

Tim McGraw and Faith Hill Deny Divorce Rumors



By April Littleton

Tim McGraw and Faith Hill insist that their marriage is still going strong despite the recent tabloid reports about an inevitable divorce. “[Rumors] seem to be running like crazy right now for some reason. It’s perplexing,” Hill told [People](#). “I don’t know why ‘happy’ can’t be a story.” The couple have been married for 17 years and have three children together.

How do you keep rumors from affecting your relationship?

Cupid’s Advice:

A stable, committed relationship is hard to maintain when

rumors are involved in the equation. As a couple, you and your partner have to remain strong and keep an open line of communication between the two of you in order to get past this. You have to have an extreme amount of trust, among other things, to look beyond the hurtful rumors that are being said about your relationship. Cupid has your back:

1. Communicate: One small misunderstanding can ruin a long-term relationship. If you hear something you're not sure about, talk to your partner about it. Sometimes a piece of information can be taken the wrong way and can get back to you completely misconstrued. As long as you and your significant other remain open and honest with each other, any gossip you hear from family or friends should be able to go in one ear and out the other.

Related: [Doug Hutchinson and Teen Bride Courtney Stodden Separate](#)

2. Ignore it: More often than not, the people who spread the rumors involving your relationship are looking to get attention from you and your honey. Don't sweat it. The whole world doesn't need to know the details on what's going on with you and your boo. If you don't feel like sharing the truth or even acknowledging the rumor swirling around, then don't.

Related: [Bruce Jenner Says 'Nobody is Filing for Divorce'](#)

3. Address the problem: Sometimes the best way to get rid of a problem is by confronting it head on. Let all of your loved ones know what's going on before the rumors get out of control. You don't have to tell everyone you know. Just tell the people who you consider to be in your close circle. As long as your close friends and family members know the real deal, the misinformation shouldn't bother you and your partner as much.

What are some other ways to keep rumors from affecting your relationship? Comment below.

Keith Urban Says Marriage and Family Takes Work Every Day



By Kristyn Schwiep

Keith Urban and wife, Nicole Kidman, have been together for seven years. Urban says marriage and family takes work every day. “Somewhere in the last couple of years, I’ve really grasped the concept of the brevity of time,” he told [People](#). “It’s very, very fleeting. No matter how many years are ahead of us, it will all be gone very quickly. I don’t want to miss any of it.” Urban said that a marriage is like a garden, “it’s not fixed and then you moved on; it’s maintained on a daily basis.”

What are some ways to work on your marriage?

Cupid's Advice:

1. Communicate: You and your partner need to take the time to communicate with each other. Try making a list for each other of what you think is wrong with your marriage and ideas for your two to improve on your relationship. Talking about your feelings can be difficult, but talking through your problems needs to be done so you are aware of what is going on.

Related: [Nicole Kidman Chooses Great Love with Keith Urban Over Career](#)

2. Make sure you listen: Even though communicating may seem like the hardest part of fixing a troubled marriage, listening to what each other has to say can be even tougher. Make sure that you listen to what each other are saying. If you don't listen, you won't get anything accomplished.

Related: [Keith Urban Says Wife, Nicole Kidman, Saved His Life](#)

3. Be grateful: Keep your relationship strong, by not being selfish. If your partner does something wrong, try not to nag or nitpick at them. Find a rhythm that works best for both of you for different aspects of your relationship. Being selfish and ungrateful can cause stress and turmoil in any relationship.

What are some ways you have worked on your marriage? Share your thoughts below.

Muse Media Manager Thomas Kirk Marries at Kate Hudson's House



By April Littleton

Congratulations to Muse media manager Thomas Kirk and Jaclyn Ferber who married at Kate Hudson's Pacific Palisades home Saturday, Nov. 9. A source told UsMagazine.com that the wedding took place in the front yard of Hudson's home, which had been decorated with bistro chairs and an ivy-covered altar. The new bride wore a strapless gown and walked down a white wood plank aisle.

What are some ways to make a wedding at home special?

Cupid's Advice:

When it comes to a wedding, nothing can be as special as having it in the comfort of your own home. Just because you decide to hold your special day in a familiar place doesn't mean it can't be mesmerizing and over-the-top if that's what you're expecting. Cupid is here to help:

1. Decorations: If you plan on having your wedding outside of your home, hire a professional landscape to tend to your yard. Get some fresh, unique flowers planted just in time to be in full bloom for your wedding. You can also hang up lanterns, lamps or other different types of lights to really help your wedding ceremony and reception stand out.

Related: [Find Out How Kate Hudson Helped Lea Michele After Cory Monteith's Death](#)

2. Food: Instead of hiring a caterer have some of your most trusted friends and family members help you prepare the meals for your big day. The menu options you come up with can be inspired from your significant other's favorite food or yours.

Related: [Find Out About Kelly Clarkson's Farm Wedding](#)

3. Keepsakes: Provide all of your guests with disposable cameras so that they can capture precious moments throughout the reception and ceremony. Once the photos are developed, you and your new spouse can create a scrapbook together or you can pass out the pictures to your loved ones.

Jenny

McCarthy

Talks

Potential Marriage Proposal to Donnie Wahlberg



By Kerri Sheehan

Jenny McCarthy is hearing wedding bells! McCarthy, 41, dished to Bethenny Frankel on a taping of the *Bethenny* show that if her boyfriend Donnie Wahlberg were to propose she would say, "Yes!" She also wouldn't be opposed to getting down on one knee herself. After taking a year off from dating McCarthy decided to give the New Kids on the Block singer a chance when he broke through the wall she put up. According to UsMagazine.com McCarthy said, "I told the universe I'm ready for love. I said bring the one. I'm not doing any more auditions."

What are some romantic ways a woman can propose to a man?

Cupid's Advice:

The days when it was unheard of for a woman to propose to a man are gone! Some woman would rather be in control of their proposal than leave it up to their guy. Let Cupid help you pop the question:

Related Link: [Planning the Perfect Proposal](#)

1. Get family involved: When you get married you're really marrying a whole family, not just one person. Have members from each of your families help you plan a scavenger hunt for him or have them hold up cards boasting the words, "Will you marry me?" Involving both of you families in the proposal is a nice gesture and makes for a great story.

2. Keep his favorites in mind: Incorporating your beau's favorites, whether it's a restaurant, drink, or location, will personalize the proposal and make him feel extra special—as he should! This will show him how well you know and will also make him feel like a king.

