

Even Jesse James Deserves a Second Chance



Right now, it seems the internet is a buzz with the news of Jesse James and Kat Von D's engagement. I was fairly surprised at the intense debate their announcement fueled, but then I got to thinking about second chances and leaving the past in the past. We all know what transpired between Jesse James and Sandra Bullock. America's sweetheart was left betrayed and left to adopt a son alone, so who wouldn't be on her side? Now there's Jesse, the resident bad boy now starting a new life with Kat Von D, who is about as opposite from a Sandra Bullock type as you can get. Same story, different couple.

The thing is, nobody really knows what goes on in a

relationship, but the two people who are in it. Jesse James and Sandra Bullock are no more, but does that mean that Jesse doesn't deserve happiness with someone else? I'm not saying Jesse and Kat will last forever, but who can you really say that about, as nothing in life is guaranteed, anyway?

People can change, although to what extent, nobody knows. People also do really terrible things in relationships and hearts get broken ... but life goes on and hearts continue to beat. I don't believe someone should be punished for the rest of their life after one mistake. It's so easy for us to write someone off as a horrible person; in fact, it's too easy. It's more difficult to give someone the chance to redeem him or herself, and second chances can be so worth it.

Should Kat be aware of what she's getting into? Heck yes! I am not suggesting one should disregard the past actions of another. I'm fairly certain there are tons of people just waiting to tell her, "I told you so!" But if it feels right in her heart, then really, who are we to judge?

Speaking of judgment, what do you guys think of this announcement? Comment below.

Jewel and Husband Ty Murray Are Having a Boy





Jewel and Ty Murray have finally found out the sex of their baby. It's a boy! The couple is very excited to finally be able to get the ball rolling on decorating the nursery. "We would have been happy either way, of course, but we are so excited to be having a little boy," Jewel, 36, tells *People*. Murray agrees, saying, "I have to admit, I was doing a little dance on our way out of the doctor's office when we found out!"

How do you prepare for a baby boy versus a girl? Cupid's Advice: Although any baby is a blessing, the way you prepare for each one can vary. Cupid has some tips on how to prepare for a baby boy versus a girl:

1. Blues and greens: Now that you know you're having a little boy, ditch the pinks and stock up on the typical boy colors. Even though people say yellow is neutral, it's cute to pair it with blues and greens as well.

2. Baby boy themes: You want to design the nursery with your new baby boy in mind. Trucks, airplanes and trains are always safe picks for boy nursery decor. Dinosaurs and farm animals

are also great choices.

3. Plan of action: Before your baby is born, make sure to discuss how you want to raise him. Put together a plan for how you're going to instill values (like how to treat women) in him.

Kim Kardashian Flirts with Kanye West



On the Sunday night premiere of *Kourtney and Kim Take New York*, viewers got an up-close and personal look at Kim Kardashian's love life. The one-minute clip shown on

UsMagazine.com shows a playful Kim showing singer Kanye West the new Dash boutique located in the SoHo neighborhood in New York City. Shortly after, West and Kim were caught having a giggly conversation about Las Vegas, and sister Kourtney explained. "Kim is single now, and she is the most boy crazy girl I've ever seen. She just loves to flirt."

What are some flirting rules to keep in mind?

Cupid's Advice:

Flirting is fun, and nearly everybody is guilty of it. However, there are a few rules you should always keep in mind:

- 1. Less is more:** When it comes to flirting, don't over-do it. Excessive flirting may cause you to seem like a woman with little class, and you may give guys the wrong idea. Desperation isn't attractive!
- 2. Know when to stop:** The best way to make an impression is to mix flirting with some actual conversation. Flirt and joke with each other for a while, and then share your opinions and connect on a more personal level.
- 3. Don't be too physical:** It's perfectly fine to flirt with a guy, but unless you're looking for a fling, be sure not to make too much physical contact. It's astonishingly easy for potential dates to misinterpret your flirting.

For more on Kim Kardashian:

[Kim Kardashian Plays Hard to Get on Reality Show Date](#)

[Kourtney & Kim Take New York Season Premiere](#)

['Kourtney & Kim Take New York' Earns More Viewers Than 'Miami'](#)

Jessica Simpson Talks Up Eric Johnson's 'Perfect Tush'



Jessica Simpson isn't shy about letting her fans in on the details to what she finds attractive in her fiancé, Eric Johnson, according to UsMagazine.com. In fact, Simpson tweeted on Saturday, "Saying my prayers before bedtime...Thank you Lord for blessing me with a Man that has the perfect Tush." This isn't the first time Simpson has made a public declaration about her love and attraction to free agent Johnson. The duo have been captured in the past locking lips in Italy as well as licking frosting off of each other's faces.

