Celebrity Gossip: Celebrities with Surprising Degrees





By Dan Cormac

It's sometimes easy to forget that celebrities have lives and existences beyond and before their public persona.

Like many who work in creative industries, the number of celebrities who studied for degrees relevant to their ultimate career is relatively low. Check out our take on this celebrity gossip:

Rowan Atkinson – Electrical Engineering

The actor and writer, best known to international audiences for his performances as both Mr. Bean and Blackadder, Rowan

Atkinson was studying for his electrical engineering degree when he met co-writer Richard Curtis and the pair began working on Blackadder. Prior to this, Rowan Atkinson secured the highest marks in his year at Oxford University, where he attained an M.Sc. in electrical engineering.

Adam Sandler – Master's In Fine Art

While Adam Sandler's career has arguably taken a dive in recent years, he was part of the famous SNL resurgence in the early nineties and was one of the most consistently popular writers and actors on the show. Before landing his first role, Adam Sandler graduated from New York University's Tisch School Of The Arts.

Art Garfunkel – Bachelor's in Art History, Master's In Mathematics

Simon and Garfunkel were one of the defining artists of the 60's, but prior to his career as a musician, Art Garfunkel began by majoring in architecture at Columbia University. However, he ultimately switched majors and gained a bachelor's in art history in 1965, before completing his master's in mathematics, again at Columbia, in 1967.

Arnold Schwarzenegger – Bachelor's in Business and Economics

Among his many varied jobs, Arnold Schwarzenegger has been a bodybuilder, an actor (most famously as The Terminator), and governor of California. Arnold Schwarzenegger barely spoke English when he first emigrated to the United States, but he ended up enrolling at the University of Wisconsin-Superior where he secured a bachelor's in business and economics. Those looking for a similar degree with international applications might want to consider the online MPA degree offered by Norwich University. The online MPA program with a specialty track in International Development and Influence is a perfect option for those looking for an affordable and accessible degree with similar applications.

Conan O'Brien – Bachelor's in American History and Literature

Conan O'Brien, the famous late night talk show host, and writer, on <u>The Simpsons</u> during its golden years, is a true titan of modern comedy. While he and his comedy clearly have an intelligence behind them, few people realize that Conan holds a bachelor's in American history and literature from the prestigious Harvard University.

Dolph Lundgren – Bachelor's in Chemical Engineering

Before becoming the larger than life action hero he is today, Dolph Lundgren was pursuing his true passion; chemical engineering at Sweden's Royal Institute Of Technology. Lundgren still publishes papers relative to the subject occasionally.

Natalie Portman – Bachelor's in Psychology

Not only does renowned actress Natalie Portman hold a bachelor's In psychology from Harvard University but she still <u>regularly publishes papers</u> on the subject in prestigious scientific journals, while keeping up with her acting career.

These are just some of the celebrities you regularly see on your screens who hold a surprising degree, proving that you can pursue your passions while studying academically.

Dan Cormac knows how to make his money go further. A freelance financial journalist, Dan is passionate about personal finance. Whether you hope to escape the chains of debt, to save for a house, or to retire within a decade, Dan explores the most effective ways you can achieve your financial goals.

5 Celebrity Couples Who Celebrate Hanukkah





By Molly Jacob

and Melissa Tierney

It's time to light the Menorah and get ready for gifts from Hanukkah Harry, and celebrities are no exception. These famous couples are embracing their roots by participating in Jewish traditions together. Here are five of our favorite celebrity couples who are spinning their dreidels this Hanukkah:

1. Ben Stiller and Christine Taylor: The Secret Life of Walter Mitty star enjoys embracing the Hanukkah traditions every year with his wife and their two children, daughter Ella Olivia and son Quinlin Dempsey. They're all ready to light the candles on the Menorah in hopes for another healthy and successful year.

2. Natalie Portman and Benjamin Millepied: The superstar and her French-born dancer and choreographer husband met on the set of *Black Swan* and married a few years later. Millepied announced last January that he would be converting to Judaism, so the dynamic duo will surely be together for a holiday that is important to Portman: Hanukkah. The Israeliborn actress has even been quoted as saying her heart belongs in Jerusalem.

