

How to Prevent Yourself from Rushing into a Relationship



By April Littleton

Rushing into a new relationship is never a good idea. You don't know the person you're dating well enough for a commitment, and you'll just end up right back where you started shortly after attempting the new romance. Take a step back from the dating scene and reevaluate what you want out of a partner. Cupid has some advice:

1. Really think about your feelings: Before you put yourself into a new relationship, take some time to really think about what you want. Are your feelings for the person you're interested in real, or are you just rushing into something new

because you can't stand the thought of being alone? Some individuals jump into one relationship after another because they're not used to being by themselves.

Related: [How to Get Over the Relationship Blues](#)

2. What you're looking for: What are you looking for in a partner? Are you looking for someone who makes you laugh? How important is trust and honesty to you? How well do you really know your new significant other? In order to really get to know someone and their intentions, you need to take the necessary time to feel each other out. Don't settle for anything less than what you want. So, if your new partner doesn't fit the bill, there's no need to be in a relationship with them.

3. Keep dating: Let the person you're interested in know that you will continue to see other people, and they should do the same. Be direct about what you want. If your new honey was hoping for something a little more exclusive, then make what you want out of a serious relationship clear before you commit. Until then, continue to get to know other people and have fun being single.

Related: [Can You Be Single and Still Have a Soulmate?](#)

4. Don't worry: Don't spend every waking minute thinking about dating. Instead of going out with a potential partner every Friday night, spend some time hanging out with your girls or family members. Now is the time to really enjoy some "you" time. Get comfortable in your own skin, and realize you don't HAVE to be in a relationship with anyone until you're fully ready. When the time is right, your epic love will be waiting for you around the corner.

5. Get to know yourself: Don't lose sight of yourself. Take up some of your old hobbies, or pick up some new ones. Do things for yourself that don't involve dating. Some individuals forget who they are while in a relationship. Don't let that

happen to you. Besides, independence is a turn-on.

Related: [How Weight Can Affect Your Love Life](#)

6. No future talk: Avoid talking about any future plans with your potential honey. There shouldn't be any conversations about marriage, family, moving in together, etc. Take your relationship slow. Conversations about kids and long-term commitment might scare the other person off. Plus, you're more than likely not ready for that kind of relationship anyway.

What are some other ways to prevent yourself from rushing into a relationship? Comment below.

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Love Is In the Air





By Maria Darbenzio

Warmer weather is upon us, and as the flowers begin to bloom, so does romance. Take this time to focus on incorporating new and interesting things into your relationship. It can be as extravagant as a new vacation spot or as simple as showing support for a good cause. We pulled together these five articles from our partners to help give you some ideas:

- 1. Break away from reality:** You don't have to be a college student to go on spring break. You and your partner deserve a vacay just as much as anyone else! There are plenty of romantic getaway spots that are perfect for kick-starting this spring with your sweetheart. (GalTime.com)
- 2. Inspire your love:** Turn your typical movie night into a time to take notes and make a list of ways you can spice up your love life with the help of the classics. For instance, if you're a fan of *Dirty Dancing*, try incorporating some of those dance moves into your night – a simple yet fun way to add some excitement to your at-home date. (YourTango.com)
- 3. Get involved:** Once it warms up, there are tons of options

for walks and events that raise money for various organizations. Pick a cause that both you and your partner want to support and do it together. Not only will it give you a chance to bond, but you'll feel good about making a difference. For inspiration, check out how Bobbi Brown Cosmetics is giving back to the community. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

4. Control those allergies: No one wants to sniff and sneeze their way through a date. This spring, take control of your allergies and don't give them a chance to ruin the memories that you and your honey want to make. Take a look at how you can kiss those itchy eyes goodbye! (GalTime.com)

5. Express your love: As you're spring cleaning your house, leave little notes around for your partner, letting them know how much you love them. Don't live with your sweetheart? No problem! Sneak something sweet into their wallet or briefcase to make them smile when they find it during the day. Here's a list of other ways to share your love. (YourTango.com)

How are you going to get in the springtime spirit? Tell us in the comments below!

Date Idea: Go For A Ride





By Kristin Mattern

Spring is in the air. Take advantage of the warming weather and hit the road with your man. Head to the racetrack to enjoy the fresh air and excitement with your dearest, or get a little romantic and go for a trail ride. However you welcome the new season, you're sure to feel the love blossom.

Related Link: [5 Ways to Know if Your Relationship is More Than Just a Spring Fling](#)

Dig out your big hat and cutest sundress before heading to watch the ponies with your partner. You and your cutie can share the excitement as you watch the jockey's push their thoroughbreds to victory. Spend the extra money and get in to view the horses before each race. This way, the two of you can see the horses up close and get a sense of how each of them is going to perform. Guess which horse you think will do the best with your sweetie. Bring some brews with you to sip while you watch, or treat yourselves to a fancy meal at the track. Be sure to set a price cap so the two of you don't go overboard.

After a few hours at the racetrack, it's time to grab the reigns yourselves. You and your baby can catch up and enjoy some alone time as you trot down the trail together. If you're near a beach or shore, see if you and your honey can have a race down the beach. The two of you will love the feel of the spring wind in your hair as you speed down the coast. Whoever loses can pay for dinner!

Related Link: [Date Idea: A Day in the Hay](#)

To end your big day, head to a sports bar that plays the races. Sit back and relax with your sweetie as the two of you recount your fun day and enjoy one another's company.

Have you ever headed to the race track for a date? Tell us about it in the comments below!

How to Turn Your Spring Fling Into the Real Thing





By Rachel Sussman

Spring is officially here and love is in the air. In order for new romances to blossom this season, singles need to face the always unpredictable and often times stressful first date. Before setting a time and place, there are some important factors to consider in order to make a good first impression on a new fling based on the helpful findings from a recent report released by ChristianMingle and JDate.

The goal of any first date is to hit it off well enough to secure the coveted second date and hopefully lay the foundation for a successful, long-term relationship. But we all know there are things we can do – and things we can avoid doing – that can help our chances in any dating scenario. In the report, U.S. singles weighed in to reveal the rules of first dates when it comes to eating, drinking and general dinner etiquette, as well as the biggest turnoffs and deal breakers when it comes to courtship. Here are the top five dating rules and deal breakers needed to turn your spring fling into the real thing:

1. Keep eating habits in check – 50 percent of singles agree that the biggest faux pas when it comes to food on the first date is being a messy eater. And think twice before ordering for a date! This is the second biggest food faux pas, as 20 percent of women don't want a man ordering for her and 17 percent of men feel the same.

2. Be mindful of cocktail consumption – When it comes to drinking on a first date, the majority of singles say one to two drinks is acceptable. And if a prospective partner gets drunk on the first date, 72 percent of men would look past it and go out with her again; though it's much tougher to get a second chance with women (only 41 percent would go out with a drunk date again).

3. It's OK if the guy pays for dinner – When reaching for the bill, two-thirds of all respondents feel the man should pay for the first date. Men tend to feel stronger about this, with 69 percent saying the man should pay, and 55 percent of women agree.

4. Take a shower and quit smoking – Hygiene is a top deal breaker for both men and women, so make sure *not* to skip a shower before a date. For men, the top three dating deal breakers are hygiene (35 percent), smoking (24 percent) and weight (14 percent); and for women, it's hygiene (34 percent), unemployment (21 percent), and a tie for third between drinking habits and smoking (16 percent each).

5. Make a good impression on their friends – If a date's friends come into the equation, making a good impression is key. The majority of singles (66 percent) would break up with someone if they didn't get along with his or her friends.

While no two dates are alike, it is important to treat the above findings as a check list in order to leave a good – and lasting – impression on any date. This spring, be sure to follow these rules in order for your next first date to

hopefully become your last. Happy hunting!

Rachel Sussman is a relationship expert and licensed psychotherapist.

Hang Tough – You’ll Get Through It



By Janeen Diamond for Hope After Divorce

“When depression sets in, bring on the sugar! Right?”