Are physical attributes important in a partner?

Cupid's Advice:

The rules of attraction are vague, as people have their own preferences. Sometimes we don't like to admit that our boyfriends won us over initially with their looks (and then later his personality), but there may be more to it than just an easy pair of eyes:

1. It's all science: While we may swoon for a man with a strong jaw, what our subconscious is seeing is a man with good genes who is a potential mate. Even though we think we're choosing our partners, our primal instincts may really be running the show.

2. It's not just looks: Sometimes after you've been in a relationship for awhile you sit and joke with your girlfriends about how you landed your flame. Pheromones, or a subtle scent that every person emits like a perfume, can attract you to your match more than looks alone.

3. Physical attraction is important: No matter the reason, there's no denying that you need to be physically attracted to your partner in order to be in a successful relationship. As long as you like him for more than his good looks, that's all that matters. That said, there's nothing wrong with appreciating his assets!

George Clooney Says 'No' to Another Wedding



Will reporters ever stop asking George Clooney if he's getting married? Probably not, and according to *People*, Piers Morgan had a shot at asking last week when Clooney appeared on his CNN show, *Piers Morgan Tonight*. "I hate to blow your whole news story, but I was married," Clooney told Morgan. Nick Clooney, George's father, appeared on the show with his son and used his own 51-year marriage to George's mom Nina as an example of why he should reconsider. However, George, who was wed to actress Talia Balsam from 1989 to 1993, believes once is enough. He added, "I've proven how good I was at it, and I just. ... I'm allowed one."

After divorce, should you give marriage another shot?

Cupid's Advice:

After a marriage dissolves, you may feel like you never want to get married again. Cupid has some ideas on whether to tie

the knot a second time:

1. Second time's a charm: If you've found someone and *want* to get married again, why not walk down the aisle a second time? Just because it didn't work the first time doesn't mean it won't work the second time with the right person.

2. Don't blame marriage: So you never want to say "I do" again. But remember that the marriage ended because you were with the wrong person: you shouldn't blame the institution.

3. Marriage isn't for everyone: If you feel like you're just not the marrying type, let any future partners know that while you're interested in commitment, you're just not willing to tie the knot.

And The 2011 Oscar Nominees Are...





By Krissy Dolor

With today's crack-of-dawn announcement of the 83rd Academy Awards nominees, the Oscar race has officially begun! This year's big contender is *The King's Speech*, leading the pack with 12 nominations. *True Grit* comes in second, with 10. *Black Swan*, *The Social Network*, *The Fighter* and *Inception* all received multiple Oscar nods as well, and like last year, there are 10 nominees for Best Picture. But all I can think about are the celebrity couples that will dazzle us in their designer gowns and dapper suits.

While we have to wait until **Sunday, Feb. 27** for the big day, here are the five celebrity couples that should strut their stuff on the red carpet:

1. Natalie Portman and her soon-to-be-hubby, Benjamin Millepied: He was the choreographer of *Black Swan* and they shocked the world last month with their engagement and baby news! Need I say more?

2. Leonardo DiCaprio and Bar Refaeli: While Leo has been

spotted with the likes of Blake Lively, there hasn't been any mention of a breakup between him and his longtime supermodel girlfriend. Also, the actor is famous for staying away from red carpet events like the Oscars, so it would be nice to see him there – with anyone – at his side!

3. Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel/Olivia Munn: Rumors from as recently as this month are flying that the actor/singer is still texting Munn, telling her that his relationship with Biel, his girlfriend of four years, “is basically over.” Will he – and a new woman – show up next month to support David Fincher and Aaron Sorkin's nominations for *The Social Network*?

4. Sandra Bullock and Ryan Reynolds: Despite Bullock's denial of any relationship with close friend and former castmate Reynolds, it's hard not to secretly wish for the two of them to date, regardless of his recent split from actress Scarlett Johansson. But if Jesse James can find love with Kat Von D, Bullock should get out there and snag a new romance for herself, too! Or at the very least, some really hot eye candy.

5. Tom Hanks and wife Rita Wilson: Hanks' second wife is the constant pillar of support that the actor and voice of *Toy Story 3*'s Woody has chosen to lean on for the past 20 years. Check out this picture of them at the 1989 Academy Awards. Why stop now?

