

Kelly Osbourne Hooking Up with Quincy Combs, Puff Daddy's Stepson



By Shannon Seibert

Uh oh, the rumor mill is at it again. Kelly Osbourne hooking up with Quincy Combs, Puff Daddy's stepson. The pair had recently started following each other on social media, and had a moment together captured on Instagram. But Osbourne remains her independent self and isn't officially tied down to anyone, sources told UsMagazine.com.

How do you keep a casual relationship on the down-low?

Cupid's Advice:

Sometimes when a relationship is new it is best to keep things casual until you figure out whether or not it has the potential to go beyond. Hooking up can be great if they are done correctly. They allow a couple time to figure things out with no major public losses if things go south. We've pulled some tips to help keep your causal relationship, well, causal.

1. Stay away from social media: In a world that is so technology obsessed, posting your relationship on any social media will lead to questions. *Who is this guy? Where did you meet him? Why haven't you said anything to us about him?* If your man is constantly in your snap story, or on your Facebook timeline, people are bound to talk. Just lay low for a while and then slowly branch out when you feel it's time to let everyone else in the loop.

Related: ["You & A" Music Host Clare Galterio on Dating: " Give Everyone a Chance."](#)

2. Go on more private dates: When trying to get to know a person it can be hard to see what they're really about when you have multiple distractions. Stick to more intimate style, or one on one type dates when you're still exploring your feelings together. This way you'll be able to ask questions, exchange stories and discuss certain topics that you may not have been able to in a group setting or out in a busy place.

Related: [Justin Bieber and Selena Gomez Are 'Full-On Back Together' Again](#)

3. Refrain from spending too much time together: With a new relationships, every 'first' moment is extremely exciting, but you don't want to get too anxious and over-invested before things really hit it off. Spending a lot of time together can overwhelm a person. By jumping into things too quickly you start searching for emotions that may not even be there yet. Play it cool and just stick to seeing each other a couple times a week instead of every day.

How do you down play your casual relationship? Share with us in the comments below!

First Comes Love, Then Comes Baby...Then Comes Marriage?



By Shannon Seibert

When you were a child and jumped rope, singing along to the popular carol, we were taught that in a relationship the correct timeline was love, marriage, and baby in a baby carriage. But in today's day and age, society is going about things quite differently. We've pulled some facts from a

recent study by Zoosk that shines light on the underlying truth on how the current generation approaches their relationships in contrast to how they're idealistically projected.

Related Link: [Date Idea: Look For a Sign](#)

One shocker that was uncovered is that sex before love is normal. The days of women waiting until marriage are waning. In fact, a lot of couples sleep together before they are even officially dating. Sexual compatibility has become an increasingly definable characteristic for relationships. If a couple doesn't feel passion for each other in bed, then they are less likely to make a relationship work because they will just look for better sex elsewhere.

But on the other hand, marriage before moving in is more common, especially with younger people. This is understandable because people like to be their own person until they officially attach themselves to another. What if things don't work out? What if you move in, just to move back out? Whose place do you choose? There are a lot of questions that require complex answers, so it's generally easier to hold off until marriage, after which most decisions are made together.

Related Link: [Single in Stilettos Show: How to Be More Than a Fling to Him](#)

Another matter to consider is having children. The relevancy of baby talk is more common since people are having sex earlier in their relationships. The study shows that, on average, couples begin stirrings of baby talk around the 7-month marker; however, the average life commitments are made around 14 months.

As seen in the media, couples often get pregnant before they are married, essentially speeding into making a family

together. Many celebrity pairs, like Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie or Eric Johnson and Jessica Simpson, begin a family before getting hitched. What had once been a biting scandal is now the norm.

In terms of scandal, the juiciest is right here: Men are looking for love, not just sex. That's right! Women accuse men of only being after one thing, but that isn't necessarily true. Contrary to popular belief, men are prone to searching for love and the right woman. Men are actually *quicker* to push the relationship milestones, such as saying "I love you," going on vacation together, and putting a ring on it. So don't fear, ladies. He is thinking about a future with you.

Tell us what you think about these Zoosk study results in the comments below!

Just Friends – Is Jennifer Lopez Dating Maks Chmerkovskiy?