I don’t know about you, but for me, the winter months are often the hardest to get through. Sometimes, it feels like all

I can do is grit my teeth and survive! The snow falls, which is great the first several times, but then it starts to get annoying. The sun rarely shines because of the inversion, and, no matter what I do, I'm freezing all the time.

Such is life. So many of the experiences we encounter remind me of the cold weather. And sometimes, we just have to hang in there and keep the faith that there's something better waiting for us when it's all said and done.

Related Link: [Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Fixing Your Relationship](#)

Maybe you're going through a divorce. Maybe you have financial pressures that are holding you back. Maybe your kids are giving you grief. But no matter what, just remember: This too shall pass. Here are a few ideas for hanging tough and coming out the other side in one piece:

Keep yourself healthy and hydrated. When depression sets in, bring on the sugar! Right? Well, try to practice moderation with the chocolate and eat more vegetables instead. You'll feel a whole lot better and may even beat the blues. I notice that, when I don't drink enough water, I start to feel run down and tired. Staying hydrated is an easy fix that we sometimes don't even think about.

Slow down a bit. Sleep a little more, and work a little less. We sometimes put a lot of pressure on ourselves to take care of things that really aren't all that important in the grand scheme of things. If you feel you need a nap, take one. If you want a day of doing nothing, do it.

Related Link: [How to Get Over the Relationship Blues](#)

Look for the positive. Winter may be rough, but the freshly fallen snow is beautiful. You may be in the throws of divorce, but soon, you'll be able to begin a new life. You may be feeling financial pressure, but you're always free to look for

a new opportunity to help you rise above it. Your kids may be causing trouble, but it's all part of discovering who they are – and one day, they will make you proud.

One thing is certain. Winter will end, and spring will begin. And there is definitely nothing more beautiful than watching the grass become green and the flowers start to blossom. I've come to realize if the grass were always green and the flowers were always in bloom, we wouldn't be nearly as grateful as we are when we can watch the transition happen right before our eyes. So hang in there. Things are about to change!

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



Janeen Diamond was a newscaster for KUTV News until 2001. Since then, she has been actively producing commercials and special programming through her company, "Your TVSpot." She has hosted several television and internet productions and has been a spokesperson for many products and companies. She authored her first book, "Save Your Marriage in 30," hoping to help families have greater success and live happier lives. She is co-creator of "Teen Impact TV," a website for high school students to give them a creative and emotional outlet. Janeen is a contributing expert for HopeAfterDivorce.org, FamilyShare.com and LAFamily.com. Follow her blog, <http://saveyourmarriagein30.blogspot.com/>.

Mandy Hale Empowers Single Women in 'I've Never Been to Vegas, But My Luggage Has'



By Brittany Stubbs

Blogger-turned-author Mandy Hale is affectionately known around the world as “The Single Woman.” With a heart to inspire single women to live their best lives without settling, she cuts to the heart of the matter with her inspirational, straight-talking, and often wildly humorous take on life and love. Her message reaches millions of women across the world every day through her blog, and with

followers from all over the world, she has made a name for herself as the voice of empowerment and sassiness for single women across the globe.

In *I've Never Been to Vegas, But My Luggage Has: Mishaps and Miracles on the Road to Happily Ever After*, Hale delivers heart-warming and hilarious stories from her life filled with love and loss, glamour and goose bumps, faith and friendship, big dreams and battle scars. She shares even her darkest moments in witty, winsome ways that make her readers not only feel her pain but also laugh with her and apply her hard-won nuggets of inspiration to their own lives. In the end, "happily ever after" rarely looks and feels the way we imagined it would, but as Hale is learning – and as we can learn along with her – it is often *better*!

CupidsPulse.com had the pleasure of interviewing the author and getting to know more about her latest book.

We love the title of your book! Can you explain why you chose it and what it means?

The title is based on a crazy experience that found me getting off a plane in Vegas and not completing the trip. At the time, it was this mortifying and awkward moment, but now, I can look back and laugh hysterically. I just found it such a great parallel for my journey and the journey of a single woman in general. We all have this idea of where we think we'll end up or where we're supposed to end up, and where we actually end up is rarely anything like that picture.

But what is so great about life is it usually turns out a million times better than what we ever would have expected. So I wanted to hit on the point that I may not have ended up where I thought I would, but I ended up where I belong. I hope that, by sharing these stories, I encourage other women and remind them that no matter where they are or how crazy things might seem, there is significance to everything. They will end

up where they're meant to.

Related Link: [Finding Your True Destiny After Losing Love](#)

Since you refer to your stories as “Mishaps and Miracles on the Road to Happily Ever After, “ we’d love to know: How do you personally define “happily ever after?”

For me, happiness is a choice. It's realizing that “happily ever after” is one unforgettable adventure at a time, not some far off destination. Single women often think their ultimate goal is to be married and ride off in the sunset with Mr. Right. I think that's great, but you don't have to wait for that to happen to find happiness in the here and now. And honestly, if you don't find happiness in the here and now, I feel that ultimately hurts your ability to eventually attract someone to share in your “happily ever after.”

You share some personal secrets and struggles in your book. Did you find reliving some of these experiences challenging?

I'll be honest, it was absolutely terrifying at moments. Writing it, re-writing it, editing it, reading it for the book tape...I definitely got to a point when I wanted to be done reliving some of the stories I share!

But in the same respect, I found it helpful. Knowing some significant people from my past are basically reading my diary is really scary; I've compared it to standing naked in Times Square. But in order to make an impact, I believe you have to go to those places. If even one person is encouraged to make a positive change based on something I went through, it will be totally worth it to me.

Have you ever found dating difficult because of what you write about for a living?

I'm actually struggling through this right now! It's hard to know sometimes if a guy is just totally freaked out about what

I do or if he's just not that into me. Dating in a normal situation is challenging enough, so dating in the situation I'm in makes it even more difficult. I feel like men often think I've essentially branded myself "single" for life, but unless you see me walking around dressed as a nun, I'm not planning on staying single forever. I would love to be married and have a family one day, but my heart will always be to inspire single women, and that's why the blog is called the "The Single Woman."

Related Link: [Is He In It For the Long Haul?](#)

So what's the best advice you could give a single woman looking for love?

First of all, make sure you're open to love. I encourage all women to be confident, strong, and independent, but I also think that in order to find love, you have to break down some of your walls and be vulnerable at times. Single women often get in the habit of doing everything and taking care of everything themselves, and it's important to step back and remember that you don't have to rule the world by yourself. You can let your guard down every once in a while and invite someone else in.

That being said, I think it's also important for single women to have a clear sense of self. Be aware of your boundaries and standards, and don't apologize for them. You should never sacrifice who you are to cater to someone's issues or insecurities.

Last but definitely not least, never settle. I feel like women reach a certain age and get so frantic if they're not married; they feel like they should settle for whatever guy is standing in front of them or risk being alone forever. This is so not the case! When you settle for someone out of fear, you'll eventually regret it. Forever is a long time, and investing your heart, time, and life into a relationship you're not 100

percent about is never a good choice.

*To learn more about Hale, check out her blog, <http://thesinglewoman.net/category/blog/>. Be sure to purchase your copy of *I've Never Been to Vegas, But My Luggage Has* today!*

Dating with Dogs: Pet Responsibilities



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

To say that getting a dog is a huge responsibility is an understatement. From feeding, walking, and picking up after

your furry friend to making sure he's up-to-date on his vaccines and well groomed (with Warren London products, I hope!), he demands a lot of attention. Before rushing into picking out a pet, there are a lot of things to think about and to discuss as a family.

Related Link: [What to Discuss Before Getting a Pet Together](#)

Talking about how you plan to divide up responsibilities is extremely important in advance of getting a pup. You and your family members might have busy work and school schedules. Who will watch the dog? How many hours each day will he be alone?

One possibility to discuss is dropping the dog off at a doggy daycare center. Once you've decided on daycare, you should consider the expense and discuss who will drop off and pick up your pooch.

