship Matchmaker Amber Kelleher-Andrews Chats 'Ready for Love'



By

[Whitney Baker Johnson](#)

If you're anything like us, then you're anxiously awaiting for the premiere of NBC's new dating reality series, *Ready for Love*. Not only will we have a front row seat as three very eligible bachelors search for love, but we'll also be privy to the advice they receive from three renowned matchmakers, one of whom is Amber Kelleher-Andrews.

Related Link: [Matthew Hussey Talks NBC's 'Ready for Love,' 'Get the Guy' and Being a Life Coach](#)

Kelleher-Andrews comes from a family business of matchmaking. "I like to say that I'm the fly on the wall on over 40,000 dates," says the CEO of Kelleher-International. Kelleher-Andrews' mother founded the "extremely personalized professional matchmaking firm" about 27 years ago, and the *Ready for Love* star has been working there for almost two decades now.

Separating her from other matchmakers, she engages with both the man and the woman involved in each match. She listens to the criteria and perspective of both parties and goes into every detail of every date. "I learn the do's and don'ts of dating from every age range in most of the major cities of the United States as well as overseas. I find major patterns in dating based on gender, based on age and based on different communities."

Of course, different generations must consider that there are different ways to navigate the troubled waters of dating. But regardless of background, it ultimately boils down to one question: where do you find your person? That's where matchmakers can help. "When you're truly ready for love and approach an expert for guidance, you get to skip that problem because we already have your potential matches in our files."

"You're attracted to people based on your personality and what you want in life," the matchmaker adds. "I compare it to college. Like-minded people go to Harvard, and those people are very different from the students at MIT or UCLA."

Related Link: [Ready for Love: Three Extraordinary Men](#)

Adding a huge amount of credibility to *Ready for Love*, Kelleher-Andrews and her fellow matchmakers had the final say in the female contestants vying for the men's hearts. "We chose these women because we felt that they were very similar

to the bachelors. Do we know who they pick in the end? Of course not," she explains. "But we can at least bring a group of women to the stage that we feel are very compatible with them."

As for the men on *Ready for Love*, Kelleher-Andrews believes that "they already have the charm and charisma and success. They just need their person." Given the expertise of the three matchmakers, it sounds like picking out "the one" might not be so easy!

Don't miss the two-hour series premiere of '[Ready for Love](#)' on Tuesday, April 9th at 9/8c on NBC! For more information about Kelleher-Andrews, click [here](#). You can also follow her on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Matthew Hussey Talks NBC's 'Ready for Love,' 'Get the Guy' and Being a Life Coach





By

Rachael Moore and [Lori Bizzoco](#)

It's spring time now, and love is in the air. So much so, that NBC's new dating competition show, *Ready For Love*, premiering Tuesday, April 9th, is already getting tons of buzz. The innovative series, with Executive Producer Eva Longoria and hosts Giuliana and Bill Rancic, follows three eligible men looking to find their soulmates. With twelve women vying for each man's heart, three matchmakers provide their expertise and advice to guide them in their search for love.

Matthew Hussey, a life coach, speaker and new author, is the only male matchmaker on the show and admits that he has a more direct approach than his female colleagues on the show, Amber Kelleher-Andrews and Tracy McMillan. "We all come from different places," he says. 'Amber is a matchmaker; Tracy is a writer; and I am a life coach.'

Related Link: [Ready for Love: Three Extraordinary Men](#)

Hussey grew up in England and claims that he was never good with the girls, so he started observing people to try to

understand them better. He learned some techniques to help people with their confidence, and at age 17, he realized that he wanted to be a life coach. He knew it would be hard for people to take him seriously given his young age, so he started out small, coaching three people per week before moving up to five and then ten.

Originally, he set out to help men better understand general life lessons, but it wasn't long before they started asking for advice on their love lives. 'I knew coaching a room full of guys wouldn't be practical. They needed to get out there and talk to women. When doing so, some men got rejected, but others got wins.'

Related Link: [How to Behave Like a Gentleman](#)

He became very popular in the United Kingdom, coaching 10,000 guys in the span of two years and doing seminars with 300 men in attendance. With his reputation growing, Hussey was approached by many women wanting to know his secrets. 'I was terrified,' he shares. 'I knew how to work with men, but I didn't understand women. Then, it hit me: that was exactly how I could help them. I didn't need to tell women about themselves. I needed to tell women about men and why they do the things that frustrate them.'

When it comes to guiding the three bachelors on *Ready for Love*, Hussey explains that Kelleher-Andrews and McMillan use a different method. 'I was more direct because I believe in giving people tools so they aren't dependent on anyone. I'm not prepping them for dates; I'm prepping them for life," he says. 'I don't care if the women in my group end up with the guy. I care about them gaining an understanding of who they are and what they want and having the strategies they need in the real world.'