Related Link: [Kaley Cuoco Admits Surprise Engagement Seems 'a Little Crazy'](#)

3. Have fun: Getting engaged should be fun and after all men are just big kids at heart. One cute idea that will catch your guy off guard is to propose on an amusement park ride. He'll be shocked and wowed all at the same time. Bonus points if the ride you chose takes your picture while in motion!

How would you propose to your significant other? Share below.

'N Sync's Lance Bass Says Jessica Biel is Helping to Plan His Wedding



By Kerri Sheehan

Love is in the air for the boy band 'N Sync! Band member Chris Kirkpatrick wed longtime girlfriend, Karly Skladany on November 4th and Lance Bass is currently planning his own wedding ceremony after proposing to boyfriend, Michael Turchin in September 2013. While at Kirkpatrick's wedding Bass got some wedding ideas from Justin Timberlake's wife Jessica Biel. According to UsMagazine.com, "One really cool idea she had was that, on the invites – because we love our onesies – send out personalized onesies to all our guests so that at midnight

after the reception it turns into a pajama party.”

How do you enlist the help of friends when you’re planning your wedding?

Cupid’s Advice:

Having a wedding can be a fun and exciting time for a couple, but it sure is a lot of work! That’s why the help of friends can be your biggest stress saver when it comes to planning a wedding. Let Cupid help you decide how to enlist the help of friends for planning your wedding.

Related: [Lance Bass is Engaged to Michael Turchin](#)

1. Ask for help: Your friends won’t know that you need help unless you ask them! If the time you have to pick up the wedding rings happens to coincide with the cake tasting you scheduled a month in advanced then asking a friend to do the former will save you some time and stress.

2. Get suggestions: There are so many special touches that can be added to your wedding that will likely get lost amidst the basic wedding plans. If the bride is a music lover then wrapping her bouquet in sheets of music instead of ribbon is a cute and unique idea. See if your friends have any ideas that you can run with to make the wedding really special.

Related: [Former ‘N Sync Member Chris Kirkpatrick Marries Karly Skladany](#)

3. Don’t be pushy: No bridesmaid will take kindly to be called at 4am every other night and hearing your wedding planning woes. True friends are always willing to help your plan your dream wedding, but you have to remember that they have their own lives too. Don’t be the next Bridezilla!

How did you enlist your friend’s help when planning your wedding? Share below.

‘Mad Men’ Star Jared Harris Marries Allegra Riggio



By April Littleton

According to [People](#), Jared Harris married his longtime girlfriend Allegra Riggio last Saturday in Miami. The bride tweeted a picture with her new husband with the caption “Just Married <3 #TeamHarris #Jally #MarriageEnsued.” Riggio wore a strapless lace gown and angel wings.

How do you make your wedding dress unique?

Cupid’s Advice:

One of the most important aspects of a wedding is the bride's dress. Should you stick to traditional and wear the classic white color or should you spice things up a little bit? Not to mention the many styles to choose from – mermaid, ball gown, etc. Cupid has some tips:

Related: [Former 'N Sync Member Chris Kirkpatrick Marries Karly Skladany](#)

1. Change up the color: When it comes to your wedding, wearing a white dress is the most traditional approach you can take. However, there's nothing wrong with adding a little color to your gown if you want to have a little more fun.

2. Custom made: If you really want to stand out, think about getting your dress custom made for your special day. Depending on what wedding designer you decide to hire, it could be a bit expensive so make sure you have the additional funds before you choose this option.

Related: [Mad Men's Jared Harris Is Engaged](#)

3. Ditch the train: Everyone usually expects the bride to wear a long, glowing gown on their wedding day. Surprise your guests by wearing a shorter dress. A shorter style will certainly be more comfortable and the shoes you wear will stand out for all of your loved ones to see.

What are some other ways to make your wedding dress unique? Comment below.

Engaged Ciara Says She May be

'Part-Bridezilla'



By April Littleton

Ciara is already preparing the details on her upcoming wedding to rapper Future. “It’s going to be two parts,” she told [People](#) at the People’s Choice Awards nominations announcement last week. “We’re both from Atlanta and we have so many family and friends ... it’s going to be hard to get everybody in one place, so we’re going to do a celebration part and a wedding.”

What are some ways to keep stress out of wedding planning?

Cupid’s Advice:

Wedding planning can be a fun and exciting task for a couple as well as hectic. Everyone dreams of having the “perfect” ceremony and reception and sometimes this train of thought can

get in the way of realizing what's really important – marrying the love of your life. Cupid has some tips:

Related: [Celebrity Couples Who Look Hot at a Pool Party](#)

1. Family and friends: You don't have to plan your whole wedding by yourself. If you need some additional help, ask some of your trusted loved ones to lend you a pair of extra hands. You can assign different tasks out for certain individuals to do. Does one of your friends have the perfect handwriting to do your wedding save-the-dates? Maybe your mom would be the perfect person to help with the cake. On a side note, don't stress out if they give you some advice you may not like – they're just trying to help you have a perfect day.

2. Wedding planner: A professional wedding coordinator can be a big help if you're unsure of how things are supposed to go. However, hiring someone to help with your wedding can end up being very expensive.

Related: [Kanye West Says He Wants Fighter Jets at Wedding to Kim Kardashian](#)

3. Just have fun with it: Planning out the details of your wedding shouldn't be stressful in the first place. This should be a fun and exciting time for you and your fiancé/fiancée. Don't agonize over the little things that won't matter once you're married. Remember, the most important part of your commitment is the marriage itself – not the reception and ceremony.

What are some other ways to keep stress out of wedding planning? Comment below.

‘RHOA’ Star Phaedra Parks Talks New Book and Marriage: “Remember What Made You Fall in Love”



By Kerri Sheehan

Phaedra Parks of Bravo's *The Real Housewives of Atlanta* is well acquainted with working hard and multitasking. There is seemingly nothing this mother of two can't tackle; she has a healthy relationship with her husband, and a booming law firm, The Parks Group, P.C. Parks began her association with *RHOA* as the show's lawyer, but this beautiful Belle quickly went from behind the scenes to in front of the camera, joining season three as a cast member. "Now, I can say I've pretty

much done everything when it comes to TV – from the licensing deals to being the on-air talent,” says the starlet.