Planning a walking and feeding schedule is also extremely important. If you want to bring a young puppy home, the first six to ten months can be very intense – accidents on your antique rug or brand new bed and chewing on the legs of your coffee table or favorite pair of shoes are common. The only way your dog will learn is to be constantly reminded and walked or let outside whenever needed. To make it easier, involve all of your family members and decide who will do each job.

It's no secret that kids love dogs and often beg their parents for a new puppy. The fun ends once everyone realizes how much work it is! Make sure your children understand the process of housebreaking, grooming, and cleaning up after a dog before bringing a new family member home.

Once the work level is understood, raising a pet will be a rewarding experience and will teach your children responsibility – after all, it's up to you and your family to keep your new pal both healthy and happy! Having a dog is not

all fun and games, but as long as your family understands the work it entails, great memories will be made.

Related Link: [Picking Out a Pet](#)

For this month's celebrity Q&A, I spoke with Steve Cuccio, who appeared on *Charles in Charge*, became good friends with Scott Baio, and later appeared on the VH1 show *Scott Baio is 45 and Single*. Known as The Cooch, he was usually the voice of reason for Scott and his friends as they tried to figure out why he couldn't settle down and get married.



Q: What kind of dog do you have now?

A: A King Charles Spaniel.

Q: Did you grow up with dogs? If so, what kind?

A: I grew up with a beagle-cocker mix named Penny.

Q: How did you and your wife decide the rules on training your dog? Did you have different views, or was this a non-issue?

A: We sent our King Charles Spaniel to puppy school at about four months old. It helped her learn simple commands and introduced her to other dog's butts. We never feed her table food; she is actually on a strict diet from a bout with pancreatitis. She gets fresh Bison meat from Whole Foods,

while I eat a microwaved dinner!

Q: Do you feel that your dog has a positive effect on your relationship with your wife and kids?

A: She is very loving and has had a positive effect on my family.

Q: You got your dog when your daughters were around their middle school years. Did your family set up job responsibilities for your kids prior to getting a dog?

A: The kids said they would walk her and feed her, but in reality, they just play with her and enjoy her.

Q: Does your family use Warren London's easy to use at home dog spa products to pamper your pup? Is this a fun bonding time for your family?

A: We use Warren London products, and she loves them, especially her nail polish.

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

Signs Your Crush Is Into You





By April Littleton

You're crushing hard on someone, but you're not sure if they feel the same way about you. Could you be misreading the signs? Or does your future boo have the same feelings as you do? To help you out, Cupid came up with a few tips:

1. Attentive: Your crush pays attention to you – and only you. If you don't see your potential honey showing interest in anyone else, then he might be ready to make things official with you. Think back on some of the conversations the two of you have had together. Does he show curiosity about your life? What kind of questions does he ask you? He's into you if the two of you can discuss certain topics and situations on a deeper level.

2. His friends know about you: Your boo has told all of his friends about you. Most people don't disclose information about their love life to close friends and family unless it's getting serious. Also, your honey is dropping major hints if you actually meet some of the gang.

Related: [How Weight Can Affect Your Love Life](#)

3. Showers you with compliments: If your crush is constantly reminding you of how great you look, how funny you are, etc, he feels the same way you do. When a guy says something positive about you, he usually means it. Don't over think it. Just thank him and believe what he says. After all, it's rare to find someone who appreciates the little things about another person.

4. He's around often: Wherever you are, your crush isn't too far behind. Your guy is into you if he is constantly asking you out on dates. Does he check in on you via text when the two of you aren't together? How often do you spend time with him? When your new man chooses to be around you even when he doesn't have to be, that's a sign he's interested in taking the relationship a little further.

Related: [The Pros and Cons of a Whirlwind Romance](#)

5. Surprises: Most people don't go out of there way to make someone smile unless they enjoy their company. If your crush surprises you with flowers or other sweet items, he's trying to show you his feelings without actually saying the words.

6. Body language: How close do the two of you get in a private setting? Do you hold hands? Are the hugs he gives you merely platonic, or does the body contact feel a bit more intimate? You can tell a lot about how a person feels based on their body language. Don't let a romantic opportunity pass you by because you're missing the signs.

What are some other signs your crush is into you? Comment below.

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Fixing Your Relationship



By Maria Darbenzio

Every couple goes through trying times. It's how you handle these situations that can make or break a relationship. The next time you and your honey hit a rough patch, take a look at these five articles from our partners to help get you back on course:

1. Know your feelings: Are you beginning to feel unsure about your true emotions? Before trying to mend your relationship, take time to think if that's really what you want to do, if you see your partner in your future. To help distinguish between love, lust, and infatuation, read this great article. (YourTango.com)

2. Communicate: Nothing will be accomplished if you don't talk about your issues. Communication is easily one of the most important aspects of a healthy and thriving partnership. This idea holds true not only for romantic relationships but for friendships and family relations as well. Check out some of these talking points to get things moving in the right direction. (YourTango.com)

3. Don't push him away: It's tempting to want to "fix" your significant other and mold them into who you think they should be. What you might not realize, though, is that you're actually hurting your relationship more than helping it. Appreciate your partner for who they are. (GalTime.com)

4. Recognize your bad habits: We all have annoying habits, and some of those behaviors may cause your beau to see you in a bad light. Being obsessive or too needy can instantly set off a red flag for him. Tone it down! Check out this article to see what other actions might make your guy want to run. (GalTime.com)

5. Plan a date night: We all know that having an established date night can strengthen your relationship – so start planning! Set up a routine and stick to it. If you're both free on Thursday nights, use that time to watch movies or go out for a nice dinner. If you're married with a children, hire a babysitter for the night and hit the town. Take a second to read how former *Entertainment Tonight* host Julie Moran looks forward to date night. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

What are some ways to fix your relationship? Tell us in the comments below!

Date Idea: Light Up the Night



By Kristin Mattern

Kick start the spark of love this weekend by taking your sweetie to see a laser light show and to play some laser tag. Keep the electric feel going by hitting up a club with your cutie and getting down on the dance floor as the lights flash and the disco ball twirls. You're sure to light up each other's world as the two of you dance the night away on this high amplitude powered date!

Related Link: [Date Idea: Dance the Night Away](#)

Light shows are a unique sight to see. Find one near you and watch as the professionals light up the night and the lasers dance to make creatures come to life from thin air. Snuggle up next to your honey while you take in the show. If it's an

outside affair, be sure to bring a blanket to sit on and one to wrap around each other. You'll both enjoy being cuddled close while viewing the performance. Share a kiss beneath the warm electric glow.

To keep the fun going, head over to a laser tag arcade after the show and suit up for some friendly competition. Play on the same team and rendezvous for a thrilling moment of stolen intimacy as you strategize your next move. Feel the adrenaline pumping and evade other players together. Or duke it out as you run around in the dimly lit maze and zap each other to see who is the master of the laser tag.

Related Link: [Date Idea: Arcade Game Night](#)

With all that wattage running through your veins, the two of you are sure to keep the energy pumping as you head out to a nightclub. Show off your dance moves and dip and sway beneath the flutter of neon lights. Get lost together as the fog machine and strobe lights pulse to the electronica beat. The two of you are sure to feel the tingle of love after this light-filled date!

Have you ever gone electric with your sweetie? Share in the comments below!

**‘Blood, Sweat and Heels’
Reality TV Star Brie**

Bythewood Says, “I Don’t Know How to Be Anyone Other Than Me”



Interview by [Lori Bizzoco](#). Video by Rob O’Haire.

CupidsPulse.com Executive Editor Lori Bizzoco recently met up with *Blood, Sweat and Heels* reality TV star Brie Bythewood at the New Yorker Suite at the Carlton hotel, located at 88 Madison Avenue between 28th and 29th. The gorgeous 1,050 square foot penthouse includes a separate bedroom and living spaces with beautiful decor, as shown in the celebrity video interview above.