By Shannon Seibert

Even though they have publicly denied dating, the tension between Jennifer Lopez and Maks Chmerkovskiy is absolutely sizzling. Apparently the *Dancing with the Stars* pro, 34, attended Jennifer Lopez's show at Foxwoods Resort Casino in Connecticut on Saturday, June 21. Lopez, 44, and Chmerkovskiy then went and danced all night at Shrine Nightclub, creating quite the flirty scene for onlookers. Sources say that the two remained close to each other all night and the pair even held hands and talked before sharing a long hug and saying goodbye, according to UsMagazine.com.

How do you decide when to go public with your new relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

Okay, so you've been keeping things casual for the time being, but how are you supposed to know when the right moment is to take things to the next level? Dating is a complicated game and you have to play your cards right or else things could not

end in your favor. You don't want to get andy or jump into things too quickly, so take a step back and think for a moment. We've picked out three major signs that you can use to interpret whether or not your relationship is ready to go public:

1. You are publicly showing affection for one another: If you're at the point of holding hands and kissing in public without second thought, you're probably heading in the right direction. If he isn't shy about wrapping his arm around you as you stroll into a local restaurant, he won't shy away from calling you his girlfriend.

Related: [Reunited Exes Justin Bieber and Selena Gomez Attend Bible Study](#)

2. You consider it weird not to hear from one another all day: In a new relationship everything is about testing the waters and this includes limiting communication. You don't want to come off too strong or get overly invested while you're still in the trial stage. So when you're at the point in your relationship when you are messaging back and forth all day, talking on the phone, or hanging out every other day, you're prime and ready to take things public.

Related: [Date Idea: Look For a Sign](#)

3. You've met his parents: This is a huge and critical step in moving forward in your relationship. If you have met the man and woman who has instilled his values, then he definitely treasures you in his life. This is a privilege given to few and taken for granted by many. If his parents like you, they will serve as your advocate and can help you and your man connect on an even deeper level.

How did you know when it was time to move things forward? Tell us your story in the comments below!

Celebrity Interview: ‘You & A’ Music Host Clare Galterio Shares Dating Advice and Says, “Give Everyone a Chance”



Interview by Brittany Stubbs. Written by Anna Averill.

Clare Galterio is the newest face on the Music Choice Network and host of the hit show *You & A*, where she gets the scoop on today's hottest artists while listeners play along at home by

asking their own questions via Twitter. She has chatted with dozens of chart-topping artists, including Hunter Hayes, NeonTrees, Nick Cannon, and Imagine Dragons, just to name a few. In addition to interviews with musicians, the 30-minute talk show features live performances.

Celebrity Interview with Clare Galterio

While most people would be intimidated interviewing today's biggest music stars, Galterio has no problem holding her own on camera. "I remember my friends always being like, 'I want to be Britney Spears; I want to be the artist.' But I always wanted to be the one hosting the show – that's what I wanted to do," the bubbly TV personality confesses in our celebrity interview. Her inspiration comes from Mel B, not just because she was a huge Spice Girls fan – although that may have helped – but because of the host's outgoing and approachable personality.

While the New York City native has enjoyed speaking with numerous stars, she's hoping she'll one day have the opportunity to interview infamous pop princess, Miley Cyrus. "I love that she's her own person. I think she would be so much fun."

No newcomer to the performing world, Galterio is a former elite competitive dancer who won multiple awards before becoming a dance teacher. She credits dance as the reason she is so involved in music today: "My family believes in everyone doing their own thing and making their own way, so it was a natural progression for me to go from being a dancer to becoming involved in music."

Related Link: ['Blood, Sweat and Heels' Star Brie Bythewood Says, "I Don't Know How to Be Anyone Other Than Me"](#)

Speaking of her family, fans may be surprised to learn that it's not music that runs in her blood, it's sports. Her great grandfather Art Rooney founded the Pittsburgh Steelers, and her celebrity family continues to own and maintain the team. Because football is a major factor in her life, it makes sense that Galterio has an interest in someday doing sports broadcasting. "I would love to do sports because it's such a big part of my life and my family!" she reveals. "But they know if I'm interviewing Terri Bradshaw, I'm going to somehow bring music into the forefront because it's a natural thing for me to talk about."