Check back next month as we recap the top celebrity couples of the 2011 Oscars, which will be hosted by James Franco and Anne Hathaway and will air on ABC! And in case you missed this morning's live stream, here are the nominations:

Leading Actor

- * Javier Bardem, *Biutiful*
- * Jeff Bridges, *True Grit*
- * Jesse Eisenberg, *The Social Network*
- * Colin Firth, *The King's Speech*

* James Franco, *127 Hours*

Leading Actress

* Annette Bening, *The Kids Are All Right*

* Nicole Kidman, *Rabbit Hole*

* Jennifer Lawrence, *Winter's Bone*

* Natalie Portman, *Black Swan*

* Michelle Williams, *Blue Valentine*

Supporting Actor

* Christian Bale, *The Fighter*

* John Hawkes, *Winter's Bone*

* Jeremy Renner, *The Town*

* Mark Ruffalo, *The Kids Are All Right*

* Geoffrey Rush, *The King's Speech*

Supporting Actress

* Amy Adams, *The Fighter*

* Helena Bonham Carter, *The King's Speech*

* Melissa Leo, *The Fighter*

* Hailee Steinfeld, *True Grit*

* Jacki Weaver, *Animal Kingdom*

Animated Feature Film

* *How to Train Your Dragon*

* *The Illusionist*

* *Toy Story 3*

Directing

* Darren Aronofsky, *Black Swan*

* David O. Russell, *The Fighter*

* Tom Hooper, *The King's Speech*

* David Fincher, *The Social Network*

* Joel Coen and Ethan Coen, *True Grit*

Foreign Language Film

* *Biutiful* (Mexico)

* *Dogtooth* (Greece)

* *In a Better World* (Denmark)

- * *Incendies* (Canada)
- * *Outside the Law* (Hors-la-loi, Algeria)

Adapted Screenplay

- * *127 Hours*, Screenplay by Danny Boyle & Simon Beaufoy
- * *The Social Network*, Screenplay by Aaron Sorkin
- * *Toy Story 3*, Screenplay by Michael Arndt. Story by John Lasseter, Andrew Stanton and Lee Unkrich
- * *True Grit*, Written for the screen by Joel Coen and Ethan Coen
- * *Winter's Bone*, Adapted for the screen by Debra Granik and Anne Rosellini

Original Screenplay

- * *Another Year*, Written by Mike Leigh
- * *The Fighter*, Screenplay by Scott Silver, Paul Tamasy and Eric Johnson. Story by Keith Dorrington, Paul Tamasy and Eric Johnson
- * *Inception*, Written by Christopher Nolan
- * *The Kids Are All Right*, Written by Lisa Cholodenko and Stuart Blumberg
- * *The King's Speech*, Screenplay by David Seidler

Best Picture

- * *Black Swan*
- * *The Fighter*
- * *Inception*
- * *The Kids Are All Right*
- * *The King's Speech*
- * *127 Hours*
- * *The Social Network*
- * *Toy Story 3*
- * *True Grit*
- * *Winter's Bone*

For the complete list of nominations, visit [E! Online](#).

Is Sandra Bullock Heading for Heartache Again?



By Dawn Maslar, author of *From Heartbreak to Heart's Desire: Developing a Healthy GPS (Guy Picking System)*

Just about everyone loves America's sweetheart Sandra Bullock. She showed such grace and charm winning the Golden Globe Award just months after filing for divorce following the devastating cheating scandal with ex-hubby Jesse James. Bullock maintained her dignity while her husband's tawdry affairs were displayed on just about every magazine cover. Most of us couldn't image the pain she was going through.

Now the grocery store checkout lane is displaying Sandra Bullock and Ryan Reynolds in a rebound romance. Bullock divorced Jesse James in June 2010, while Reynolds' marriage with Scarlett Johansson just ended a few weeks ago.

Besides the fact that rebound relationships usually lead to heartbreak, neither of the stars have very good partner picking skills. Bullock's past attraction to a bad boy biker (who just announced his impending fourth marriage to Kat Von D) shows an attraction to men with questionable loyalty. And Reynolds' past relationship choices aren't much better. His marriage to Johansson only lasted two years, which is actually record breaking for the young actress, since her previous relationships usually lasted less than a year.

If we take a look at who Johansson dated prior to Reynolds, we see many red flags. She dated Justin Timberlake, who has a string of affairs with women who are attracted to the wrong men, including Britney Spears and Cameron Diaz. Diaz's is currently dating Alex Rodriguez, whose dating history is one of a classic player (and I'm not talking about baseball). Diaz also dated Chris Angel, and the relationship seemed to evaporate into thin air. The point is, by looking through this cycle of relationships, it's easy to see why both Bullock and Reynolds should probably keep their distance ... at least for now.