Related Link: [Blair Late from Bravo’s ‘Newlyweds’ Chats About Divorce and Gay Marriage](#)

“I think we have a really great platform for a show,” Bythewood said of Bravo’s popular reality show. “We have an interesting and unique group of women. Whatever the formula, it worked, and it’s been a success!”

Celebrity Video Interview with Reality TV Star Brie Bythewood

Given her crazy schedule, we had to ask: How does she manage it all? “In terms of balancing my relationship and love life with work and the show and everything that comes with it, I would be lying to say it’s easy – because it’s not,” she explains. “It’s challenging. It varies day to day.” For her, though, her job is her number one focus. “That’s always my priority – my work – because that provides me with the life I’m able to lead.”

Yes, that’s right – Bythewood is in a very happy relationship! While she stayed mum on details about the lucky guy, she divulged that they’ve known each other for over a decade and that she believes that best relationships are built on strong friendships. As for whether or not he’ll be on future episodes of the reality TV show, we’ll just have to wait and see. “I wonder that too! I don’t know. I’ll have to see if I can talk him up to actually making an appearance,” she reveals in our celebrity video interview.

Related Link: [Tabatha Coffey Says It’s Important to “Connect and Continue to Get to Know Your Partner”](#)

Having finished filming the first season last June (the finale aired this past Sunday, Mar. 16), the real estate mogul shares that she’s had time “to make amends of sorts” with the other cast members (Mica included) and cites Demetria and Geneva as her closest friends on the show. Of this Sunday’s reunion episode, she says, “It’s as true to this season as it can be. There are ups and downs, but at the end of the day, I think we

can all survive together.”

Be sure to tune in for the Blood, Sweat and Heels reunion show on Sunday, March 23rd on Bravo at 9/8c. You can follow Bythewood on Twitter @briebythewood. For more information about the Carlton hotel, check them out on Twitter @thecarltonny and www.facebook.com/TheCarltonHotel.

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

Get Ready to Enter a ‘Divergent’ World



By April Littleton

Based on the best-selling book series by Veronica Roth, *Divergent* is set in a world where people are divided based on the human virtues they acquire. Tris Pris (played by Shailene Woodley) discovers she is a Divergent, which means she will never fit into any social group. Shortly after her discovery, she finds out the faction leader (played by Kate Winslet) is set on destroying all Divergents. With the help of Four (played by Theo James), Tris must find out the truth about who she is before it's too late to save her kind.

strong>Should you see it:

Although Shailene Woodley plays a completely different role in this film, *The Secret Life of the American Teenager* fans should go to their local theater and support their favorite actress. *Divergent* is an action-packed thriller, so if you're into movies filled with excitement this might be your best bet for the weekend.

Who to take:

Take your significant other, family or friends out to see this film with you. However, anyone who can't sit still for long periods of time might want to sit this one out – this movie runs for two hours and 23 minutes.

Related: [Ways to Help Single Friends Find a Partner](#)

What are some ways to fit in with your loved ones when you're feeling singled out?

Cupid's Advice:

When you're the "black sheep" of the family and the oddball out of all your friends, being around your loved ones for long periods of time can be uncomfortable. They might act different

around you, or maybe you just don't feel like you belong at all. Cupid has some ways for you to overcome this:

1. Find common ground: Find something you and your loved ones have in common. Maybe you're interested in similar hobbies. All it takes for you and your family and friends to get along is a little communication. A conversation might be the last thing on your mind right now, but once you make the effort, you'll see a drastic improvement in your relationships. All you have to do is try.

2. Explain how you feel: Explain how you're feeling to your family and friends. There is a possibility they don't even realize they're making you feel so left out in everything. Don't keep your feelings bottled up inside, and don't shy away from your loved ones just because you don't think they will understand how you feel.

Related: [Girl's Night Movie Pick of the Week: 'The Single Moms Club'](#)

3. Stand up for yourself: If what your loved ones are so against is something you're not willing to change, stand up for yourself. Regardless of their opinion, they should love you for who you are. Yes, it might take them some time to adjust to the "new you," but they will if you give them no other option.

What are some other ways to fit in with your loved ones when you're feeling singled out? Comment below.

How to Get Over the Relationship Blues



By April Littleton

When a relationship goes sour, sometimes it's hard to pick up the pieces and move on. You can be sad for days, weeks and even months. Don't let the relationship blues get the best of you. Cupid is here to help:

- 1. Support system:** The easiest and fastest way to get over the relationship blues is by interacting with another person. Talk to your family and friends about the feelings you're going through. The more natural thing to do is to avoid people, but your problems won't go away if you don't talk about them.
- 2. Get back to normal:** Get out of bed and live your life. Go

back to work. Go out with some friends. Think about getting active at your local gym. The quicker you're back on your feet, the sooner you'll start to feel like your old self again.

Related: [Can You Be Single and Still Have a Soulmate?](#)

3. Laugh: The best cure for a broken heart is laughter. When you're feeling down, pop in your favorite comedy movie or read a funny book. Rather than focus on all of the negative aspects of your love life, think about all of the things you have to smile about.

4. Don't give up: Don't give up at the first sign of trouble. Your last relationship might not have worked out, but you'll have so many other opportunities for love in the near future. Don't write off every new individual you meet. At the same time, don't start up a new romance right away either. Before you put your heart back on the line again, take the time to get back to loving yourself first.

Related: [How Weight Can Affect Your Love Life](#)

5. Let it go: You won't be able to move on with your life if you're constantly stuck in the past. You learn to let go of your ex by relieving yourself of any old feelings you might still have lingering. If you don't feel like you received the right closure, let your former flame know and have that final talk. Otherwise, stop thinking about them. Guaranteed they let you go a long time ago – especially if they're the one who called it quits in the first place.

6. Try something new: Pick up a new hobby, or change your hairstyle. Many people find that switching things up a little helps them get over any problems they have going on. You don't have to try anything too dramatic. However, it won't hurt to try short hair if you've been rocking long locks since you can remember. You could also do something a little more low-key, like a simple wardrobe change.

Related: [The Pros and Cons of a Whirlwind Romance](#)

7. Music: Music is the key to the soul – at least for some people anyway. Listen to a song that would describe exactly how you're feeling. If you play yourself, write your own lyrics and come up with your own melody. Music is a great way to express creativity and how you're feeling.

How did you get over the relationship blues? Share your experience below.

Celebrity Interview: 'DWTS' Contestant Candace Cameron Bure Says "Dance Parties" Have Always Been Her Favorite Family Activity!





By [Whitney Johnson](#)

Earlier this month, when *Good Morning America* announced the line-up for season 18 of *Dancing with the Stars*, *Full House* fans were excited to see Candace Cameron Bure back in the spotlight. And she's just as thrilled to be a part of the cast: "I've always been a fan of the show. Plus, this is probably the most excited I've seen my family get over something that I'm doing!" she shares in our celebrity interview.

Candace Cameron Bure Opens Up About Her Family and New Book in Celebrity Interview

Daughter Natasha was particularly happy about her mom's new role. "She was just freaking out," the star says with a laugh. "She wanted to know all about the other celebrities on the show. She's been coming with me to my weekend rehearsals too."

Once her sons Maksim and Lev met her partner, two-time

champion Mark Ballas, they got into it too. "They just thought he was so cool," she reveals. Viewers can expect to see her kids as well as her husband Valeri in the audience cheering her on each week.

Related Link: [Mark Ballas and Ex Pia Toscano Reunite at Show](#)

Cameron Bure has certainly been keeping busy, both on and off the small screen. Most recently, the *New York Times* best-selling author published her second book, *Balancing It All: My Story of Juggling Priorities and Purpose*. As for how she manages the never-ending juggling act of being a wife, celebrity mom, actress, and writer, "it's about big picture prioritizing and realizing what's most important in your life. You have to make sure that your top three priorities really stay in place."