Related Link: <u>Natalie Portman and Benjamin Millepied Get</u> <u>Married</u>

3. Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick: The fashion trendsetter and her actor husband sure have their plate filled. Between building a fashion and movie empire and raising their children, the couple still has time for the important things, like celebrating the holidays. Of course, the *Sex & the City* star most likely has a pair of Manolos for each of the eight days of the Celebration of Lights.

4. Adam Sandler and Jackie Sandler: As if it weren't already obvious, the actor and comedian is all about Hanukkah tradition at his house. The funny man loves getting together with his family and embracing the holiday season. He even wrote a song about the Jewish holiday called "The Chanukah Song" for Saturday Night Live.

Related Link: <u>Ashley Hebert and J.P. Rosenbaum Celebrate</u> <u>Holiday Traditions</u>

5. Robert Downey Jr. and Susan Downey: The bad boy actor may be a trouble maker in Hollywood, but when it comes to celebrating the holidays, he's all warm and fuzzy inside just like everyone else. This couple needs to take a break from their acting, producing and film making to sing some Hanukkah songs and celebrate their good fortune.

What other celebrity couples do you know who are lighting the Menorah this holiday season? Share your thoughts below.

'That's My Boy' Can Teach You a Thing or Two About Surviving Your Crazy In-laws





By Jessica Smith

Adam Sandler has been playing "dad" throughout his career, ranging from an unlikely role model in *Big Daddy* to a funloving parent in *Grown Ups*, but *That's My Boy* might be his most unconventional role yet. At thirteen, Sandler's character knocks up his teacher and then becomes a single parent when she's put in jail. His son, played by Andy Sandberg, leaves as soon as he's eighteen and becomes incredibly successful, but his new life is threatened when his low-life dad stumbles back into the picture. As the boys attempt to develop the fatherson relationship they never had, tension builds with Sandberg's fiancée, played by Leighton Meester. The trailer is full of laughs and the slapstick humor that has become Sandler's signature, which should make this a great choice for people looking for a laugh among the summer's more serious films.

Related: <u>'Snow White and the Huntsman' is a Blockbuster Rooted</u> <u>in Romance</u>

Should You See It? This movie has some great A-list actors and an outrageous plot that will create a conversation you're going to want to be a part of.

Who To Take: This would be a great film to see with some friends who are looking for a good laugh. There's going to be some great humor coming from all the actors with some special appearances from stars like Vanilla Ice.

Related: <u>'What to Expect When You're Expecting' Has an All-</u> <u>Star Cast!</u>

Do you have a hard time getting along with your in-laws? Here are some tips to help you out:

In *That's My Boy*, Sandler plays the role of a hardly-lovable soon-to-be in-law, and Meesters' character, her family and her friends are forced to embrace Sandler's wacky personality. They have a hard time adjusting to this unpleasant surprise, especially since they're in the midst of engagement celebrations and wedding plans. Here are some tips to keep your in-laws from driving you crazy:

1. Be Civil: You're not always going to agree with your inlaws, and giving in to their wishes isn't the best solution either. Whether you decide to take their advice or not, you should at least be civil and take their thoughts into consideration.

2. Be Understanding: It may seem like your in-laws are trying to make your life hell, but they actually just want

what's best for their child. Sometimes letting someone else make those decisions can be difficult for them to grasp, so avoid pointless bickering and try to see the situation from their point of view.

3. Be Positive: Instead of constantly trying to find ways to bother your in-laws, be proactive! The easiest way to keep them from driving you insane is to build a better relationship with them so you can eventually see eye-to-eye on things. This will make life easier for both you and your partner.

Do you know the secret to a happy relationship with your inlaws? Share your comments below!

EXCLUSIVE: Happily Single 'That's My Boy' Actress Abigail Klein Says Love "Will Happen When It's Supposed to Happen"





By Jessica Smith

You may have already caught glimpses of Abigail Klein cheering for the Dallas Cowboys or appearing on the CW Network's 90210. Now, you'll be getting another peek of her in a role that she hopes will launch her acting career. The rising star, who's been compared to model Brooklyn Decker, still pinches herself when she thinks about playing a bridesmaid in the upcoming Happy Madison film, *That's My Boy*.