Spokespeople for both of the actors claim the pair are just friends, and we hope they keep it that way. Their relationship histories and current rebound states indicate that a potential relationship could end in heartbreak.

Jason Mraz Won't Marry Until Gay Marriage is Legal



Singer Jason Mraz may have proposed to his fiancée, Tristan Prettyman, in December, but he doesn't see a marriage in the new future, according to UsMagazine.com. At Elton John's Concert to Benefit the American Foundation for Equal Rights, Mraz explained the reason for his long engagement. "The wedding would be nice for our family, our friends, our community – our moms especially – and so it puts us in the fight," said Mraz. "We can't get married until [gay] marriage is legal and equal...I think giving people the right to marry will be a huge movement in civil rights."

What are some reasons to prolong your engagement?

Cupid's Advice:

It's perfectly acceptable to delay your rush to the altar. If a too-soon marriage is causing strife, then consider a long engagement. Here are a few reasons to prolong your engagement:

- 1. Career issues:** Planning a wedding is a lot of work. If you or your partner are facing a stressful time at work, then consider waiting for your careers to settle down before tying the knot.
 - 2. Last minute details:** In many relationships, especially long-distance relationships, there are many final details to work out. Living arrangements, career changes and relocation are only a few of the issues facing engaged couples.
 - 3. Not being ready:** There's no room for second thoughts. If you're not sure you're prepared to make it official, there's no harm in waiting. You've already found 'the one,' so the pressure's off.
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True Blood's Joe Manganiello Will Invite Cast to Wedding





Joe Manganiello and fiancé Audra Marie won't be leaving anyone out of their wedding festivities, including the entire cast of *True Blood*, according to *People*. Manganiello, who plays a werewolf on HBO's hit vampire series, is engaged to model/actress Audra Marie. After announcing his intentions to invite each *True Blood* cast member at the PGA Awards in Beverly Hills, he said, "I love them. They're like my family."

He also credits the show for making the wedding proposal possible, as he used his first check as a series regular to purchase a ring for his lovely bride-to-be. With vampires and werewolves in the same room, this should be an interesting wedding.

Who should you invite to your wedding?

Cupid's Advice:

The bride and groom are always faced with the burden and privilege of making a guest list for the big day. Since it isn't always possible to invite everyone you know, it's necessary pick and choose. Keep these people in mind:

1. Family, and friends that are like family: Start with the people closest to you such as immediate family members and other people you care the most about.

2. People from work: You spend 40+ hours a week with your co-workers. Therefore, you should consider bringing them along for the ride. If inviting everyone from work is not in the budget, then just invite your boss. Who knows? They could have so much fun at the reception that it could lead to a promotion.

3. Parents' friends: Friends of your parents have watched you grow up and would love to see you get married. Invite the select few that you remember seeing often as a child.

It's Time! Watch The 83rd Academy Awards Nominations LIVE





As [promised](#), here is the live broadcast of the [83rd Academy Awards](#) nominations! Visit us later for a full recap. Enjoy!

Watch [live streaming video](#) from [academyawards](#) at [livestream.com](#)

**Watch the Live Broadcast of
the 83rd Annual Academy
Awards Nominations with
Cupid's Pulse Tomorrow!**





Well folks, it's awards season, and you know what that means: gawking at the uber-hot celebrity couples on the red carpet! But before we get to that, a few (quite important) announcements still need to be made, like the nominations for the 83rd Academy Awards. Lucky for you, Cupid will be streaming the broadcast live on our homepage tomorrow, **Tuesday, Jan. 25 at 5:30am PT/8:30am ET**, with help from Livestream!

The webcast will begin with "Road to the Oscars," featuring Chris Harrison, host of [ABC's The Bachelor](#) and TV Guide Network's Academy Awards red carpet show, and Dave Karger, senior writer at *Entertainment Weekly*. The two will celebrate the year in film and discuss the movie trends from 2010. Shortly after that, Academy President Tom Sherak and last year's Supporting Actress winner, Mo'Nique, will take the stage and reveal the nominees in the following 10 categories: Leading Actor, Leading Actress, Supporting Actor, Supporting Actress, Animated Feature Film, Directing, Foreign Language Film, Adapted Screenplay, Original Screenplay and Best Picture.