Related Link: [Why Amazing Confident Women Remain Single](#)

When speaking about the difference between his coaching

techniques in his seminars and on the show, he shares, 'In my seminars, I can't watch what happens after the women leave. For the first time, I was able to see every change that was made in this nine-week period.'

When the show airs on April 9th, not only will Hussey make his debut as a reality star, but he will also add published author to his list of credits. His new book, *Get The Guy: Learn Secrets of the Male Mind to Find the Man You Want and the Love You Deserve*, will be released from HarperCollins that same day. The book focuses on three main ideas: find the guy, attract the guy and keep the guy. With his intelligence and eye-opening words of wisdom, there's no doubt that women will quickly realize that Hussey's process truly works.

Hussey's advice boils down to the idea that 'attraction is only a snapshot of any moment of time. It's not a black-and-white thing. Just because a guy isn't attracted to you now doesn't mean he never will be. So, just like they say...timing is everything.

*Don't miss the two-hour series premiere of [Ready for Love](#) on Tuesday, April 9th at 9/8c NBC. To order a copy of Hussey's new book *Get the Guy: Learn Secrets of the Male Mind to Find the Man You Want and the Love You Deserve*, click [here](#). For more information about the life coach, check out one of his sites, [Get the Guy](#) and [Matthew Hussey](#). You can also follow him on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).*

'American Idol' Performer

Paul Jolley Talks About His Future Plans



By

[Whitney Baker Johnson](#)

Many viewers were disappointed to see Paul Jolley eliminated on last Thursday's *American Idol* episode. The sweet Southern boy from Palmersville, Tennessee, knew that it would be his final week though. "I was just so ready for it," the performer said of leaving the show. "I talked about it throughout the day. Everybody could see that I was going to be okay no matter what."

As for his future plans, Jolley hopes to record a pop country album. "I don't want to change what I feel in my heart. That's what my calling is, and that's what I need to be doing," he

shares. Of course, his dreams aren't limited to music: "I want to have my own clothing line. That was a custom shirt that we had made during my 'Eleanor Rigby' performance. I also want to act. I want to dabble in a lot of different areas, put my Paul Jolley stamp on everything."

To his fans – affectionately known as Troopers – Jolley wants to say a "huge thank you. It's a true blessing to have such loyal people that are there for me no matter what." If you want to see more of him, don't miss the *American Idol* tour this summer!

To keep up with Jolley, follow him on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#).

'Bachelorette' Reality TV Stars Ashley Hebert and J.P. Rosenbaum Speak Out About Waiting for Marriage





By Jes

sica Conigliaro

According to [People](#), the newest reality TV couple Sean Lowe and Catherine Giudici are saving sleeping together for their celebrity wedding night...unlike famous couple Ashley Hebert and her *Bachelorette* winner hubby, J.P. Rosenbaum, who chose not to wait for marriage. "Those are their own personal beliefs, and we're not going to judge them," Rosenbaum says. "We do our thing; they do their thing."

Two reality TV couples have different opinions when it comes to waiting for marriage. What do you do if you and your partner have conflicting beliefs?

Cupid's Advice:

Your boyfriend seems to have differing beliefs from you.

However, you don't want them to damage your relationship and love in any way. Cupid offers some love advice on how to work through your differences:

1. Compromise: You and your love have different religious beliefs. Your man wants to go to church, and you want to go to temple – what now? Make a compromise: Go to church with your man one week and have him come to temple with you the next. You will both appreciate each other's support.

Related Link: [Reality TV Stars Ashley Hebert and J.P. Rosenbaum Celebrate Holiday Traditions](#)

2. Try new things: Your partner has always wanted to move to a different state before settling down. You, on the other hand, have no interest in leaving. Try going on an extended vacation over the summer and travel from state to state for a few months. You never know what you will end up enjoying, so don't be afraid to try something new!

Related Link: [Famous Couple Sean Lowe and Catherine Giudici Speak Out Against the New 'Bachelorette' Twist](#)

3. Pick your battles: Your boyfriend has been dead set on getting a dog for the past few months. He has been nagging you about it, but you say no, knowing you'll end up taking care of the pet instead of him. If he continues to bug you about it, perhaps it's time to cave. He clearly won't give up until he gets his furry friend. Sometimes, you have to do things you'd rather not do – like cleaning up dog poop! – for the one you love. He'll surely take notice of your kindness and will some day return the favor.

How do you deal with conflicting beliefs between you and your partner? Share below.