Of course, we had to ask the music guru about her favorite tunes. While she loves classic relationship and love songs like Whitney Houston's, "I Will Always Love You," she also enjoys songs that "aren't so happy." Currently, her favorite is "Stay" by Rihanna. "Although it's about a one night stand and the complete opposite of love, it's such a powerful message," she says.

You & A Music Host Talks About Her Relationship and Love

Despite her fondness for unhappy love songs, the host makes it clear that her own love life is far from depressing. Having been in a long-distance relationship for over three years, she believes that "communication is the most important thing. Even if it's just sending a sweet little text or making sure you speak before going to sleep, it's important to talk to your partner every day. It's nice to have that time together on the phone." While managing a busy career and maintaining a strong relationship and love seems next to impossible, Galterio says that "balance is something you learn over time."

Related Link: [Lance Bass: "It's All About Communication in a Relationship"](#)

As for her best dating advice, she encourages people to “give everyone a chance. You never know what’s going to bring you together, so don’t just turn somebody down.” She came to this realization through her admiration for the band Karmin’s relationship. “They went to college together and actually didn’t like each other in the beginning. Then, through music, they found each other and are now engaged.”

There’s no summer break for Galterio. Not only is she working on the second season of her show, which premieres at the end of this month, but she is also starting a web series. Personal experience with gluten intolerance has inspired her to create a YouTube web series called “The Gluten Free Chick,” where she gives advice on what to eat at certain places in New York City.

Keep an eye out for this young up-and-comer!

You can follow Clare on Twitter @ClareGalterio. Be sure check her out on new episodes of You&A Saturdays at 12 EST on the Music Choice Network!

Cupid’s Weekly Round-Up: 5 Men You’ll Meet Before Mr. Right





By Shannon Seibert

To get to Mr. Right, you have to go through all of the Mr. Wrongs. There are many types of men that women will encounter on their journey to find The One. The struggle is training the brain to differentiate between the good and the bad. Check out these five articles from our partners that will clarify why each type of man below is *not* who you're looking for:

1. Mr. High School Sweetheart: Ah, your first love. He'll always have a special place in your heart. One mistake women make is thinking that there is only one kind of love out there and latching on tight to their first boyfriend. With this guy, you'll realize all of your good memories are in the past, and it's getting harder to connect as you get older. You're too familiar with each other – and where is the excitement in that? (GalTime.com)

2. Mr. Bad Boy: There is nothing sexier than the stereotypical bad boy. The problem is, women want a bad boy who is good for her and her alone. He doesn't play by the rules, though, and no matter how much he may care for you,

it's all about him. Yes, the motorcycle and the "don't care" attitude may be alluring, but you are above his silly games. Stay away from Mr. Bad Boy, and go for someone with a more royal quality. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

3. Mr. Good Guy Friend: He's probably one of the nicest men you'll ever meet. He'll show up with soup when you're sick; he'll rub your feet when they're sore; and he'll go with you to all of the awkward family gatherings that require a date. The truth about Mr. Good Guy Friend is he's trapped in the friend-zone, and there's no way out. (GalTime.com)

4. Mr. Baggage: Women have a maternal tendency that isn't easily turned off. So when a sad puppy comes along and needs taking care of, we are the first to the rescue him. Don't let Mr. Baggage fool you. His "commitment issues" and the fact that he has been "really hurt" isn't cute. You don't need to be in charge of a charity case while you're on a mission to find love. Guys like Marc Anthony, who openly have self esteem issues, are the men you want to avoid. (YourTango.com)

5. Mr. Not Right Now: He may also be called Mr. Excuses. When he's with you, he's so in the moment, and the world seems to revolve around you and him. But the next day he is MIA and ignoring your texts. What gives? Mr. Not Right Now is weighing out his options, and you are not a Plan B kind of woman. He needs to take a cue from Eli Manning, who tries to spend every moment he can with his family, the top priority in his life. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

Have you ever had a run-in with one of these men? Share your story with us in the comments below!

Date Idea: Visit a Tarot Card Reader



By Leslie Chavez

If you're strolling around that little beach town you visited for the weekend and looking for something different to do, check out that **tarot card reader** you spotted on the street. Come on – you know you're a little curious! Take a look into the crystal ball and see what the future holds for you and your love.