As a young actress, she says that she is flattered to be working alongside A-list celebrities, including Adam Sandler, Andy Sandberg, Leighton Meester and James Caan.

"It was insane," Klein says. "Everyone was so brilliantly funny and wonderful. That was the most pleasing thing, I think, because everyone was so welcoming."

Klein describes being on set as the "best of both worlds," especially considering she spent a month in Cape Cod. "It was really cool to work with these amazing actors and then watch them in their everyday lives too." Klein explains how Adam Sandler had his children on set and how amazing it was to see him go from actor to dad. "Although I play one of the bridesmaids who is there to have fun and take part in the wedding festivities, I also got to observe how all these amazing actors interact both personally and professionally."

Related: <u>What Role Does Ambition Play in a Relationship?</u>

Her best piece of advice, however, came from costar Meagan Fay. "I remember chatting about how to take on the industry with the right mindset. We talked about people in the industry and how having good qualities for yourself, in your everyday life, translates into your work.

Positive things come from being positive," Klein recalls. "At the end of the day, it's a career, and you have to love it. Meagan had a lot of good advice."

Although her acting career seems to be taking off, her love life remains at a standstill – something that she doesn't really mind. Despite rumors that she's dating legendary quarterback Troy Aikman, she claims that she's "as single as they come." Instead, she's focusing on becoming a better actress and going with the flow.

"I've always thought of romance as something that will come along when it's the right time, so for now, I'm focused on myself and what I'm doing with my life. Everyone says it happens when you're not looking, but I'm at the point where I'm almost hoping it *doesn't* happen," she adds. "I want to focus on my career, and I want to focus on me. I want to experience things by myself."

She also wants to encourage her peers to think about themselves and their own happiness before they start worrying about partnering with another person. "When you do meet that person, you get to share your life and come together and be proud of the experiences that you've had as individuals. Then, you make new experiences with that person," advises Klein. "I think it will happen when it's supposed to happen. I think it should be easy and just feel right."

Don't let her fool you, though. If she landed a role with action star Chris Hemsworth, she might change her mind. "[He's] a big reason why I liked *The Avengers*," she says with a laugh.

Related: <u>Which Avenger Would Be the Best Date?</u>

If Klein had her choice, she would love to make an action film, but for now, the starlet is keeping an open mind. "I'm just excited to take things day by day and see what else is out there," she reveals.

Don't miss Abigail Klein in That's My Boy, which hits theaters on June 15! You can also follow her on Twitter @abigailklein.

Movie Review: 'Jack and Jill' is Full of Family Fun





Adam Sandler is at it again! The comedic genius and actor has come out with a Thanksgiving family fun movie, *Jack and Jill*. Sandler follows in the footsteps of Eddie Murphy by playing both the parts of Jack Sadelstein and his identical twin sister, Jill. Jack dreads when his needy sister, Jill, visits his family every Thanksgiving, because she always seems to ruin everything. Jack's wife (Katie Holmes) and kids, must deal with the sibling bickering. If Sandler can pull off Eddie Murphy's *The Nutty Professor* routine, *Jack and Jill* will have you laughing from start to finish.

How do you handle your partner's family feuds?

Cupid's Advice:

Dating someone means datng their family-espically during the holidays. It can be hard to know your place when your partner and his family feud over the dinner party. Here's how to be supportive of your partner without disrespecting his family:

1. Don't jump in: Your partner will tell you if they need to tag you in on a family fight. Keep your thoughts to yourself, unless you're asked to share them.

2. If asked, keep it neutral: When put in the middle of a feud, state facts that will make both sides happy. Never pick a side.

3. Don't play dumb: If you get in the middle, don't walk away without attempting to help diffuse the situation. It may seem like minding your own business is a good idea, but your partner may lose faith in you, and his family may abandon their respect for you.