Never one to slow down, Parks is also venturing into the funeral business, working towards her mortician’s license and opening up her own family-run funeral home. When asked how she got into the business, it’s really a sad story. “Unfortunately, I got into this industry because I had a lot of great friends who passed. People would ask me to help with the funeral arrangements, and I actually became very intrigued by every aspect of the mortuary process – from picking out the makeup and dressing the body to the funeral service. I always paid a lot of attention to the preparation and all of the details.” Family is a motivating factor in everything Parks does, and by opening a funeral home and crematorium in the near future, she hopes to leave a legacy for her family. “It’s a very multi-dimensional industry: You’ve got the business portion, you’ve got the counseling portion, and then you’ve got the preparation of the body portion.”

Related Link: [NeNe Leaks Ties the Knot with Gregg Leakes, Again!](#)

Throughout her somewhat unusual change of direction in career, husband Apollo has been very supportive. “I think communication is key in any marriage,” she candidly shares. “You need to clearly communicate how you’re going to achieve your goals and how your partner will be a part of your plan.” For women looking to make a similar track change in their career, Parks suggests making sure your spouse knows that they’re a significant ingredient in your success. This high-powered business woman knows that it’s not good practice to plunge into the unknown while dragging your hubby by the collar – having him as an equal and understanding partner in the new undertaking will help smooth any obstacles that may pop up during the career transition.

Related Link: [Real Housewives Star Gretchen Rossi Proposes to Slade Smiley](#)

Given her multifaceted career path, she prides herself on being an undeniable woman of southern charm and distinction. In her new book, *Secrets of the Southern Belle: How to Be Nice, Work Hard, Look Pretty, Have Fun, and Never Have an Off Moment*, she gives readers an updated version of social etiquette that mixes modern living with traditional morals. “I think some of the books out there are too traditional, so I put a spin on it with texting, social networking, and other things like that.”

From growing one’s social circle, to strengthening one’s professional life, Parks knows from experience that a little bit of etiquette goes a long way in any situation. Parks’ mantra is “style is void without substance,” and this sentiment echoes throughout her book as she teaches you that you don’t have to be from the South to be a Southern Belle. “A Belle is anyone who’s charming and graceful, who exhibits poise, and who appropriately maneuvers social settings,” she explains, “You can put on stylish clothes, but if you’re not wearing confidence, integrity, and class, then your outfit doesn’t really matter.”

A real Southern Belle herself, Parks believes little grace should be applied to every situation at hand. “Even if you feel very strongly about something, it may be best to revisit the conversation privately rather than publicly – you may be humiliating someone, which you never want to do,” the author shares. “Being nice and killing people with kindness has definitely been my weapon of choice throughout my career.”

Related Link: [Phaedra Parks Welcomes Second Son](#)

Of course, life is about more than just your job; Parks strongly believes that her most precious time is spent with her family. As a mother of two young boys, she credits

prioritizing as the key to juggling it all. Her biggest tip for other women is to take care of yourself first, and everything else will follow. "If you're at your best self, then you'll give your best. It's easier said than done – trust me!" Taking moments to focus on yourself among all of the chaos of life will help maintain your identity as a woman. She says that the old saying is true: "Happy wife, happy life!"

This strong woman has known her husband since 1995, and the two have been married for four years. Because they have a long history she says, "We can sort of anticipate what the other one is going to do, whether it's good or bad, and we try to adjust our actions accordingly." The reality starlet adds, "communicating, compromising, and negotiating keeps our marriage strong." For women struggling in their relationship, Parks shares this piece of advice: "Remember what made you fall in love with that person and know that no marriage is going to be perfect everyday. You have to realize which battles are worth fighting, which ones need to be negotiated, and which ones you allow your partner to control." Parks knows that when you're going to be with someone forever, you're not always gong to be on the same page, and that's okay.

Be sure to check out 'Secrets of a Southern Belle,' available on Amazon, and catch more of glamorous and successful Phaedra Parks on Bravo's 'The Real Housewives of Atlanta' on Sundays at 8/7c. You can also connect with her on Twitter or her website.

**Sidebar photo courtesy of Anderson Group PR.*

Former 'N Sync Member Chris Kirkpatrick Marries Karly Skladany



By Kerri Sheehan

'N sync member Chris Kirkpatrick is off the market! He said, "I do," to girlfriend Karly Skladany this past Saturday confirmed UsMagazine.com. The singer's N' Sync band mates were in attendance and acted as groomsmen and ushers for the ceremony. This is the first time the boy band has been seen reunited since late August at the 2013 Video Music Awards at the Barclays Center in New York.

What are some ways to support your friend who is getting married?

Cupid's Advice:

Getting married can be stressful. Let Cupid help you help our your friend on their big day!

1. Bite your tongue: It's their wedding not yours; so don't insert your opinion where it is not wanted. We've all seen an episode of, "Say Yes to the Dress," where one of the bridesmaids interjects her opinion right when the bride falls in love with a dress. Don't be that bridesmaid!

2. Pick up the slack: There are a plethora of things to plan when it comes to a wedding. If you notice that your friend is forgetting certain things then give them a quick reminder. It's okay to cross the T's and dot the I's.

3. Open your ears: The months leading up to the wedding may be trying on their relationship. If your friend has any doubts then you should be there for them and be willing to give your honest opinion on the situation at hand.

How do you support to a friend who is getting married? Share below.

Maggie Scarf Breaks Down Unique Family Dynamics in 'The Remarriage Blueprint'





Interview by Gabriela Robles. Editorial by Kristin Mattern.

Maggie Scarf, *New York Times* bestselling relationship expert, fellow of Yale University, and member of the advisory board of the *American Psychiatric Press*, shares with readers in-depth stories of seven remarried couples in her newest book, *The Remarriage Blueprint*. Though almost 40 percent of new marriages in the United States are remarriages, little has been written about the unique challenges that these couples face. Scarf has dealt with the subjects of divorce and remarriage for over thirteen years, and with this book, she delves into the core of the five major challenges remarried couples will confront as they work towards becoming a unified family: the impact of insider/outsider forces, the losses children face, the task of parenting, the unification of disparate family cultures, and the extension of family boundaries. Through interviews, the author touches on the every day difficulties of combining families, such as stepparenting, household routines, exes, alone time, and finances. She explores what works and what doesn't and reveals the complications of remarriage.

We recently talked to Scarf about this must-read book.