It seems like everywhere you go, you can count on some sort of psychic, tarot card reader, or the like to be around the second corner or down that quiet alley. You should finally take the plunge and see what all the fuss is about! Couples

readings can be a fun and illuminating experience. They can also be very healing, providing you with a neutral space to work through issues and look at the bigger picture of your relationship. However, in order to avoid a tense situation, make sure that your partner is comfortable and open to the idea.

Related Link: [3 Ways to Use the Psychic Edge to Find Mr. Right](#)

The tarot card reader encourages you to ask questions that move your situation in a healthy direction rather than asking something like, "Should we move in together?" She also suggests talking with your partner beforehand to discuss what questions you will ask in order to avoid any surprises. Consider having separate readers for you and him if you feel uncomfortable going in together. After determining which option is best for you, relax and get ready to gain insight into your past, present, and future.

One of the most common approaches are tarot card readings, a method that uses a symbolic deck of cards with specific drawings that are believed to be guided by spiritual forces. The forces are believed to help interpret a current situation someone is going through or uncover something about their future. Is there a walk down the aisle in the cards for you? Tarot card readings are a great way to find out.

Another sought-after method of seeing the future is palm reading, which evaluates a person's character or future by studying their hand. There are three major lines – the heart, the head, and the lifeline – that tell you more about yourself than you ever imagined. Getting your beau's palm read can be a good way to get some insight into his emotional stability and romantic perspective. Sneaky girl!

Related Link: [Look Into Your Future](#)

These psychic options are fun ways to explore the spiritual and supernatural realm with each other. You may even gain some

interesting insight into yourselves and your relationship. Whether or not you choose to truly believe the messages in the stars is totally up to you.

Have you ever gotten tarot cards read with your partner? Share your story in the comments below.

Single in Stilettos Show: How to Be More Than a Fling to Him



On this week's [Single in Stilettos](#) show, dating coach Tripp

reveals how to be than just a summer fling to your new guy. Here are his top three tips if you don't want him to think of you as a one night stand: don't jump into bed too soon; show boundaries but still be interested in him; and stop texting and call him instead.

Related Link: [Tripp on 5 Things Men Wish Women Knew About Them](#)

Listen up for more great dating advice!

For more information about Single in Stilettos shows, click [here](#).

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

Ladies, what do you do to let a guy know you want more than just a fling? Tell us in the comments below!

‘Love Sick: A Memoir of Searching for Mr. Good Enough’ Recalls the Humorous and Insightful Journey of Looking For Love





By Brittany Stubbs and Laura Seaman

Love Sick: A Memoir of Searching for Mr. Good Enough is a sharp and irreverent memoir recalling Frances Kuffel's quest to replace her on-again, off-again lover with someone new and preferably less unstable. As Shakespeare said, the course of true love never did run smooth, but for Kuffel, it seemed like one pothole after another. Fifty-three and never married, she opens her mind to all possibilities: She goes out with an Orthodox Jew, is almost the victim of a scammer, stays out all night with a man twenty years her junior, encounters food fixations and shoe fetishes, and generally reads a lot of strange emails. Brazenly honest and insightful, the author comes through the experience with a new understanding of love and, most importantly, herself.

For starters, what inspired you to write this memoir?

I fell in love with a younger man with whom I had a friends-with-benefits situation. He did not reciprocate my feelings, although he very much wanted to remain friends. The best way to get over a broken heart is to fall in love with someone

else, and as a memoirist, I could see my challenge was ripe for writing about.

Related Link: ['He Texted' Authors Lisa Winning and Carrie Henderson McDermott, Discuss Dating in the Digital Age](#)

Your determination to find love is inspiring. What kept you going through the rough patches? What would your advice be to other women who are having a difficult time and thinking of giving up?

There were rough patches, and then, there were really rough patches. It took a while to go out on some decent dates, and it was my friends and their senses of humor that buoyed me through the tough times. I have always said you go out with other people, but you date your friends: It's friends you go to with the stories, and it's friends who laugh it off with you, psychoanalyze with you, tell you to get over yourself, or hand you tissues.