She adds, "For me, it's God and family and then my work and social life and all of the rest of the stuff in between. But if God and family aren't in that first and second position, everything else in my life really does become unbalanced."

DWTS Star on Her Celebrity Marriage

Of course, her husband plays a significant role in helping her hold everything together. "He's an incredibly-involved father to our children and a supportive partner to me. Our lives are really stressful, yet our family is our priority," she shares about her [celebrity marriage](#). "He's just a wonderful man, and I feel really blessed to have him."

The famous couple, who married when they were only 20 years old, first connected over their similar backgrounds. "I lived a very full life before then, as had my husband. We both had been working children: He was playing hockey, and I had been acting since I was five," she explains in our celebrity interview. "We were both very ready to get married and start a family."

Related Link: [Are You Too Young for Marriage?](#)

As for what keeps their 17-year celebrity marriage so strong, the blonde simply states, "Common values and love for one another are the main two things. "

For other couples trying to make the most of their union, she stresses the importance of building up your partner to become who they're meant to be. "When you take the focus off of yourself and focus on how you can help your spouse be better, that's when your marriage will become better," the *DWTS* contestant explains.

With her three kids getting older, it's no surprise that her relationship with them is always changing. "It's really fun to see the adults they're becoming. We're having more mature conversations, and I love the stage that we're in," she shares. "I have an open relationship with them, and nothing is off limits."

That includes everything from conversations about "awkward, adult topics" to family dance parties. "It's one of our favorite things to do together. We turn off the lights, put the strobe lights on, and just crank the electronic music," she divulges. "We have a blast!" While she has no professional dance experience, she loves being the first one on the dance floor at weddings and parties.

Related Link: ['Full House' Actress Candace Cameron Bure Talks Motherhood](#)

Cameron Bure and Ballas have been working on a contemporary dance for tonight's *Dancing with the Stars* premiere. "I have a lot of bruises all over my body, so I'm falling down a lot," the author shares about their routine. "I'm a fairly athletic person, so I asked Mark to incorporate that into our dance. We have some lifts, which will be fun."

Of her future on the show, she reveals that she really wants

to do the Viennese Waltz. “It’s just so classical and beautiful.” She’s dreading those “dances that have a ton of footwork” but adds that “Mark actually thinks I’ll be pretty good at it. It’s such complicated choreography. Those are the ones that make me nervous.”

When it comes to her competition, she’s seen *Big Time Rush* star James Maslow rehearse and says he’s fabulous. Tonight, though, she’s most looking forward to seeing Paralympic snowboarder Amy Purdy dance. “I think a lot of people are excited to watch her. We’re just curious to see how she’s going to move to all of those steps,” she says. “When I’m feeling slightly challenged, I immediately think of her and think, ‘What am I complaining about? I have two feet.’”

Follow Cameron Bure on Twitter @candacecbure and tweet your support with #DJCandyBall. Be sure to tune in for tonight’s premiere of Dancing with the Stars on ABC at 8/7c.

Cupid’s Weekly Round-Up: Building a Bucket List





By Maria Darbenzio

If you haven't already, now is the time to build a bucket list. Not only is it a great opportunity to write down your hopes and dreams, but it can also be a good tool to help couples bond. Check out these five articles from our partners for some inspiration:

1. Travel: Why stay in your hometown when there are unlimited possibilities beyond your backyard? Make a list of places that you've always wanted to visit and refer back to it when you need a break from your everyday routine. It can be to a fishing hole that's 20 minutes down the road or a city adventure on the other side of the country. Check out this article to help fulfill your wanderlust. (YourTango.com)

2. Try something new: If you've always wanted to be a vegetarian (even if only for a week or two), try suggesting that your partner do it with you. You can support each other and help one another through the tough spots (like that Sunday morning craving for bacon). Who knows, maybe you'll even decide that this lifestyle works for you. After all, there are many benefits to leading a vegetarian life. (YourTango.com)

3. Change it up: Everyone wants to change something about themselves at one point or another, and it doesn't have to be drastic to make a noticeable difference. Start off small and switch your hair color! Check out these latest celebrity hair color trends for ideas. (GalTime.com)

4. Grow a garden: Gardens are a great way to dive into a new hobby and enjoy healthier, fresher foods. Planting can be an awesome bonding experience for couples or, if you have children, for families. Everyone can help plant seeds and watch the plants spring up from the dirt. For tips on growing your own delicious foods, look no further than this post. (GalTime.com)

5. Get inspired with a celebrity bucket list: Heidi Klum tries to live her bucket list each and every day, and she's always adding activities to it that she can do with her kids. Want to know how she does it? Click through to read what she had to say! (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

Tell us what's on your bucket list in the comments below!

Date Idea: Bar Crawl Party!





By Kristin Mattern

What would St. Patrick's Day be without a bar crawl? Grab your leprechaun love and something green – because on St. Patty's Day, everyone is a little Irish! Make a day of it and start the morning off by viewing a parade with your sweetie. Then head over to the local strip to tour the bars. Once you and your cutie are tired of the bar scene, head back home to keep the party going with your friends. The two of you are sure to strike a pot of gold with this fun date idea!

Related Link: [First Date Outfit Ideas: Dinner and Drinks](#)

Many towns have their own St. Patty's Parade, but if your's doesn't, look up parades in cities nearest you. In Chicago, they even dye the river green for the occasion! What a sight to see. If you're in New Orleans, you might just get a kiss or set of beads from a green-costumed parade goer. Set out for adventure with your love as the two of you get to see bagpipers, leprechauns, all manner of floats, and, of course, men in kilts. Get really decked out with shamrock necklaces and "Kiss me, I'm Irish" shirts. It's the perfect excuse to plant one on your honey as you watch the parade!

After all the floats have made their way to the end of the parade, get your babe and friends together for a bar crawl. Some cities have guided tours you have to book ahead of time. Visit PubCrawls.com to find one in a city near you. The advantage to booking a pub crawl is you and your group are guided around a pre-determined route, don't have to pay covers, and sometimes get one free drink included in the price of the tour. Also, you might be able to avoid some of the longer lines.

Related Link: [How to Redeem Yourself If You Get Drunk On a First Date](#)

However, if you like to fly by the seat of your pants and the luck of the Irish is on your side, plan your own bar crawl ahead of time. Map out your route so you know where you and your cutie are headed. You might even want to call ahead so you know if the bars have covers or if they are only open to tours that day. Then go wild and drink some green beer in honor of St. Patrick! Just make sure someone is the designated driver or you have plans to ride public transportation home.

When you and your crew have sampled all the Irish Car Bombs and Guinness you can stomach, head back home to keep the party going. Play traditional Irish melodies at home, or toss on the Dropkick Murphy's or Flogging Molly to reach your inner Irish Rocker. You and your partner can host an Irish dinner party by serving up some Corn Beef and Cabbage, easy to make in a crock-pot, and provide green cupcakes and other green-dyed goodies for dessert. Or serve up a traditional Irish Soda bread. Make Irish Coffee to compliment your delicious end to your Bar Crawl Party date with your honey.

Erin go bragh to you and your partner on this fun St. Patrick's Day date!

What are your St. Patrick's Day plans? Tell us in the comments below!

What Now? Transitioning From Married to Single



By Patricia Bubash for [Hope After Divorce](#)

“The marriage of Harold Ray Mann and Patricia Mann is now dissolved.” Hearing these words, I didn’t understand how this new status – single – would change my life, a life where I previously had checked “married” on all forms. So what was my future and the future of my daughters in our now one-parent household? “What now?” were the words in my mind that I never verbalized.

The process of our divorce had taken almost two years, and

now, it was over. The time, emotions, and energy of finalizing the end of a fifteen-year union was also over, and all I could think was “what now?” What was the future to bring? Was I going to be able to continue living in my house? Would I be financially stable? Would my daughters emotionally survive their parents’ divorce? Who would continue to be my friends now that I wasn’t part of a twosome? Would my parents, who married for life, be able to accept the divorce of their eldest child? And the big one: Would I ever find love again?