Release Date: Nov. 11

5 of the Sweetest Movie Moments





By Tanni Deb

Whether we admit it or not, we all enjoy a good love story – the ones that make our hearts beat, our pulses race, and the tears flow. We love getting caught up in the magical moments and gushing over romantic scenes. You probably have your own top Sweetest Movie Moments, but join us as we count down some of ours:

5. A Walk to Remember: If you're a hopeless romantic, this movie and its leading characters, Landon Carter (Shane West) and Jamie Sullivan (Mandy Moore), will leave you sobbing at the end. After a dangerous dare goes badly wrong, rebellious Landon is made to do community service, where he seeks help from bookish and religious Jamie – the girl he eventually learns to love. When he discovers the secret she's been carrying for two years, he plans a date at night to star gaze. He asks her to search for a specific star, and when she questions him about it, he says he had it named after her. The scene is sealed with a kiss.

4. 50 First Dates: When Henry Roth (Adam Sandler) meets Lucy Whitmore (Drew Barrymore) in a café, they decide to meet again the following day. However, when Henry returns, Lucy doesn't have a memory of him, or their previous meeting. When he's told that since the day she got into a car accident she's been unable to retain new information, he devises new ways to meet her every day, hoping that one day she'll remember him and will return his feelings. The sweetest – and most powerful – scene in the film comes when Henry discovers that Lucy has been singing, and she might remember who he is. He runs to the hospital and asks her if she recognizes him. She says "no," but explains that she has been dreaming of him every day. When she leads him into her studio, it is filled with paintings she drew of him! Believing that this is proof of their love, they reunite.

3. You've Got Mail: If you think you can't find love online, then this is the movie to watch. Joe Fox (Tom Hanks) and Kathleen Kelly (Meg Ryan) are business rivals who began writing emails back and forth, without knowing each other's identities. Over time, romantic feelings develop, and Joe later realizes that the person he's been writing to the entire time has been Kathleen. At the end, they decide to meet, and Kathleen is not only shocked, but also excited to know that her cyber friend was him all along. She admits that she was hoping it was him, and the two passionately kiss.

2. The Notebook: This love story is one you'll watch repeatedly with a box of Kleenex next to you. It's the tale of small-town boy, Noah Calhoun (Ryan Gosling), who falls in love with rich and beautiful Allie Hamilton (Rachel McAdams).

Even after Allie is diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and fails to recognize her family, or him, he never leaves her side. Instead, he decides to grow old with her in a nursing home and attempts to bring her memories back. Sure, this romantic film has many sweet moments, but perhaps the scene that makes you realize how much he truly loves her is when, many years later, his children ask him to leave the rest home and return home with them. He says, "Look guys, that's my sweetheart in there. I'm not leaving her. This is my home now. Your mother is my home." Quick, pass me one of those Kleenexes.

1. The Wedding Singer: This is another romantic comedy film, once again teaming Adam Sandler and Drew Barrymore together, who always manage to create some of the most romantic movie scenes. In this film, Sandler is a wedding singer who falls in love with Barrymore – a waitress. When he discovers that her fiancé is cheating on her and doesn't plan on stopping after marriage, he attempts to pursue her. There are plenty of sweet moments in this movie, but the one that will make your heart melt is at the end, when Sandler sings a song for Barrymore on an airplane. Who wouldn't fall for a man like that?

If one of your favorite sweetest movie moments didn't make it onto our list, let us know in a comment below! In the meantime, make sure to check out the movies mentioned above and let us know what you thought about them.

Just Go With It featuring

Adam Sandler, Jennifer Aniston and Brooklyn Decker





Plastic surgeon playboy Danny (Adam Sandler) attracts women in a rather unique fashion — by pretending he's stuck in a bad marriage in order to ease tension and give them a false sense of trust. Then the unthinkable happens. Danny meets a woman (Brooklyn Decker) he actually sees a legitimate future with, and gets caught in his "bad marriage" routine. To try to repair the damage, he comes up with an off-the-wall plan and asks his loyal office manager (Jennifer Anniston) to play the role of his future divorcee. Eventually, even her two kids to get involved in his growing lie. *Just Go With It* comically begs the question: how far should you go to win someone's heart?