My advice to other women is to give yourself a certain amount of time for several days a week to read profiles and answer messages because people who are constantly logged in look a little desperate. If you see your Saturday night coming up without a date, do something with friends or on your own that you keenly enjoy. Take a break if you have a great date that doesn't lead to a second one – respect your heart. And get out in the world! One problem with online dating is that it's solitary until you meet someone. Remain a citizen. And the big one? DON'T TAKE ANYTHING PERSONALLY.

Your book mostly focuses on your search for love past age 53.

What are some of the differences you noticed between dating in your twenties as opposed to dating in your fifties?

It's an entirely different activity. There was biological imperative in our twenties, pushing us to make babies. Looks mattered more then than now, to a certain extent. Dating in your fifties means forgiving weight, hair loss, hair color,

etc. I did a lot of group activities in my twenties too – a gang of friends would go out for pizza and beers or to the movies or “just hang out.” We paired off within the gang. I don’t have a gang like that any more, and what social circles I move in tend to be dinner parties or the occasional outing.

We had school and new careers in our twenties, but we could also stay up all night. Now, we have positions in our careers and less energy. Many people have children or grandchildren, which entail a whole other set of obligations. We’re also more entrenched in habits and hobbies. If someone announces himself to be a golfer on his personal ad, he’s saying, “This is what brands me; it’s where my leisure hours go.” We were more amorphous in our twenties, more willing to try golfing or give it up, according to whom our partner was.

Related Link: [Find How Strong Women Find Love in “The Alpha Woman Meets Her Match”](#)

As you wrote this book, I’m sure you learned a lot looking back at your dating experiences. If you had to pick the most valuable lesson learned about dating, what would it be?

If I’m not comfortable dating myself, I’m not ready to date anyone else. If I can’t treat myself with the same care, tenderness, romance, admiration, and surprise that I would expend on someone else, I’m going to get short-shrifted by a man. And when it’s all over, I’ll be empty and blaming myself for the failure.

You’ve spoken a lot about weight loss in your books and in interviews. How has your journey with the loss and gain of weight impacted your search for love?

When I lost weight, I gained the confidence to really try dating for the first time in my life. I kept enough of that confidence to keep dating as I regained weight. My weight has turned a few men off. It’s turned a few men on too – and I tend to hear about that because not many guys are going to

say, “You’re too fat.” They’ll just fade out instead of risking rudeness.

I say I kept “enough” confidence. I know I’d be a higher ticket item if I were a size 10 than a 22. But I’ve come to understand that weight is a journey – in my case, it has been one of a few journeys that define my life. If I don’t accept where I am today, I’m not going to accept myself at size 8, which as it turned out, I didn’t really.

Learn more about Frances Kuffel in her new book, Love Sick: A Memoir of Searching for Mr. Good Enough.

Are Your Dating Standards Too High?





By Liz Kim

There's nothing wrong with knowing what you want in a future boyfriend or girlfriend; in fact you *shouldn't* settle for just anybody. But there comes a point when unrealistic standards may actually be what's keeping you from finding Mr. or Mrs. Right. If you are turning down a potentially great relationship because he has a funny hairstyle or she has "man hands" a la *Jerry Seinfeld*, then it's time to reevaluate your priorities and loosen up a little instead of spending every Friday night alone in your room. Here are some signs that your standards are too high when it comes to dating:

1. You model relationships after what you see on the big screen: "Love means never having to say you're sorry." "You complete me." "I'll never let go, Jack." Although *Love Story*, *Jerry Maguire*, and *Titanic* are beautiful films that celebrate the power of the love, they've also done a pretty good job at shattering realistic expectations when it comes to dating and relationships. We all want a love like Jack and Rose, but even our idea of these people is false because Hollywood is scripted. With good editing and a staff of

writers and makeup artists, any relationship can seem perfect. If you're keeping track of your relationship by comparing it to what you see on the big screen, you are setting yourself up only for failure and heartbreak.

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

2. You have unrealistic physical standards: We all have a "type" that we're attracted to whether it be blue eyes or long brown curly hair. And while physical attraction does play an important role in dating, there comes a point when your standards just become ridiculous. "He's tall, kind of muscular, kind hazel eyes, great with kids...*but* he has this tiny birthmark on his left cheek that's too distracting. I can't go out with somebody with a distracting birthmark." Sound like you? Don't let the little details get in the way of the big picture.