Paula Patton may be asking herself the same questions since recently separating from her longtime love and husband, Robin Thicke. Marriage is hard. Looking at the possibility of divorce is hard as well, especially when children are involved. The divorce process can take a long time from beginning to end, but maybe Patton and Thicke can work through their issues to rebuild their marriage and give their child the chance to live with them both together.

Related Link: [Robin Thicke Takes Son to Disneyland Before Split with Wife](#)

The possibility of divorce during the last three years of my own fifteen-year marriage had been a reality for me. I had collected several college hours, and a month before our divorce, I finished my program, receiving a diploma in education. No job, but a diploma, three wonderful daughters, and good friends. I was the only divorced person in our neighborhood, but luckily for me, my neighbors were very supportive of my single-parent status.

Social media and networking wasn’t developed at the time. I was a desperate single mom needing work. But...there was the grapevine! Friends called friends and co-workers, and within a month, I had a job. Life flowed into a routine of working, driving kids to their events, attending church, shopping, and taking care of a house – all the normal activities, minus one adult. But it was okay. “What now?” had become a faded

thought. I was living the “now,” and it was going well.

Transitioning from married to single life can be stressful, difficult, frustrating, disappointing, and even exciting. Yes, all of these emotions are felt as you reinvent yourself and your family composition, making the changes that are necessary as you leave married status behind you.

Related Link: [Did Robin Thicke and Paula Patton's Body Language Indicate A Breakup Was Coming?](#)

Even exciting? How can that be? Because change of any kind, no matter how painful it might be, is also exciting – *you* are in charge of making this new life just as you want it to be. How you choose to acclimate to your new status, how you choose to view the experience of your previous married life is all your's to decide. You can look at those years as wasted, or you can look at them as time spent learning about love, how to love, what's really important in a relationship, and what you want out of the next relationship. And you are better equipped, more knowledgeable, and more mature for the next time love comes your way.

To those who are experiencing the end of a marriage and asking “What now?”...breathe, breathe, breathe. Live each day fully and notice all the positives around you. Focus on the now, enjoying the moment. Reach out and make new friends. Join Parents Without Partners, a singles group, or other positive support groups in your community. Be open to new friends or a new love. Open yourself to the possibilities of what's to come – the joy of life – as someone who has experienced love and will again, when the time is right.

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



Patricia Bubash received her M.Ed. in Counseling from the University of Missouri, St. Louis. Working with students and families has been her true calling for over thirty years. For more than twenty years she has presented workshops at the community college on a variety of topics relating to parenting issues, self-esteem and issues relative to divorce. Patricia is a Licensed Professional Counselor in the state of Missouri and, a Stephen Minister. She submits a variety of articles related to relationships, marriage and divorce to several internet sites, and, frequently, is interviewed on internet radio stations. Volunteerism, writing and family are most significant in her life. Patricia writes for DivorceSupportCenter.com, HopeAfterDivorce.org, CupidPulse.com, andFamilyShare.com. She can be reached at patriciathecounselor@successfulesecondmarriages.com. Follow Patricia on www.facebook.com/patriciathecounselor.

‘Marry Smart’ Author Susan Patton Wants Young Women to “Plan Ahead For Their

Happiness”



Interview by [Whitney Johnson](#). Written by Liz Kim.

Maybe it's the native New Yorker in her, but newly-minted author Susan Patton is not afraid to tell it like it is. Although she is first and foremost a human resources consultant and an executive coach, she is perhaps best known for a letter she wrote to *The Daily Princetonian*, the newspaper of her alma mater, in March 2013.

Her note advised Princeton's young female students to find their husbands while at school rather than dating men post-college who probably won't be of the same standard. She also suggested that female students dedicate less energy solely to advancing their careers and more towards finding a good mate and preparing for children. Naturally, the responses were visceral and immediate. The sheer amount of comments not only

shut down Princeton's website, but word quickly spread and soon, Patton was on every talk show imaginable defending her words.

Here, she talks to CupidsPulse.com about her controversial letter and new book *Marry Smart: Advice for Finding THE ONE*, which was released yesterday.

What motivated you to become vocal about the current state of young women and write your letter and then your book *Marry Smart*?

It's become so politically incorrect to suggest to our young women that embracing traditional roles is wonderful. I can't really explain it because I don't understand it myself. But certainly the women's movement has become so extreme and so vitriolic in their message of women being identical to men, that they don't need men, that they can do it alone – but none of that is true. Instead of empowering women, it's become is sort of a bullying organization that is pushing women to want what *they* want for these women, not necessarily what women want for themselves.

What's empowering for any woman is to be with a man in a committed relationship who adores her, who values her and treasures her and worships her. *That's* empowering. Sleeping with a different man every night who you wouldn't even want to have a cup of coffee with isn't empowering.

I think *Marry Smart* is absolutely vital for any young woman who is thinking about how to best plan for her own personal happiness. I think it's a book that will help young women who are interested in being a wife and mother.

Related Link: [Are You Too Young For Marriage?](#)

Do you think your advice applies to women across the board or only for women who attend universities like Princeton?

The reason why I initially wrote this letter to the women in Princeton is because it's my alma mater, and I feel close to the university. I wanted to warn the undergraduates to not let this happen to them, to not be so all consumed with their careers that you get yourself to a point where you're in your mid to late 30s and realize that you have missed your opportunity to be married and have children. And sadly for many of them, they do.

My letter applies to smart women everywhere. You have to plan for your happiness with at least the same commitment and dedication as you're planning for your professional success. In fact, I think you have to invest more effort and energy in planning for your personal happiness because you can make up lost time at work, but you can't make up lost time if you've missed your opportunity to have children.

What would you say to women who don't want marriage and kids in their 20s and instead want to focus on their careers?

I think that's wonderful if that's what they truly want. I'm certainly not saying that you shouldn't pursue a career; I've always had a career – many careers, in fact. I'm not suggesting that women focus only on their personal happiness. What I am saying is that, if you're a young woman and you know you want children in a traditional marriage, you have to plan for it.

If you don't want to get married or don't want children, then this advice isn't for you. I'm not critical of a woman who chooses career and only career.

Do you think the attitudes of male undergraduates toward marriage have changed as much as those of female undergrads?

I think, in college, it's hard for anybody to really think about marriage because of the workload and classes, but I think that young men do have marriage in the back of their minds. Then again, my concern isn't really for the guys

because if they don't find the women of their dreams in their 20s, it's not like they missed any opportunity. But a woman who is in her late 30s or early 40s has a very different story. If that woman hasn't found a man yet and hasn't had babies yet, she pretty much knows that that ship has sailed.

Related Link: [Is Priscilla Presley Waving the Flag for Older Women?](#)

Readers might misinterpret your advice on looking for love in college while there are the greatest number of single men. Do you think it's ever too late to find somebody?

Different groups will misinterpret my words for their own purposes. But how could you argue with the idea that young women should plan for their personal happiness? Who argues with that? Of course, we should encourage young women to plan for their happiness! I think I've been misinterpreted in the sense that I'm not suggesting you don't pursue a career.

No, I don't think it's ever too late to find a partner, but I do know that there is definitively a hard stop on her ability to have children if that's what she wants.

If you'd like to purchase Marry Smart, visit Amazon. You can keep up with Patton on Twitter @ThePrincetonMom.

5 Cutest Teen Celebrity Couples





By [Whitney Johnson](#)

Lately, it seems like the heavyweights in Hollywood are getting younger and younger. After all, it was just last year that Jennifer Lawrence won her first Academy Award for Best Actress Oscar at only 22 years old. Given their full-time jobs and big paychecks, these stars often grow up a bit faster than your average youngster – which means they also experience love and heartbreak earlier in their lives. With this thought in mind, we developed a list of our five favorite teen celebrity couples:

1. Bella Thorne and Tristan Klier: The 16-year-old star of Disney's popular show *Shake It Up* has been dating her blonde-haired boyfriend since 2012. When we caught up with the actress earlier this year, she revealed her favorite date night with her beau: "Just to sit on the couch and watch Netflix!"