Related Link: [Patrick Stewart Marries for the Third Time](#)

***The Remarriage Blueprint* shares seven stories of married couples. Can you tell us about your process for collecting their experiences?**

I started in 1998, and I interviewed 40 volunteers. During my work, I found that there were no good theories or research on remarriage and stepfamilies, so I tucked the project away for later. Research about remarrying and stepfamilies is taught nowhere, even though a huge segment of the population struggles with these unique issues. Around 2009, I saw that there was this wonderful theory that had been set up on the basis of the evidence that has been collected since the late '90s. So I started a new set of interviews but also went back and talked to the couples from before. This way, I had a longitudinal and fresh approach to work with with this theory, which boils everything down to the fact that there are five major factors – that aren't discussed – that couples who are remarrying with children have to face.

How do you think that a remarriage differs from a first marriage?

It is said that "remarriage is the triumph of hope over experience." Remarriages are ten percent more fragile than first marriages. Even though we have a very high divorce rate in our country, remarriage divorce rate is ten percent higher than that. The truth of the matter is, at the very worst, 60 percent of remarriages fail. These people really need information and answers to their questions.

Many remarriages happen later in life when people more settled and have a career. How do you think this affects remarriage?

You may be choosing a much better partner, one who is kinder

and more accepting or maybe one who is less abusive verbally or even physically. But it may also include children. Two partners have fallen in love and chosen each other, but the kids haven't chosen them, and they may have been through a lot of loss and change already.

The biggest difference between first marriage and second marriage is, in the first marriage, you have time to iron out your differences and work out your habits. You can work out issues like: Do we sit down to dinner? Can you start eating before everyone is at the table? What is a decent curfew? Are kids allowed to have tantrums? Where do you keep the silverware? It sounds silly, but it can cause huge upsets when the outsider comes in and says, "Hey, I want some changes here. I want some more order. I want some more authority."

Usually, the biological parent and kids are resistant. The outsider, the new stepparent, is hammering, "Let me in, let me in," and the biological parent is trying to make sure his new partner is happy while also trying to reassure the kids that nothing will change. That's impossible, though, because changes have to happen.

Think of it like architecture. You can think of one building, that's the first marriage building, and the second building is the remarriage building. The second one has design challenges. It's not a conventional building like the first one it's going to have to be worked out overtime. The whole *Brady Bunch* idea that we all simply meld together doesn't work. You have to cope with the unique difficulties involved.

Related Link: [Second \(and Third\) Marriages: Destined For Divorce?](#)

And finally, do you have any tips for our readers who are trying to keep their remarriages alive?

I would suggest they look at the five challenges because it gives them a way to think about the work of remarriage. For

example, parents are sensitive about the way they raise their children. Let's say the stepdad says to the biological mother, "My heavens! The way your daughter came in last night and left her snack out and her shoes on the floor – was she raised in a barn or what?" That is a huge message – you're a bad parent. Change that to an I statement: "When I came down, I found all the cheese and crackers out. I'd really appreciate if you could get Trish to clean up after herself. It leaves the kitchen messy, and I don't want mice. How can we handle this?" That's not a fight; that's a discussion.

Now, what about if the mom and the stepdad have Coke with dinner and the other set of parents have milk? One way you can deal with that is to say that Mom's house and Dad's house are different. It is just like two different classrooms; in one classroom, you have to raise your hand to do anything, but in Mr. Smith's classroom, you can just get up and walk around. In other words, it's never that one house is good and one's bad. Keeping parental conflict down is the most important thing a couple can do.

If you want to purchase The Remarriage Blueprint, visit Amazon.com. For more information on Scarf and other books she has written visit her website, <http://maggiescarf.com/books/the-remarriage-blueprint/synopsis/> or connect with her on www.facebook.com/Maggie-Scarf-175903732441707/ or Twitter @Maggiefirst.

Find Out About Kelly

Clarkson's Farm Wedding



By April Littleton

According to [People](#), Kelly Clarkson and Brandon Blackstock tied the knot Sunday at the private Blackberry Farm in eastern Tennessee. The *American Idol* alum carried a bouquet of yellow dusty miller blooms and purple statice blossoms. She wore a Temperley Bridal “Jessamine” gown with a Maria Elena crystal-studded headpiece. “When you see Kelly and Brandon together, they are just as in love as you would think of in a fairy tale,” said Arndt, a friend.

What are three reasons to have a wedding on a farm?

Cupid's Advice:

Picking the perfect place to have your wedding is one of the

most important decisions you'll make in your life. You can choose to have a simple, small wedding on a beach or maybe a quiet, family-filled ceremony on a farm if that's more your thing. Cupid has some tips:

1. Home sweet home: If you were raised on a farm or spent most of your free time on when, then it would be a good fit to think about having your wedding ceremony there. While you're marrying the love of your life, you'll have so many good memories swirling around inside of your head. Plus, you'll be making new memories in a place you're familiar with.

2. Save money: There's no need to spend a lot of money when you already have beautiful surrounding around you on a farm. You won't need much in the decorations department, so you'll be saving tons of money. You can splurge more on your honeymoon or other aspects of your wedding if you choose to do so.

3. Endless possibilities: If you have an outside wedding, you have tons of space to work with. Plus, the venue will be free of charge if any of your loved ones own the farm. With so much room, you can invite as many friends and family members you want without anyone feeling cramped.

What are some other reasons to have a wedding on a farm? Comment below.

Kanye West and Kim Kardashian Are Engaged!



By April Littleton

Kanye West surprised Kim Kardashian with a unexpected proposal Monday night that left her speechless. “She was so shocked and couldn’t speak after”, a source who witnessed the proposal told [People](#). “Everyone had mascara running down their faces from tears.” The 36-year-old rapper rented out San Francisco’s AT&T Park and had “PLEEEASE MARRY MEEE!!!” written on the stadium’s Jumbotron. Kardashian, who accepted the proposal, now wears a 15- carat, flawless Lorraine Schwartz diamond ring on her finger.

What are some ways to pull off a surprise proposal?

Cupid’s Advice:

Planning a surprise proposal can be a lot of fun and it’ll definitely be something you and your partner will remember for

the rest of your lives. Before you pop the question, there are a few things you should know. Cupid has some tips:

1. Surprise yourself: When it comes to the proposal, don't plan a single thing. Surprise yourself. Go with your gut and get down on one knee when it feels right. Don't worry about the place, time, who's around, etc – you'll know when you're ready to ask your honey for their hand in marriage. They won't be expecting it and neither will you.

2. Not a peep: Don't tell anyone about your plans to ask your significant other to marry you. If you do, they might start to act different around your partner and give everything away. Keep your cool and keep this little secret to yourself until you're ready to tell the person who really matters.

3. Be creative: Proposing at places like a restaurant or park are unoriginal and boring. Do something different. Create a video proposal or something else that would be fun and interactive. This is the time to show your honey how much you care about them and want to spend the rest of your life with them.