3. You can't remember the last date you went on: You don't realize this at first but after you've turned down date after date you eventually find yourself on the couch (again), on Saturday night (again), wrist deep into a pint of Ben and Jerry's (again), re-watching all 7 seasons of *The Golden Girls* (again). If you don't want this to happen to you, then it's time to reevaluate what you're looking for. If you refuse to budge on your standards, be prepared for many many nights alone.

4. You've been told (repeatedly!) that you're too picky: If one or two people say you're picky, then it's worth nothing but you probably don't have to be too concerned about it. If you're hearing again and again from most of your friends and family that you are way too strict with your standards, then you might have a problem. Sometimes we forget to look at ourselves from an outsider's perspective and don't realize how we're behaving.

Related: [10 Blind Date Etiquette Rules](#)

5. You are a stubborn repeat offender: If Chad is the eighth guy you've gone out with surfs and has sandy blonde hair and a penchant for guitar playing, and it hasn't worked out, break out of your mold. Clearly you don't fit with the "type" you date and now it's time to branch out and maybe go out with Jamie, the kind of nerdy barista from the corner coffee shop who always give you extra caramel drizzle and who may not have blonde hair and clearly can't surf but has a great smile. You've taken a chance with 8 Chads already so taking one more chance with somebody new can't hurt.

6. The problem isn't you, it's him/her: This one plays off of #5. If you're consistently dating the same type of person over and over again and it's always a nightmare, we hate to break it to you but it's probably you. If you are one for order and routine but your dream date is someone who is always spontaneous (and kind of unreliable), in theory this sounds like an opposites attract type of situation but more often than not you'll walk away unhappy and unsatisfied.

7. You've more than once regretted dumping somebody: Well now you've done it. You turned down Jamie because he was into comic books and a few months later you see him walking down the street with his new girlfriend. They're holding hands and can't take their eyes off of each other. Was he always so cute? You instantly regret turning him down because now he's happy and in love and you're still along and sulking.

Imagine going to a buffet with tables and tables of food you've never tried before but sticking only to french fries. You know you like french fries but all the salt makes you bloat and they're not too good cold. Maybe it's time to try another dish? The beauty of dating is that if it doesn't work out, you never have to see the person again. Instead of boxing yourself in with strict dating standards, maybe it's time to take a chance and date outside of your comfort zone. Who knows? Maybe he or she will bring out a side of you you didn't you had.

Do you think your dating standards are too high? Tell us in the comments below.

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Your Ideal Man



By Shannon Seibert

Women are constantly consumed by the search for the elusive Ideal Man. But who is he, really? For some, he's tall, dark, and handsome. For others, he's a sensitive blonde who is passionate about nature. But how far will these characteristics really take your relationship? We've pulled

these five articles from our partners to reveal what qualities your dream man should possess, no matter what:

1. He's someone worth bragging about: Okay, so your mother isn't exactly impressed by your latest prospects. Chances are, if they aren't measuring up to Mom's standards, they aren't worth your time. The Ideal Man is someone who you'll be proud to bring home and show off to your friends and family. For example, Kendra Wilkinson-Baskett brags about her man Hank Baskett and his amazing parenting skills for their two children. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

2. He'll leave the past in the past: Jealousy is a monster that we all wish to keep at bay. The Ideal Man will not talk poorly of his past, nor of yours, but use it as a learning experience. Not speaking ill of an ex reflects wonderfully on his personality and character. He will be comfortable in his own skin and will reassure you that his past will not become his present. (YourTango.com)

3. He'll make you feel comfortably uncomfortable: You'll not only feel right, but you'll feel protected. The Ideal Man will allow you to be fully yourself, and he'll also push you into uncharted territories. He won't be afraid to challenge you or disagree with you. After all, in a strong relationship, you need that type of mental stimulation. (GalTime.com)

4. He'll be the most intoxicating drug: Passionate, all-consuming love is something that every woman wants. And if you look hard enough, it's not a lofty goal. The Ideal Man should not only be compatible with you physically but emotionally as well. Don't underestimate the power of love and what it can do to a person, for your perfect love is like your own brand of heroin. (GalTime.com)

5. He'll affirm why it didn't work out with anyone else: Past heartbreaks may have hurt, but they also served as guidance to get you where you are today. The Ideal Man will have the arms

that will feel like home. He'll be the answer to any question you ever had, and you'll be the solution to all of his problems. It will click, just like that. (YourTango.com)

What is your Ideal Man like? Tell us in the comments below!