Related Link: [Bella Thorne Shares Her Tips for Having a Memorable Valentine's Day](#)

2. Britney Spears and Justin Timberlake: Will there ever be a teen couple as adorable as these two pop stars? The pair, who met on the set of *The New Mickey Mouse Club*, were only 18 years old when they started dating and split after 3 years together. Recently, Spears even confirmed that Timberlake was her first kiss. Aw!

3. Gigi Hadid and Cody Simpson: The *Sports Illustrated* model and Australian singer, ages 18 and 17 respectively, were spotted at the Vanity Fair Oscars Party, looking every bit like a teenage dream. The lovebirds maintain a long-distance relationship – Hadid is at New York University, while Simpson lives in Los Angeles – but we hope to see the blonde beauty cheering her man on from the audience of *Dancing with the Stars*.

4. Kylie Jenner and Jaden Smith: While this duo hasn't confirmed their relationship status, they've been spotted around New York City, London, and Los Angeles. Plus, the so-called "best friends" have exhibited PDA on multiple occasions. Only time will tell if these teens have found true love!

Related Link: [Kendall and Kylie Jenner Make Celebrity Gossip Headlines Cozying Up to Chris Brown and Trey Songz at Party](#)

5. Selena Gomez and Justin Bieber: Even though the problem-plagued pop star exited his teen years on March 1st and his on-again, off-again girlfriend is already a year into her 20s, we couldn't help but include this duo on our list. While Bieber may be trying to prove his age with his recent antics, his fans are still primarily tweens and teens, making his love life of utmost importance to this age group.

Do you have a favorite teen celebrity couple? Tell us in the comments below!

Our Relationship Taglines for the Ladies of 'Real Housewives of New York'



By Brittany Stubbs

Some of our favorite ladies are back in season 6 of Bravo's popular show *The Real Housewives of New York City*, which premieres tonight! Returning to the small screen are Aviva Drescher, Carole Radziwill, Ramona Singer, Sonja Morgan, and Heather Thomson, joined by the newest housewife Kristen Taekman, a model and businesswoman.

The series follows these six women as they manage their hectic social calendars, careers, children, and love lives in the Big Apple. Outside of relaxing in the Hamptons and surviving the occasional catfight, if there's one thing these women know, it's relationships. From married to widowed to divorced and dating with kids, CupidsPulse.com thought it'd be fun to explore their diverse relationships. While the ladies each have their own witty taglines that describe their personalities in the show's intro, we couldn't help but think they deserved ones for their love lives too. If these women had relationship taglines, here's what they'd be:

Aviva Drescher – You Can Find Love When You Least Expect It:

The way that this housewife met *The One* goes to show that you never know where you're going to find your soulmate. The couple had a chance meeting at Bed Bath & Beyond. Drescher, a single mother at the time, and now-husband Reid, a Wall Street investment banker, began talking as their young children played together in the aisles.

It was only a matter of time after that shopping trip that the two got married and began growing their family together. While the blonde beauty has an impressive education, including a Bachelors of Arts from Vassar College, a Masters degree in French from New York University, and a JD from The Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, she devotes her time to her husband and taking care of their four children.

Related Link: [How to Date When You're a Single Parent](#)

Carole Radziwill – Love Stories Can Be Epic, No Matter Their Length: Before Radziwill took on the titles of best-selling author, award-winning journalist, and Princess, she was just a girl from Suffern, New York, pursuing her dreams of writing. Working with ABC News, she was assigned to all kinds of stories that kept her traveling and writing around the world. One day, she was sent to work on a story that Anthony

Radziwill was producing. While Anthony was as passionate about news as Carole, there was something that made them different: He had a royal lineage going back four hundred years. Lucky for her, this real-life prince soon became her Prince Charming.

The couple fell in love quickly, passionate about their careers and each other. In 1994, the two were happily married, unaware they were living anything but a fairytale. Tragically, Anthony was diagnosed with cancer and passed away on August 10, 1999. Through her pain, the reality star began to write about the devastating battle of cancer and loss of her husband, eventually leading to her first book *What Remains: A Memoir of Fate, Friendship, and Love*. The memoir spent over 20 weeks on *The New York Times* Bestseller List and was nominated for the "Books for a Better Life" award.

Radziwill split from her rocker boyfriend Russ Irwin who we met during Season 5, but she continues to date. We might even get a look at her latest love interest this season!

Ramona Singer – Leaving is Sometimes Easier Said Than Done: Singer, best known for her go-getter attitude and opinionated speech, is suffering from what is one of the most devastating issues in a relationship: infidelity. After being married to Mario for over two decades, she discovered that her husband was unfaithful. It was reported that he had been having an affair with a younger woman named Kasey Dexter for eight months. As if that's not heartbreaking enough, the housewife had to witness the affair first-hand when she walked in on them in the Singer's Hamptons home. The encounter led to Ramona calling 911 for a domestic dispute.

Although Singer has filed for divorce, it remains unclear if the couple will go through with it or not. Just weeks after separating, the couple was spotted on a date together at Bowlmor Lanes in New York City. Although the reality star has always preached the importance of being independent and able

to provide for herself, completely moving on from a marriage of 25 years – despite her husband’s betrayal – might be tougher than she thinks.

Related Link: [Celebrity Couples That Are Better Off Single](#)

Sonja Morgan – When It Comes to Love, Age Is Nothing But a Number: Morgan has always been open about her love for men of all ages...and rarely are these men her own age. The housewife was married to John A. Morgan for ten years. Not only are many fans surprised to discover that he proposed after the first date but also that he was 33 years older than her.

The couple’s divorce was finalized in 2008, and since then, Morgan hasn’t given up on her search for true love. In the season 6 teaser, she says, “I’m going below 30 years old,” in regards to some of the men she’s been seeing. Fellow *RHONY* cast member Heather Thomson claims, “Sonja has as many men as she has interns...and some of them are the same age.”

Related Link: [Dating with an Age Gap](#)

Heather Thomson – You Can Be the Wife AND the Boss: Thomson is married to Jonathen Schindler, and unlike many women, Thomson decided to keep her own name after she got married. While the happy couple have two children together, wife and mother are only part of this housewife’s description: She’s also the creator of “Yummie by Heather Thomson,” the popular and innovative shapewear line. Plus, she’s designed for and styled some of the biggest names in entertainment, including Jennifer Lopez, Beyoncé, Tina Knowles, and Sean “Diddy” Combs. She was the founding Design Director for his Sean John line and is credited as a major force behind multiple CFDA award nominations.

Although this season reveals that some women refer to Thomson’s powerful presence as bossy, her husband shows that men do like women who take charge and are not intimidated by their success.

Kristin Taekman – Relationships Are a Balancing Act: Taekman is the newest member of the gang. She's been married to her husband Josh for a decade, and they have two beautiful children together. The couple met and fell in love in NYC, and Josh ended up proposing on Kristin's favorite holiday, Halloween, in Central Park. While she loves being a wife and mother, she's trying to balance her family life with her modeling career – a challenge that many married career women understand!

Can you relate to any of these women's love lives? Share with us what your relationship tagline would be and why!

To see more of these ladies and their relationships, tune into The Real Housewives of New York premiere tonight at 9/8c on Bravo!

'The Bachelorette' Contestant and Hopeless Romantic Chris Bukowski Wants His "Fairytale Ending"





Interview by [Whitney Johnson](#). Written by Liz Kim.

The Bachelorette season 8 contestant Chris Bukowski might seem like he has everything – great looks, a booming restaurant, and the kind of job that allows him to travel all over the country – but he admits that there’s still something missing in his life. “I’m the most single person in America,” he laments. Hailing from Chicago, Illinois, the reality TV star boasts a pretty impressive resume, including senior sales executive for the New York Islanders, V.I.P. Concierge at the Wynn Las Vegas, and currently owner of The Bracket Room in Arlington, Virginia (with plans to open future locations). But at the end of the day, he misses the magic of a *real* first date with someone special.