Will your favorite celebrities make the cut? Watch the live stream with us tomorrow morning and find out!

Miranda Kerr and Orlando Bloom Welcome a Son



Orlando Bloom is no longer the only man in the house! According to *People*, Bloom and wife Miranda Kerr welcomed their son Flynn on January 6th. "I gave birth to him naturally; without any pain medication and it was a long, arduous and difficult labor, but Orlando was with me the whole time supporting and guiding me through it. I could not have done it without him," the model said on her Kora Organics Web

site on Tuesday. “We are so happy and are enjoying our time together as a family. He is our little ray of sunshine. Thank you everyone for your beautiful well wishes and your lovely thoughts.”

How can you support each other during the birthing process?

Cupid’s Advice:

It’s no secret that having a child is a difficult process, but with a little help from your spouse, it doesn’t have to be a nightmare. Cupid has a few ways you and your partner can support one another:

- 1. Learn together:** It’s important that you and your spouse are familiar and comfortable with the process before it happens. Attend birthing classes together. You have to learn about effective ways to support each other before you can actually do it.
- 2. Communicate:** It’s not easy to support your partner if you’re not sure how to help. Keep the line of communication open about the experience and how it’s effecting the both of you. Always remind each other that you’re in this together!
- 3. Have a plan:** The worst time to panic is when the baby is on his or her way. Have a solid plan in place ahead of time so that when the time does come, all you have to worry about is being there for each other.

Pregnant Kate Hudson Will Not

Marry Matt Bellamy Anytime Soon



Kate Hudson may be three months pregnant, but she has no immediate plans to marry the father of her child, Muse musician Matt Bellamy, according to *UsMagazine.com*. The actress, 31, has a previous child with rocker Chris Robinson; her son, Ryder, is now 6. “[Hudson] wanted Ryder to have a sibling, and Matt happened to be her boyfriend,” explained a source. “[Bellamy] went along with it.”

Should you marry the father of your child?

Cupid’s Advice:

Single mothers are becoming more and more common. Before

committing to the father of your child, you should consider a few of the following:

1. The baby: Make sure that you are marrying your partner for the right reasons. If you're only tying the knot because of your pregnancy, take your beliefs and values into question. Having a child together may not be good enough of a reason to commit to each other for life.

2. Your financial future: Don't get married for financial reasons. Money is one of the key factors that can ruin a relationship. There's always child support if you'd rather not tie the knot with the father of your child.

3. Your feelings: Analyze your relationship with the father of your child. If you're in love, and you feel that a life with him would make you happy, then go for it! Having a traditional family arrangement is just an added bonus.

Rob Pattinson and Kristen Stewart Shoot Provocative Scene for New Twilight Movie





It looks like *Twilight* lovers Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart will be getting hot and heavy in the third installment of the popular sci-fi movies, according to *Digital Spy*. The duo, who also spend quality time together as a couple off-screen, were caught in a compromising position in the most recently released photo from the film. Pattinson and Stewart met on the set of the first installment of *Twilight* and have been keeping their relationship under wraps ever since. Despite their professional partnership, the two seem to be in it for the long haul. **Is it OK to work professionally with your partner?**

Cupid's Advice:

There's a commonly held belief that people should keep their personal and professional lives completely separate. Cupid has some reasons it might actually be a good idea to work with your partner:

1. You know each other: Chances are that you know your partner better than almost anyone else in your life. In a work environment, you can achieve efficiency easier with your

partner because you're able to see eye-to-eye on things.

2. Motivations are the same: In a professional setting, you often start to question your co-workers' motivations and wonder if they match your own. Especially if you're married, you and your partner's motivations are pretty much guaranteed to be the same. You're working for a common cause.

3. Enables understanding: The best thing about working with your partner is that it allows you to better understand each other. Instead of having a big portion of your life off-limits, your mate knows exactly where you've been all day and exactly what you've achieved. There's no mystery!

Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt Share a PDA-Filled Golden Globes





Angelina Jolie may not have won big at the Golden Globes this past Sunday, but she didn't leave empty-handed! At the end of the night, she still got to go home with her hunky mate, Brad Pitt. As host Ricky Gervais brutally mocked Jolie's nomination for *The Tourist*, the 35-year-old actress sat with her head resting on her man's shoulder. Then, according to *UsMagazine.com*, she was later seen sweetly fixing Pitt's tie. Although Jolie didn't get an award, her partner's reassuring consolation certainly won her heart!

What are subtle ways to show you care in public?