What are some other ways to pull off a surprise proposal? Comment below.

**'Boy Meets World' Star
Danielle Fishel Marries Tim
Belusko**



By Kerri Sheehan

Boy Meets World star Danielle Fishel tied the knot in a “short and sweet” ceremony in Los Angeles. Her rep confirmed to [People](#) that the 32-year-old actress is now wife to Tim Belusko, 25. The bride recently said, “The most important thing is that the day feel authentic to us.” The couple wanted a traditional wedding that also showcased their wacky side. Over 200 guests gathered to watch the pair say, “I do.” Fishel had previously said, “Tim is the one. He accepts me for exactly who I am!”

How do you make your big day feel ‘authentic’?

Cupid’s Advice:

Your wedding day should be perfect. Let Cupid help you make it your own:

1. Make it your own: There's no requirement that says your wedding has to be completely traditional or traditional at all. Don't hesitate to make little changes to your ceremony to make it really feel like your own. It's your day, no one else's

2. Keep it simple: The more over the top your wedding is the more likely you are to feel like it's all just a big show. Your wedding day is your time to show off, but going crazy in that department will make it feel more like entertainment than a union of two lovers.

3. Talk to your partner: You should run any changes you want to make to your ceremony by your mate. If you go ahead and change things without their consent then it will become all about you instead of equally about your both. Make sure there is an equal balance of elements of him and elements of her.

How would you make your big day feel authentic? Share below.

'Boy Meets World' Star Rider Strong Ties the Knot





By Gabby Robles

This Sunday, *Boy Meets World* cutie Rider Strong was wed to Alexandra Barreto in Oregon, according to [People](#). “I’m incredibly lucky to be getting married to my best friend and partner-in-crime,” Strong, who used to play Shawn Hunter on the ABC sitcom, released in a statement. The couple became engaged a little before Christmas. Beneath the redwood trees of his childhood home in Northern California, Strong proposed in a downpour with a ring he made himself – very romantic!

What are some ways to make your proposal unforgettable?

Cupid’s Advice:

Asking someone to marry you is a very big deal. You want to make sure everything is perfect so that your honey is surprised, the moment is magical, and the proposal is memorable. A way to ensure that your proposal is unforgettable is to go the extra mile and treat it like the monumental life moment that it is – for both of you. So if you’re trying to figure out how to make your engagement special, have no fear,

Cupid is here:

1. Plan something that you'll both love: This is about the both of you. Make sure that this day becomes something that you're both going to look back together and say, "Wow, that was so us!" When you personalize things for the both of you, you'll have a great result with an even greater reaction.

2. Go the extra mile: If there were ever a time to go all out on something, now would be it! Don't take your engagement lightly and plan this whole-heartedly. Spend the extra time and money. Look into all the options you're seriously considering. Don't just wing it – that won't be too memorable!

3. Think what you would want to tell your children: You don't need to make the ring yourself, but it's nice to have something that will really impact the proposal significantly. It doesn't hurt to look up how others have proposed to their partners. Just get some ideas, become inspired, and make it your own. You're definitely going to want this to be a story that you tell for decades to come!

How did you make your proposal unforgettable? Share in the comments below!

'Sweet Retreats' Host René Syler Encourages Couples to "Remember Why You Fell in

Love”



By Kristin Mattern

One time co-host of *The Early Show*, René Syler continues her television career with her own show on the Live Well Network, *Sweet Retreats*. The seasoned journalist and mother of two loves the fun and excitement of visiting vacation locales with her guests and their families; a savvy traveler herself, Syler enjoys helping show parents how to pack and plan for family trips. On her parenting website, GoodEnoughMother.com, she educates moms on more than just how to prepare for their next adventure, instead teaching parents how to be perfectly imperfect.

For a long time, Syler ran the same rat race that many women do, splitting her time between her high-powered job and her

relationship with her husband and children. On top of her already demanding life, she was also trying to be the *perfect* mother. Sometime after the birth of her second child, she came to a revelation: “I had this epiphany, and I realized, ‘Wait a minute, I don’t have to be perfect, and I actually *do* know what I am doing. It’s not the way everyone does it, but it’s the way I do it, and I’ve found it effective.’” That moment led to writing her book, called *Good Enough Mother*, and creating its spin-off website.

Good Enough Mother deals with more than motherhood. “I talk about career and keeping your marriage healthy. We also mention breast cancer and breast cancer causes. Just because I am a mother doesn’t mean I don’t have other interests, and I believe that’s something other women can relate to,” Syler explains. “I still have dreams, goals, and aspirations.” She also recommends that parents stop likening themselves to everyone else: “You want the recipe to be really unhappy? Keep comparing yourself to everybody else.”

Related Link: [Julie Benz on Her Marriage: “We Put Our Relationship First Even If That Means Turning Down Work”](#)

On *Sweet Retreats*, the celeb helps families find great places to vacation that are fun and affordable. “I love shooting this show! I’m always looking to go on vacation and save a little money here and there,” she shares. “I’m also all about showing people how to get outside the traditional touristy areas. You can actually go somewhere and become a part of a community. The show is a wonderful way to showcase how families can travel.”

Perhaps the most important part of planning a vacation is choosing a location to visit with your family. This well-traveled host suggests getting the input of your children or choosing a spot that coincides with what they’re learning about in school. “What better way to really make what they’re learning about come to life than by actually going to the

location, seeing it and experiencing it?" If you have teenagers (like Syler), she recommends giving everyone their own room, so you aren't right on top of each other, and choosing a place the whole family can enjoy.

Married for almost twenty years, Syler advises couples take time and go away together alone too. "It's important to reconnect and remember why you fell in love. Sometimes, we all need to be reminded." Her favorite vacation spot with husband Buff is Las Vegas. "We always have a great time, and I feel like we can just have fun together and act like big kids."

Related Link: [Prince William's Former Nanny Is Taking Care of Prince George](#)

When they're not getting away to a fantastic location like Vegas, the duo cherish the time they spend together, even if it's just sitting around the kitchen table. "I know that doesn't sound like a date, but it is because we're moving in the same direction, and I think that is one kind of pillar in our relationship." The couple also enjoys the movies or a quiet dinner at a pub for date night. "It's not the location. It's the communication and being able to connect," Syler sagely says.