Related Link: [Former ‘Bachelorette’ Desiree Hartsock on Finding Mr. Right](#)

Reality TV Star Talks About

Experiences on *The Bachelorette* and *Bachelor Pad*

Fans first got to know Bukowski when he was cast on Emily Maynard's season of [The Bachelorette](#). He initially didn't have any interest in the show. "One of my friends I grew up with in Chicago wrote a letter to ABC about why I should be the next *Bachelor*. And you know how it works – you pretty much have to be on *The Bachelorette* in order to be the star of *The Bachelor*," he explains. He got some emails from ABC casting but brushed it off as a prank.

A change of jobs brought him back to Chicago, and he decided to take a chance and audition at a casting call by his condo. Ultimately, it was Maynard's photo that convinced him to give it a shot. "I never watched the show before, so I didn't really know what I was getting myself into. Once they showed me who the girl might be, though, I thought she was right up my alley," the reality TV star says. "Physically, Emily was really hot! I decided then that, if they cast me, I would do it."

Bukowski didn't expect to fall for Maynard as hard as he did, but as their relationship and love progressed from week to week, he quickly became a fan favorite. After making it to the final four, fans were shocked when Maynard let him go, especially because she couldn't give him a reason as to why he wasn't getting a rose. "After *The Bachelorette*, I left my job. I was alone in my thoughts, and I was a little heartbroken," he candidly shares.

Related Link: [Chris Bukowski Says He Still Has Feelings for Emily Maynard](#)

Instead of wallowing for too long, he agreed to compete on *Bachelor Pad*, a show that featured contestants from *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelorette* who play for a cash prize.

“It was an outlet where I could go to escape, just have some fun, and maybe win some money,” he reveals. “I did it for the experience, and I’m glad I did.”

While he didn’t win the big prize, the handsome Chicago native left quite a different impression on fans than he did during his time on *The Bachelorette*. Previously, viewers knew him as a hopeless romantic who just wanted to find a relationship and love, but on *The Bachelor Pad*, he hooked up with multiple castmates (he attributes this to crafty editing), lied, and exuded a cockiness that turned off a lot of people. Bukowski defends his behavior as a necessary tactic to win the game. “They are two completely different shows,” he explains. “One is a show where you’re putting yourself out there to potentially fall in love and find a wife. The other is a game show. It’s funny because they made me seem so terrible, and I really wasn’t that bad.”

He also shares that his motivations were different than those of his competitors. “I’m very competitive, and no one else on the show had that mindset,” he admits. “I wasn’t sure what they were concerned about. I wasn’t into falling in love with anybody, and I just wanted to have fun.” No matter how he was portrayed, he says that he had the most fun out of anyone in the house and felt that he left a winner.

Chris Bukowski on Finding a Relationship and Love in the Real World

While the restaurant owner is thankful for his time on reality TV, he also believes that this exposure is keeping him from meeting the right person. “I would say I’m definitely looking to settle down,” he divulges. “It’s just tough. People learned a lot about me really quickly because I was on the shows. So when I go out with a girl, they already know about me, and it

kind of takes away from the whole first date experience and getting to know somebody.”

Simply put, “it really does suck. To be honest, I would say my dating life is almost zero right now.”

Related Link: [Dating Advice: How to Approach a Spring Fling](#)

He also admits that the hopeless romantic who fans met on *The Bachelorette* is his true self. He dreams of meeting his future wife by chance at the airport and admits that this desire is fueled by his love for chick flicks. He adds, “I love the fairytale endings. Sure, these things only happen in the movies, but you still get that little hope that it can happen in real life too.”

Ever the foodie, it’s no surprise that Bukowski’s perfect date idea is a nice lunch, an even better dinner, and fine wine. “I may not seem like it, but I’m a really laid-back person,” he says. “I’m happy with enjoying great food, catching a movie, or just hanging out at my place.”

While it remains to be seen if Bukowski will be a future *Bachelor*, he has some opinions about the current leading man, Juan Pablo Galavis. Although he’s picking Nikki Ferrell as his favorite to win, “it seems like Juan Pablo is definitely having fun, but I’m not convinced that any of those girls are going to be his future wife,” he shares. “I think he’s using the show as a way to enjoy himself and probably get himself out in the public eye.”

You can keep up with Bracket Room on the website <http://www.bracketroom.com/>. You can also keep up with Chris on Twitter @chrisjbukowski. Be sure to tune in to The Bachelor finale tonight on ABC at 8/7c.

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Preparing for Spring Weather



By Maria Darbenzio

Whether you're getting married, spending time with your family, or just enjoying nights on the town, we're sure that you're looking forward to the warmer weather just as much as we are. With that thought in mind, we put together these awesome articles from our partners to help you with springtime planning:

1. Outdoor dining: As the snow melts and the chill in the air begins to fade, cafes and restaurants everywhere are starting

to open their patios. Eating a nice meal in the sunshine is the perfect way to usher in the much-needed break from winter. Try some of these awesome makeup looks as you get ready to kiss the cold goodbye. (YourTango.com)

2. Picnic in the park: If restaurant patio dining isn't your thing and you want a more intimate setting, take a trip to your local park and set up a picnic for two. Whether you're married, seeing someone serious, or going on a first date, this is a great way to soak up some fresh air and show your partner how much you appreciate spending time together. For added romance, you can even slip a cute little poem into your basket. (YourTango.com)

3. Family bonding: After being cooped up in your house all winter, it's time to get outside and enjoy nature! Try to plan activities that are fun for the whole family so you can just focus on being happy while staying active. For some ideas, take a look at these great family time suggestions. (GalTime.com)

4. Green wedding: If you're set to wed in the next few months, think of all the floral possibilities that this season brings. Use flowers that are available in your area to keep them looking as fresh as possible throughout your big day. For other ideas on how to go green for your wedding, check out these great ideas. (GalTime.com)

5. Family travels: It's always fun to take a vacation with your loved ones. No matter where you decide to go, being with your family is the most important part. American skeleton racer Noelle Pikus-Pace and her husband and kids recently spent some time in Sochi for the Winter Olympics. Find out more about their trip here! (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

What are your plans for this spring? Tell us in the comments below!

Who's Your Favorite On-Screen or Off-Screen Couple?





Gilles Marini, 'Switched at Birth'

"In Casablanca, the chemistry was amazing!" Photo courtesy of Ford Warriors in Pink.

Date Idea: Take a Shot





By Kristin Mattern

This weekend, impress your cutie with your sweet moves at the bar. Get a little flirty by showing him your pool hall expertise, and then take aim at love as you play darts together. Have a friendly competition while you share wings and drinks for a fun date night.

Your man will definitely appreciate this guy-approved date. Not a pool hall shark? Let your babe teach you how to play. He'll love the opportunity to wrap his arms around you as he shows you how to shoot. If you're aces at pool, step it up and let him see your game face as you play for who pays for the next round of drinks. Or go Dutch and take turns paying for each other. After all, he usually pays for you, right?

Related Link: [What Does Your Date's Drink Say About Him?](#)

Play darts against your sweetheart, or team up and invite another couple to play against you. Root each other on as you step up to the line and try to hit the bulls-eye. Celebrate your victory by grabbing a table and enjoying dinner.

Men love wing night; it's just one of those things. If you're up for it, have a contest to see who can eat the spiciest or the most wings. Or just relax and enjoy the different varieties of wings the establishment has to offer. From sweet and savory to red hot and peppery, you and your darling can share the different sensory sensations as you taste your way through the evening.

Related Link: [Tease Your Taste Buds on This Weekend Date Idea](#)

To round out the date – and burn some of those recently ingested wing calories, drag your man out onto the dance floor. Shake up the night as you boogie down and show off your sexy moves.

Ever taken a shot at love in a pool hall? Let us know in the comments below!