Cupid's Advice:

At the Golden Globes, Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt managed to show that they cared for each other without getting too mushy. Cupid thought of some ways that you can do the same:

1. Hold hands: Holding your special someone's hand in public is a great way to make him or her feel special. It may not seem like you're doing much, but it's actually a great way to show your partner that you're proud to be in a relationship.

2. Do sweet favors: When it comes to adoring your partner in public, waiting on them hand and foot never fails. It could be as simple as taking her jacket, filling her glass of wine, or even helping her out of a chair. If you do something before she has to ask, it shows you were thinking about her happiness first.

3. Wink: A very simple and overlooked gesture that goes a long way is a small bat of the eye. A wink as you smile at your partner shows her that you have eyes for no one else!

Jesse James and Kat Von D Are Engaged





It's wedding bells for one of the most controversial couples in Hollywood: Jesse James and Kat Von D have announced their engagement. James and now ex-wife Sandra Bullock split in June after news of his multiple affairs surfaced. The motorcycle mogul, who began dating Kat Von D shortly after the divorce, professed his love for his fiancée to *People*. "You know sometimes the public and press gets it wrong. This is one of those times. 2010 was actually the best year of my life because I fell in love with my best friend. An amazing woman who stood behind me when the world turned their backs."

How do you know when someone is truly committed?

Cupid's Advice:

It can be tough to tell if the person you're dating is planning on being in the relationship for the long haul.

Cupid has some ideas and how to tell if he's truly committed:

1. There for you: When the going gets tough, and your partner stands by you in a time of crisis, it's safe to say he's not a flight risk.

2. All about PDA: If your mate isn't afraid to sing your praises in front of anyone and everyone, it's more than likely true love.

3. Don't care what people think: When it comes to your relationship, sometimes there will be naysayers. If your partner doesn't seem to care about the critics, he's there for the count.

JWOWW's Ex-Boyfriend Speaks Out About Her Dating Advice Book





Jersey Shore star Jenni “JWOWW” Farley is catching some heat in response to her new relationship advice book called, *The Rules According To JWOWW*, according to *RadarOnline*. Her ex-boyfriend, Tom Lippolis, is anything but supportive of her newest endeavor, as he calls her book “laughable.” “How could she write a book about dating when she’s done nothing but cheat on her boyfriend on national television?” Lippolis asks. Although Lippolis and JWOWW were the only couple to last through more than one season, that ended during season 3 of the hit reality show when Lippolis saw a picture of his girlfriend kissing tattooed trucker, Roger Williams. “If her dating book is about infidelity, disrespect, and/or lack of self-respect in a relationship then I think it will do well, definitely her expertise!” says Lippolis.

Who should you trust to give you reliable relationship advice?

Cupid’s Advice:

Choosing who to love and spend your life with is an incredibly important decision, and wanting to get advice and opinions on the matter is a natural result of that. There’s no lack of

opinions in this world, however, so make sure you only trust reliable sources when it comes to relationship advice:

1. Longtime friends: It takes a long time to truly get to know someone. Instead of trusting the advice of someone who has only known you for a short while, seek the opinions of those who have known you the longest. Plus, they're likely to have your best interests at heart.

2. Family: Your family members have not only known you your whole life, but they're more likely to be straight with you. Instead of the "tactful" filter that's in place with your friends, they'll be blunt with you about their true feelings on the relationship in question.

3. Experts: Check credentials. When you're in the market to hire someone for a job, that person must submit a resume of past experiences to prove he or she is qualified. Take the same approach with relationship advice. Make sure the person giving you advice has experience to draw from.

How to Have a Relationship with Yourself





Maybe you've never been to rehab and maybe you've never been accused of assault while in aforementioned rehab, but you must know what it's like to be in over your head. You know what it's like to nearly have a panic attack when things are going wrong. We've all made mistakes, and we've all grimaced at the fact that life is not turning out the way we wanted. Once you reach that point of regret and self-awareness, you'll hopefully come to one solid conclusion: before you can move on to your next relationship, you must work on yourself.

But how do you do it? There's no internal switch that makes you focus on personal development. You have to find the motivation within yourself! Perhaps your inspiration comes from the desire to be with someone special, but many of us aren't in the right place to meet that person, yet. If you don't have your most basic issues analyzed and set on the road to recovery, then how do you expect any relationship (romantic, friendly, or familial) to work out? Self-improvement—a relationship with yourself—must come before all others.