What Are Some Superstitions You Fear? Try Them Out for Date Night!



By Leslie Chavez

Friday the thirteenth doesn't have to be unlucky when it comes

to love. In fact, you can turn the unlucky into a few unique date ideas. What are some superstitions you fear? Face your fears and spend the day together seeing how many superstitions you can prove wrong.

Admit it: Being a little scared is kind of fun! Plus, it gives you an excuse to hold on to your man just a little bit tighter. According to LiveScience.com, "Many superstitions stem from the same human trait that causes us to believe in monsters and ghosts: When our brains can't explain something, we make stuff up." The rush of knowing that you're doing something that's considered unlucky will give you a little rush of hormones and a heart-racing thrill that also produces a sensation of pleasure. Push the superstitious limits and have a silly time challenging the infamous day.

Related Link: [Take a Risk and Be Daring](#)

Trying out superstitions is your excuse to be bad, so think of everything you're not supposed to do today and *do it!* Open up an umbrella inside and dance around together, challenging the rain of misfortune to come down. If you're feeling really brave, take a small mirror and crack it – but be careful not to cut yourself! There is a belief that mirrors don't just reflect your image; they hold parts of your soul. This is why breaking mirrors is believed to be such bad luck, but look at it as a way to free yourself of unwanted vanity.

If you see a ladder, take a walk underneath it. One theory holds that walking under a ladder has to do with its resemblance to medieval gallows and is therefore something you should avoid. However, the thrill is harmless, and you can add it to the list of rules you broke today. Spot a black cat? Let it cross your path; heck, call it over and pet it a bit! It can't hurt you, right?

When you're at dinner that night, spill a little salt on the table while seasoning your veggies. Can't you just see him

grin mischievously at you from across the table, thinking of what bad things you can do next? Doing these little reckless things together will make you feel brave and bring some spice into your relationship.

Related Link: [Freaky Friday](#)

Sometimes, doing something wrong can feel so right, and developing unique date ideas so that you are spending the day breaking these ridiculous superstitions will make you feel fun, foolish, and carefree. Remember that the misfortune that comes with Friday the Thirteenth is all superstition, so you should make it through the day with all of your original luck intact. Fingers crossed!

Cupid wants to know: How will you celebrate Friday the Thirteenth?

Rumor: Jake Gyllenhaal Dating Rachel McAdams





By Laura Seaman

Rumor has it that **Jake Gyllenhaal** dating **Rachel McAdams**. They have been spotted together once again as they left the Miguel Cotto vs. Sergio Martinez fight on June 9. Rumors have been flying about whether or not these outings means that they are actually dating, but sources tell UsMagazine.com that the two are just friends, and that the reason they're spending so much time together is to prepare for their upcoming movie *Southpaw*. Not only that, but McAdams is still with Patrick Sambrook, the couple showing some PDA back in May.

How do you know if you should risk your friendship for love?

Cupid's Advice:

It's a situation that has plagued almost everyone at some point, like Jake Gyllenhaal : Should you turn your friendship into a relationship? This often leads to people being 'friend-zoned' and told that the risk isn't worth it, or that they can't be anything more than a friend because the person "just doesn't see them that way". With all of this in mind,

sometimes it's worth the risk of asking your friend to be more than your friend.

1. Figure out your feelings. Make sure that you truly want to start dating this person, not because you just got out of a breakup or you suddenly find them attractive, but because you truly care about them more than the normal friend would. If you're risking your friendship, you need to be sure that it's for something you really want.

Related: [Five Ways To Get His Undivided Attention](#)

2. Read the signs. As strong as your feelings might be, they won't get you very far if your friend doesn't return them. Look for phrases such as "you're like a brother/sister to me," or conversations about other people they're interested in. If your friend comes to you on dating advice about other men/women, they probably haven't considered dating you.