How far should you go to make a relationship work?

Cupid's Advice:

People do crazy things in the name of love, but there has to be some boundaries. Cupid has some thoughts on what yours should be:

1. Be honest: As easy as it is to create an alter-ego like Danny did in Just Go With It, when you're going for a real relationship, it won't work. Stay true to who you really are, and let things play out from there.

2. Respect boundaries: If you're really interested in someone, you're going to have to play by the rules. If he or she is already seeing someone, you'll have to be patient. Settle for being in the background until the time is right.

3. Simple gestures make a difference: When you're wooing someone, chances are he or she will remember you for your simple romantic gestures, such as opening the door or pulling out the chair. It's those little quirks in your personality that make all the difference.

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Cupid's Kiss Rating: 3 out of 5

Which Celebrity Couples Will Show Up at Super Bowl XLV?





By Tanni Deb

Get ready to rumble! On Feb. 6, the Pittsburgh Steelers and Green Bay Packers will face off in Arlington, Texas to battle it out for the Super Bowl XLV title. But don't think sports junkies will be the only ones in the stands – the football extravaganza is an event many stars attend. Which celebrity couples will make it to Cowboys Stadium on Sunday?

Five-time Grammy winner Christina Aguilera will perform the National Anthem. Since the singer's recent divorce from her husband of five years, Jordan Bratman, she has been dating *Burlesque* set assistant, Matthew D. Rutler. We can count on the couple to arrive together, since their relationship is said to be getting "serious."

Another serious couple sure to attend the Super Bowl is Fergie and her husband, Josh Duhamel. Her Grammy Award-winning group, the Black Eyed Peas, will take the stage during the Half-time show. According to USMagazine.com, the couple renewed their wedding vows earlier this month. But will Duhamel be in the stands or in the fields during his wife's performance?

Other performers include *Glee's* Lea Michele, singing "America the Beautiful," while Keith Urban and Maroon 5 will perform during the pre-game show. Will Nicole Kidman make an appearance with daughter Faith Margaret? After all, Keith has

been by her side during this year's awards season!

Other celebrity couples in the stands may include Demi Moore and Ashton Kutcher. Although Kutcher is a die-hard Chicago Bears fan, Moore has been seen rooting for the Packers at their games. Faith Hill and Tim McGraw, who is friends with former quarterback Brett Favre, are also fans of the team. And Justin Timberlake, the former 'N Sync band member who brought sexy back, loves the Packers. We're all curious to see who'll be by his side if he shows up – Jessica Biel or Olivia Munn?

Let's not forget about the Pittsburgh Steelers fans who we can count on to be there for their team: Bret Michaels, Rush Limbaugh, Jeff Goldblum, Snoop Dogg and Adam Sandler – who played a former quarterback for the Steelers in the 2005 movie, "The Longest Yard."

While the big game is obviously the main attraction, celebrities will also indulge during the many Super Bowl parties happening over the weekend. In addition to performing, the Black Eyed Peas will team up with *Sports Illustrated* to host a Super Bowl Bash. "It will be the kickoff to an amazing weekend in Dallas and we can't wait to get it started," said Fergie. While guests are sure to include some *SI* models, like Genevieve Morton and Julie Henderson, Fergie's own supermodel bod will keep Josh Duhamel in check.

Pamela Anderson will also be in town, throwing a pre-Super Bowl Party on Feb. 4, called SuperBash 2011. Past guests included Kim Kardashian, John Travolta and Carmen Electra.

And Diddy, the master of being the master of ceremonies, will host multiple parties during game weekend. Event tickets range from \$500-\$25,000 (yes, that's correct; \$25,000!). Last year, rumors flew that Diddy was dating Nicki Minaj. Current reports say that the rapper is single, but it'd be nice to see someone at his side during his parties. Too bad we have to wait to see who ends up at the game! Don't forget to tune into FOX on **Sunday, Feb. 6 at 6:30 PM ET** to watch Super Bowl XLV.