Since leaving rehab, 24-year-old actress, Lindsay Lohan, has been busy. In fact, she can teach us a few lessons. Several sources for celebrity news refer to her as “newly sober.”

1: Once personal development begins, you get a clean slate: In this context, every day can be the first day of your journey to self-improvement. The best part about unlimited fresh starts is that you have numerous chances to succeed.

2: You need an overarching goal: Figure out what you’re working towards, and never forget it. In Lohan’s case, staying sober might be her main objective along with sub-goals, possibly including a shoe line or a successful movie in the future. Maybe she’s even keeping her eye out for a new and healthy relationship.

The paparazzi have been keeping a close eye on Lohan. Their pictures allow us and the rest of the world to speculate about whether she’s on the right path.

3: Only value the advice of people who truly know and care for you: Those who don’t have your best interest at heart should be ignored. Lindsay Lohan should stay focused on herself and those close to her.

You might have minor issues to work on, or you may need to completely restructure your life. That said, you no longer have to worry about your answer to the question, “Are you seeing anyone?” Now, you can hold your head up high and say, “No. I’m just working on a relationship with myself.”

Melissa Etheridge Is In a New Relationship with Best Friend



After a nasty split from wife Tammy Lynn Michaels last year, Melissa Etheridge has entered the dating world again – with her best friend. Etheridge began dating *Nurse Jackie* creator Linda Wallem three months after the breakup. A friend of the couple tells *People*, “Melissa and Linda have been best friends for over 10 years,” adding that Linda was “best man” at Melissa’s wedding to Tammy in 2003. The new couple, who share the same birthday and turn 50 in May, “are in a committed relationship. They’re happy,” says the pal.

Should you risk losing a friendship by taking it to the next level?

Cupid’s Advice:

If you're feeling something more for your friend and want to take a risk, is it worth it? Cupid has some tips on how to know if you should take the jump:

1. Observe: Before actually asking your friend if he has feelings, too, and making things awkward, observe. Watch his interactions with other girls, and see if he treats you differently.

2. Ask yourself if you're in love: Some confuse closeness and intimacy with love. Make sure you really have romantic feelings before you take the next big step. If you just think he'd make a good husband, but aren't actually attracted to him, it might lead to heartbreak.

3. Think about the future: Not all couples are meant to last. Are you and your friend compatible romantically? If you don't see the relationship lasting, it's probably better to stay friends.

Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban Welcome a Baby Girl





Actress Nicole Kidman and husband Keith Urban welcomed the arrival of their surrogate daughter, Faith Margaret, on December 28th. Their newborn is the second daughter to join the family, along with two-year-old Sunday Rose. The couple kept the surrogate process secret from reporters until recently, when they issued statements to *UsMagazine.com*. “Our family is truly blessed, and just so thankful, to have been given the gift of baby Faith Margaret,” said Kidman. “No words can adequately convey the incredible gratitude that we feel for everyone who was so supportive throughout this process, in particular our gestational carrier.”

How should you welcome your surrogate child?

Cupid’s Advice:

Whether adopting or welcoming a surrogate child to your family, sometimes it’s hard to feel at home with a child you’re only just meeting. Here are a few ways to welcome your new child to the family:

1. Throw a baby shower: Even though the baby isn’t arriving

traditionally, the child will still be yours to care for and love for the rest of your life. Take the opportunity to throw a baby shower, both anticipating the new baby and thanking the birth mother for her selflessness.

2. Make a transition: If your child experienced a lapse in time between birth and coming to live with you, the baby has probably become used to his or her environment. Ease the transition by incorporating the smells and textures your baby is accustomed to into your own home.

3. Make a connection: Just because you didn't physically give birth to your child doesn't mean you aren't the baby's "real" parents. Spend the time needed to establish a parental connection.

Sandra Bullock Denies Romance with Ryan Reynolds





Apparently, Sandra Bullock and Ryan Reynolds are not “lovahs,” at least according to Bullock’s interview with Al Roker in an interview earlier this week. The actors have been close friends for 10 years, but at this time in her life the only man Bullock looks forward to seeing at the end of her day is her son, Louis, according to *People*. “I think there will be a collective sigh amongst women across the United States when I say he’s not my lovah,” she said.

How do you use humor to fend off relationship rumors?

Cupid’s Advice:

Constant pestering from family and friends about you potentially dating a close friend can get obnoxious. That said, sometimes it’s best to combat those comments with humor:

1. Make a funny: If nobody believes your denial, give in and play along. By giving dramatic fabricated details about a date that never happened, the topic will soon die out when friends finally get what they want, which is you discussing the “relationship.”