The couple keeps their marriage strong by appreciating each other and knowing that they wouldn't be where they are today without one another. "You have to remember what it is that brought you to the party. You know, my husband is always a big fan and supporter of me, and in this day and age, you really have to have one person in your corner at all times."

Outside of work and play, Syler is a huge advocate for breast cancer awareness and education and does a lot of work with the Susan G. Komen for the Cure campaign. Both of her parents had breast cancer, and six years ago, she opted to have a double mastectomy after testing positive for the stage before breast cancer. "I believe that knowledge is power, and the more you

know, the better decisions you can make for your health,” she explains, “Part of my philosophy at Good Enough Mother is that taking care of yourself means that you are taking care of everybody else.”

That’s one thing that we know this mom does well.

For more information on Syler, visit GoodEnoughMother.com or connect with her on Facebook and Twitter @goodenufmother.

Kristen Bell and Dax Shepard Are Married!



By Gabby Robles

Congratulations to the happy couple! According to UsMagazine.com, Kristen Bell and Dax Shepard, longtime couple and parents to daughter Lincoln, were finally wed this past Thursday, October 16. The two decided to have a quiet ceremony by getting married at the Beverly Hills County Clerk's Office.

How do you keep your wedding small and intimate without offending people?

Cupid's Advice:

Some people prefer a small, quiet setting, which is perfectly fine! But others might expect you to do the opposite. Thinking of having an intimate wedding but don't want to offend anyone who isn't invited? Cupid has some suggestions:

1. Don't be bullied into inviting unwanted guests: Put your foot down. Remember that this is what you want, and explain to them why it's important for you to do it this way. People might wonder why you're choosing an intimate wedding over a big one, but they aren't the ones getting married, you and your boo are!

2. Make the guestlist: A big wedding might not be your ideal dream, and having a small wedding isn't a crime. Choose who you want to attend, remember why you want them there, and invite them.

3. Be ready to hear it from people: If people confront you with upset and tell you that they're offended that they weren't invited, you have to explain to them why they weren't. All you need to do is be honest with them – clarify your reasoning for a small wedding, and do it nicely... you don't want them to feel even more left out of your life!

What were some ways you kept your wedding small and intimate without hurting people's feelings? Share in the comments below!

Chad Kroeger Says Wife Avril Lavigne Is an 'Amazing Cook'



By Kristyn Schwiep

Chad Kroeger and Avril Lavigne are still happy in love after being married for 94 days. Nickelback singer Kroeger told [People](#) that Lavigne is an amazing cook and has never tasted one bad thing. Kroeger told People a valuable lesson he has learned about marriage: "Happy wife, happy life," he even lets her pick what movies they watch together.

How do you decide how to split up domestic duties when you live together?

Cupid's Advice:

Living you live with your partner can turn you into the designated chef, dishwasher or spider killer. So how do you decide on how you split up the domestic duties? Cupid has some advice for you:

1. Make a list: Sit down with your partner and discuss what needs to be done in your house including dishes, cooking, sweeping, etc. Once you figure out what needs to be done and how often, make a chart and print it so you can keep organized around the house.

2. Divvy the duties: If you can't decide on what domestic duty each of you should be in charge of try turning it into a game. Grab a coin and play coin toss, the winner gets to decide what chore he or she/wants to do and continue doing this until all the chores are set. This keeps it fun and you get the job done.

3. Stick to what you know: Some people like cleaning and cooking and others enjoy killing spiders and fixing broken appliances. If you and your partner can agree on what works best in your relationship then stick to what you know. Also, take the time to help each other it will remind you why you are living together in the first place.

How do you split up domestic duties with your partner? Share your stories below.

Celebrity Divorce Attorney

Laura Wasser Gives Tips on Divorcing Peacefully In New Book



By Priyanka Singh

With the climbing divorce rate reaching over 50 percent, many Americans fear the catastrophic events of a messy split. However, celebrity divorce attorney Laura Wasser has some words of wisdom to help divorcees in her new book, *It Doesn't Have to Be That Way: How to Divorce Without Destroying Your Family or Bankrupting Yourself*. The author's southern California location opens her up to a world of A-list celebrity clients, including Kim Kardashian, Britney Spears, and Heidi Klum. Even though the private lives of these stars are under constant media scrutiny and exposure, Wasser

explains that divorce disputes have the potential to be fairly painless, particularly in the familial and financial aspects of a settlement. She also spends quite a lot of time working with pro bono cases for the Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law, calling divorce a “great equalizer” because of the emotional distress couples experience is the same across the board.

In an exclusive interview with CupidsPulse.com, Wasser talks about the evolving world of divorce and provides some tips to guide you through a separation as seamlessly as possible.

Related Link: [Short-Term Celebrity Marriages \(Learn From Their Mistakes\)](#)

You’ve been in your line of work for nearly two decades. What is one common mistake that you see couples make during their divorce?

Over the past twenty years, particularly during the last five, it occurred to me that parties going through the dissolution process often go in hugely uninformed. Ignorance paired with an emotionally and financially devastating life crisis can be dangerous. Family law attorneys will often make a lot of money to the detriment of clients and their families. There are so many clients who have said, “If only I knew then what I know now.”

I have a message in my book to give to people contemplating or going through this experience, one that spans socioeconomic, gender, and age groups: *It doesn’t have to be that way*. Our generation has the tools available to us by virtue of education, the Internet, and mental health and counseling opportunities that our parents’ generations and those before them didn’t have. By employing these tools and having a relatively user-friendly guide, I believe the divorce process can be simplified and improved.

What are some tips you can give our readers about how to maintain financial and emotional stability?

Marriage is a contract. Dissolving that contract should be handled as an arm's length business transaction. Remember that this person will no longer be your spouse, but he or she will continue to be your co-parent, family member, and possibly business partner in certain assets or entities. Be nice; be reasonable; and be brief. Try not to let emotion, hurt, fear, or anger dictate the circumstances of your discussions or negotiations.

Do you think the divorce rate will continue to rise in the coming years?

It is my hope that it will be reduced because people are waiting until they are older before getting married and people are making a more concerted effort to work through their marital differences. Although divorce has become a far more viable option than it was in the past, it certainly should not be used as the easy way out.

You've acknowledged that current generation's realities have evolved a lot in recent years. How has this change played a role in the divorce rate?

The American family culture has changed significantly in the past 50 years. There are same-sex couples who marry or register as domestic partners and become parents; couples who live together for prolonged periods of time and have children; and stepparents who are integrated into family life more than ever before. An attitude of "it takes a village" often permeates our culture.