2. Do as Sandra does: Play light on the subject. By saying something along the lines of, “I could only wish he’d take me out,” you acknowledge that you two aren’t dating and at the same time give the audience a mental picture of you two together.

3. Stay away from sarcasm: Although a dry joke may be your weapon of choice, take into consideration others’ feelings beforehand so you don’t offend anyone. Only use sarcasm if you’re sure it will be well-received.

Jennifer Aniston Doesn't Understand Girls on 'The Bachelor'





America's sweetheart Jennifer Aniston reveals that she doesn't understand the ABC show that took our nation full of hopeless romantics by storm. According to *People*, Aniston tells *Allure*, "You know what I find fascinating? *The Bachelor*. I was mesmerized by how these girls, they meet this guy, they have three dates together or something, and they're weeping as though they've just lost the love of their life. I don't understand that." While Aniston may not believe in leaving her love life up to a rose ceremony, one thing the star does say she believes in is "friendship and fun."

Is it possible to fall in love quickly?

Cupid's Advice:

There's no concrete answer as far as "love at first sight" is concerned. Cupid tends to think it takes more than three dates to truly fall in love, and here's why:

1. You need to want it for the right reasons: Sometimes when we're sick of being single, we just settle for the next person who comes along. It's easy to mistake your comfort level

being in a relationship versus single for love.

2. It's probably lust: Whether it's the stars, the wine or the intense physical attraction, most of the time the feelings you have after the first few encounters with a person can be misconstrued as love. In fact, it's probably lust, infatuation or a desire for companionship.

3. People are complicated: The fact is, it's not easy to truly get to know someone. People have many layers, and it takes time to break through those layers. The fact is, you can't love someone fully unless you completely know them.

Christian Bale Gets Choked Up While Praising His Wife





The Fighter actor Christian Bale had a lot to say after winning Best Supporting Actor at the Critic's Choice Movie Awards. Most memorably, he took time to praise his wife of nearly 11 years, Sibi Blazic, reports *People*. "I get choked up about that stuff," Bale explained while tearing up. "It's everything because I truly believe you can't celebrate [success] without having your partner with you." Bale appreciates his wife's steadfast and loyal personality. "Making movies takes so much time," said the actor. "It's not just the time when you're filming. The character is born long before the first day of shooting and so [my wife] had to be married to so many different characters over our marriage. I know that it truly would be impossible to do it without her."

What are ways to celebrate success with your partner?

Cupid's Advice:

After a long while with your partner, it's easy to take things for granted. Every now and then it's important to appreciate what you have. Here are a few ways to celebrate:

1. Have a heartfelt conversation: While sharing your most honest thoughts with your partner may seem corny, try putting aside all embarrassment and tell your partner how happy you are to have reached this point in your life.

2. Go out for dinner: After a particularly stressful week, try treating your partner to dinner at a restaurant the two of you reserve for special occasions. Use the dinner as a “thank you” to your partner.

3. Take your Thanksgivings seriously: For many, the Thanksgiving holiday has become more about food than appreciation. Next year, try letting the holiday truly hit home, and show you’re grateful for the blessings you share with your partner.

Chloe Sevigny Says She Isn't Dating Jersey Shore's Pauly D





After they were spotted sitting together courtside at a Knicks-Spurs game, rumors about actress Chloe Sevigny and *Jersey Shore*'s Paul "DJ Pauly D" DelVecchio were an item.

When asked by *Interview* magazine about the possibility of dating Pauly D, the *Big Love* star called the idea "hilarious," reports *People*. Sevigny added, "That would be the weirdest couple in the world. It would be like the apocalypse. We represent extremes, in opposite directions. So for us two to come together, it would be a very strange meeting of the minds or colliding of two worlds."

Is it true that opposites attract?

Cupid's Advice:

"You say 'yes,' and I say 'no.' You say 'stop,' and I say, 'go, go, go!'" Can this complicated relationship (courtesy of the Beatles) really work? Cupid has some ideas:

1. People are complex: No two people are completely opposite (or completely alike). When opposites attract, it may just be two people who find that the few things they have in common

are more important than their differences.

2. Scientists say no: According to a [2003 study](#) where researchers quizzed 978 heterosexual residents of Ithaca, New York, about what they look for in a partner, the results were clear: The majority look for mates who are similar to themselves.

3. Opposites attract, but do they stay together?: You may be attracted to someone who is different from you because they seem to fill a gap. But it's up to you to make the relationship last.