There is a whole new way to dissolve your relationship – really a whole new choice of ways to do it. The evolution in family law has been accompanied by advances in mediation, collaborative practice, and self-representation. Plus, there's been a substantive body of data that impacts dissolution,

direct and indirect, on all parties. There is also a movement of divorce attorneys – like me – who know how to help their clients navigate this territory and emerge from it strong in mind, spirit, and resources and eager to move on to the next stage of their lives.

Related Link: [Second \(and Third\) Marriages: Destined for Divorce?](#)

It's no secret that you're a supporter of prenuptial agreements. Why do you think they're so important?

A prenuptial agreement is appropriate when a couple is seeking to opt out of the laws regarding marital property and/or spousal support which govern the state in which they live or are planning to live. Not everyone should have one; they're appropriate on a case-by-case basis. They're not only based on income levels but can clarify an individual's assets coming into the marriage, certain testamentary issues, gifts between spouses prior to and during marriage, and more. It's important to discuss financial expectations and expenses *prior* to entering into the marriage contract, and a prenuptial agreement is one way of leading into that conversation.

I am always astounded at the couples who come to me after being married for some period of time and reveal that they never had such a conversation, whether a prenuptial agreement was in place or not. Conversations about money certainly aren't sexy or romantic, but they should give each of you some clarity and enable you to enter into your marriage with a better understanding of each other.

To purchase It Doesn't Have to Be This Way, check Amazon or your local bookstore. You can also read more about her background at www.wcmfamilylaw.com.

Former 'Laguna Beach' Star Jason Wahler Marries Ashley Slack



By Kerri Sheehan

According for [People](#), Jason Wahler, 26 married model Ashley Slack this weekend at the Calamigos Ranch in Malibu, California. The ceremony was held in front of family and friends this past Saturday, October 12th. Wahler popped the questions in November of 2012 and announced the news via his Instagram by sharing a photo of the ring with the caption, "Love you babe!"

How do you decide how long to remain engaged before marriage?

Cupid's Advice:

Let Cupid help you to decide how long of an engagement you should have:

1. Leave time to plan: Every little girl dreams of the perfect wedding, don't disappoint your five year old self by throwing together a ceremony last minute. You'll need at least three months to get everything together, but most brides give themselves about one year.

2. Everyone is different: Depending on what kind of jobs you and your hubby have, there may be a specific time of the year where you'll be able to tie the knot. For example if you're a personal accountant than setting a wedding date in April when your clients' taxes are due is a bad idea.

3. Consider your age: A wedding is very expensive. If you're younger then you may not have enough money saved up right away to have the wedding of your dreams. Don't settle for less, as this will be one of the most memorable days of you life.

How long would you want to be engaged for? Share below.

Former 'Hills' Star Lauren Conrad Is Engaged





By April Littleton

Lauren Conrad is finally getting her happily ever after! The former *Hills* star is set to marry law student William Tell. “I am very excited to share with you guys that William and I got engaged over the weekend,” Conrad wrote on her blog Sunday. Her friends are just as excited for her walk down the aisle. “Everyone is so happy for her. He’s such a great guy. They are perfect for each other!” a source told [People](#). The lovebirds began dating in 2012.

How do you know when you’ve met the person you’re going to marry?

Cupid’s Advice:

All relationships require dedication and hard work, but can an individual really tell if the person they’re dating is “The One”? At the end of the day, the only person who knows the answer to that question is you, but there are a few signs that can help you make a decision. Cupid is here to help:

1. You have great communication: It’s natural for a couple to

fight from time to time, but it's how you resolve the conflict that matters. If you and your honey can manage to get through a fight without using any physical or verbal means, then you might be meant for each other. Getting into an argument while maintaining a level of respect for each other's space and boundaries will only strengthen your bond. The better the communication is between you and your partner, the better chances you have of creating a long-lasting relationship.

2. Your friends and family love your partner: If the people you love and trust the most approve of your special guy/girl, then there's a good chance that you and that person are in it for the long haul. Of course, sometimes family members tend to push you toward someone you have nothing in common with, so just be sure you're dating the person you're interested in spending your time with.

3. Same goals: Sharing the same life goals and interests are key aspects in maintaining a strong relationship. Think about your long-term goals. What type of career do you see yourself having? How many kids does your significant other want? Where would you two live together if things ever got serious? If you can come to an agreement on all of these questions, the life you plan on sharing with your honey will only be filled with happiness.

How did you know you met the person you were going to marry? Share your experience below.

T.R. Knight Marries Longtime

Boyfriend Patrick



By April Littleton

According to [People](#), T.R. Knight married his boyfriend of three years, Patrick Leahy, Friday, October 4. Some of the guests included Katherine Heigl and Kate Walsh who are both former *Grey's Anatomy* costars. Knight, 40, left the show in 2009.

How do you decide who to invite to your wedding?

Cupid's Advice:

Wedding bells are in the near future for you and your partner, but you have yet to narrow down the guest list. Who gets to see your special day in all its glory? You won't be able to invite everyone. Cupid has some tips:

1. Close friends and family only: Limit the wedding invites to just your close, personal friends and family only. If you're not close to anyone you work with, then there's no point in inviting them when the seating is limited. The same rule should apply to your significant other. He/she should only invite people they associate with on a regular basis.

2. Ask your parents for help: If you're still having trouble narrowing down the guest list, call in some reinforcements. Your parents would be perfect for the job. Nobody knows you better than the people who raised you, so they should be able to give you some insight on who to invite and who to exclude.

3. No guilt trips: Don't let anyone make you feel bad for not including them in YOUR wedding. If they truly consider themselves a friend, they'll come to understand the reason for the exclusion. They'll be happy for you regardless if they actually attend or not.

How did you decide who to invite to your wedding? Share your experience below.

Carson Daly is Engaged to Longtime Girlfriend Siri Pinter





By April Littleton

A source revealed to UsMagazine.com that Carson Daly is engaged to his girlfriend of six years, Siri Pinter. Daly and Pinter have two children together, son Jack, 3 and daughter Etta Jones, 13 months.

How do you know when it's the right time to get engaged?

Cupid's Advice:

The decision to marry someone is probably the biggest one you'll ever make. You might be ready to marry your significant other, but there are a few things you need to consider before accepting a proposal. Cupid has some tips:

1. On the same page: You and your partner want the same things in life. You've talked about your future together and it's obvious you have similar goals. The two of you have already agreed on where you'll live, how many kids you want and how long the engagement will actually be. You don't have to agree with your significant other on everything. After all, you'll have your whole lives together to figure things out, but it's

good to be on the same page with the important aspects of your life.

2. No secrets: You know everything there is to know about your honey and vice versa. Having an open line of communication is always a plus in a long-term relationship and it's the key to a lasting marriage.

3. You just know: When you've been with another person long enough and you're genuinely in love with them, it's only fitting for you to be thinking about the next step in your relationship. You know you have a strong connection with your partner and you can't see yourself with anyone else. If you're confident in your decision to get married, then go for it and good luck!

How did you know it was the right time to get engaged? Share your experience below.

K-Paul's Louisiana Kitchen Proves That Love is the Secret Ingredient Behind Culinary Success





By Barbara Merrill

The thought of working with one's spouse may seem like a surefire way to negatively impact a marriage. Being unable to take some "me time" after a heated argument can not only take its toll on the relationship, but it can negatively affect the couples' work environment. However, for some couples, finding that balance is not only simple, but it can also be their secret to a successful business. One of those duos is K-Paul's Executive Chef Paul Miller and Accounting Manager Brenda Prudhomme-Miller.

Meeting this couple was just as exciting as dining at the legendary K-Paul's Louisiana Kitchen in New Orleans. Upon our arrival, we were escorted to a lovely table on the second floor of a very bustling room. Soon after we sat down, we were greeted by Paul and Brenda, who joined us for the next two hours on our culinary journey, all the while sharing with us their day-to-day lives and their not-so-complex secrets to a successful restaurant and 18-year marriage.

Related Link: [Mario Batali Shares His Tips for Cooking at Home](#)

on Date Night

Turtle soup, gumbo, and frog legs – oh my! These dishes may not be a staple in this native Brooklyn girl's diet, but in the spirit of experiencing authentic Cajun/Creole fair, I knew K-Paul's, established and thriving since 1979, was the place to sample such items. Both from Opelousas, there's no doubt that Paul and Brenda take great pride in serving food they grew up eating. After all, one of the best ways of connecting with people is through food, and connected I was.

The turtle soup was definitely an unexpected surprise. Prepared with turtle meat and beef tenderloin and then simmered in beef broth, this savory soup conjured up childhood memories of stews my grandmother would prepare. My friend, who vowed to order gumbo in every establishment in New Orleans, proclaimed K-Paul's gumbo the best. It wasn't too thick; it wasn't too thin; it was just right – and no, her name isn't Goldilocks. As for the frog legs, they were gigantic and very tender, and unlike many other descriptions I've heard in the past, they didn't taste like chicken. They have a mild "fishy" quality that made them surprisingly light.



Brenda Prudhomme, Chef Paul Miller, Lori Bizzoco, and Barbara Merrill.

Between smacking my lips and reaching into the plates of my

companions, we talked about how Brenda and Paul met. Paul first met iconic Chef Paul Prudhomme in 1975, where he worked under his direction at Brennan's. From there, the two formed a connection compelling Paul to follow Prudhomme to Commander's Palace in 1977 and finally to K-Paul's in 1981. Enter Brenda, Chef Prudhomme's niece. She was visiting her uncle at the restaurant one evening, and as they say, the rest is history. The couple has three children between them, all of whom live in New York.

With the exposed brick walls, white table linens, and terrific wine list, it's no surprise that K-Paul's has been the setting for hundreds of marriage proposals and even a few weddings. While tasting the evening's special – the Surf & Turf, a light and flaky, perfectly seasoned, blackened Louisiana Drum and a very tender filet in debris sauce (yes, debris sauce, but don't let the name fool you) – we discussed how Brenda and Paul reconnect with one another in the evenings and on their one day off. Brenda likes to “wash the day away” as soon as she gets home and just focus on her time with Paul. They enjoy watching something that helps them unwind and laugh together; *Modern Family* seems to do the trick. As for cooking, well, they both do it. Brenda explained that she prefers a low-sodium diet, so on their day off, there's one bottle of wine but two skilletts on the stove.

Related Link: [Food Network's Anne Burrell Gives Valentine's Day Cooking Tips](#)

Speaking with Brenda and Paul for just those two hours, it was clear they really enjoy working together. Maybe the secret to their success isn't really that mysterious after all. They respect each other's role at the restaurant, and Paul even joked with me and my dining mates, “She's in the front office, and I'm in the back, and she's usually right!”

One of the most impressive facts I learned about K-Paul's is that they don't have a freezer. Everything served was

purchased for that day. Paul explained that, while we were dining, the shrimper he uses was out catching shrimp for tomorrow's menu. Sharing the pressure of serving the freshest ingredients is a real testament to how in sync Paul and Brenda really are. Their [love](#) for the restaurant is undeniable, but their ability to put it behind them and enjoy their alone time is really the key to their marital success.

For more information about K-Paul's, check out their website, <http://www.kpauls.com/>. You can also follow them on www.facebook.com/kpaulslouisianakitchen and Twitter [@kpaulslakitchen](https://twitter.com/kpaulslakitchen).

Kaley Cuoco Admits Surprise Engagement Seems 'a Little Crazy'





By April Littleton

A few days after UsMagazine.com broke the news of Kaley Cuoco's engagement, the *Big Bang Theory* actress admitted that the proposal even shocked her. "He surprised me at the end of the night... [when] he popped the ring out. It was amazing," she told *Entertainment Tonight*. Cuoco and boyfriend, Ryan Sweeting have been dating for three months.

How do you know when you're ready to tie the knot?

Cupid's Advice:

You've been planning out all of the details of your wedding since you were young, and now you've finally found someone who could possibly be the one you spend the rest of your life with. How do you know if it's really the right time for marriage? Cupid has some tips:

1. You just know: Sometimes you just know when someone is the right one for you. You're in love, have a great relationship and can't see yourself with anyone else. Some of your friends and family might not understand your decision to get married,

but once they see the love between you and your partner as you walk down the aisle, they'll be more than OK with how things played out.

2. Time: You don't need to rush to get married. You and your significant other should think long and hard about the possibility of a future wedding and both of you need to agree that it's the right move to make. Remember, the importance of a marriage isn't about the wedding itself, it's about staying married to the same person for the rest of your life. Make sure you're ready for that.

3. Friends: If you're still unsure if you're doing what's best, talk to some of your friends. They can see your relationship from a different perspective than you can. How do they feel about your partner? Do they see it lasting long-term? Take their opinions and concerns to heart when you're making a final decision.

How did you know when you were ready to tie the knot? Share your experience below.