Related: [How to Prevent Yourself from Rushing into a Relationship](#)

3. Make sure they're ready for a relationship. Timing is important, and as a friend you should know better than anyone how they're feeling about love. If your friend just got dumped, or is in a stage of their life where they're just enjoying being single, it's probably not the best time to confess your feelings. You need to be there as a friend, so don't be selfish! Wait until they're ready.

Have you ever dated a friend? How did it work out? Let us know in the comments!

Taking Your Partner on a Family Vacation



By Lori Zaslow and Jennifer Zucher for [Project Soulmate](#)

Summer has finally arrived, and we are diving right into the month of June! This season brings with it lots of sunscreen, bikini bods, and the exciting – albeit sometimes dreaded – family vacation. Let's say that you've finally met someone special, and you are contemplating whether or not to bring them to your family's beach house. If you do take the plunge and invite your partner along, here are a few simple rules to consider:

First, if you are a guest in someone else's home, make sure you let them know you are bringing a plus-one. This way, they

can decide the sleeping arrangements. Your host may think that separate beds isn't a big deal, but if it is to you, then speak up! If you're pitching in and paying for this vacation, then you should have a say in what room you get and whether or not your significant other can stay in it with you.

Related Link: [A Summer of Love](#)

It's probably best that your family isn't meeting your beau for the first time on this vacation. This step will ensure that your love feels somewhat comfortable with your relatives so you don't have to worry about them having a good time. If you have the chance, introduce them to family members they may not know yet to avoid any awkward moments or embarrassing small talk.

Remember to help out and be neat around the house – and encourage your partner to do the same. You don't have to cook a five-course meal every night or do your brother's laundry, but helping with the dishes after dinner, hanging up the beach towels, or making a trip to the grocery store are all small acts that will not go unnoticed by your loved ones.

Take some alone time if you need it. Your sweetheart should feel comfortable enough to say no to cards with the guys or the annual family volleyball tournament. Just don't turn down every offer; you don't know what great traditions you could be missing out on! If you are really serious about this person, it's good to immerse yourself in these customs since they might be a part of the family one day.

Always be on time for arrivals and departures as well as any pre-planned excursions. When things go wrong during traveling, as they often do, try and keep your cool. You won't remember that night spent without your luggage or getting attacked by mosquitos on a morning bike ride, but your family will always remember that first vacation with your significant other.

Related Link: [10 End-of-Summer Date Ideas](#)

Be respectful that this is vacation time and leave your work at home. If you or your boo have to check email regularly or do a few hours of work each day, talk with your family and let them know. Then, unplug and enjoy yourself for a while! This simple act shows your relatives that your significant other is committed to learning about them and can really unwind and relax.

Finally, remember to be yourself. Show your family who you and your partner are as a couple. Following these tips while on vacation will ensure that you have a great time with your sweetheart and that they create long-lasting bonds with your family!

How did you prep for bringing your partner on a family vacation? Share in the comments below!

Single in Stilettos Show: It's Your Fault You're Single!





On this week's [Single in Stilettos](#) show, founder Suzanne Oshima talks to dating coach Mr. Locario about the reasons you may still be single. There are five things you should do if you're ready to find love: You need to take responsibility for your love life; you need to stop being too picky; you need to give him a second chance; you need to be careful about interpreting his actions and words; and you need to take initiative to meet the right man.

Related Link: [Mr. Locario on What Attracts a Man](#)

For more information about Single in Stilettos shows, click [here](#).

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

What's the first step you take when you're ready to find a partner? Tell us in the comments below!

Screwing the Rules Video Dating Tips: George Clooney is Engaged! Why He Chose Her



By [E!'s Famously Single Dating Coach, Laurel House](#)

Dating Advice from E!'s *Famously Single* Laurel House on Amal and

George

With this sexy actor's recent engagement, we all can't help but wonder: What did Amal Alamuddin do to capture George Clooney's heart? In this week's [dating advice](#) video, dating expert and E!'s *Famously Single* dating coach, [Laurel House](#) reveals the truth: "Her attitude was, 'You're just a guy.' She wasn't hypnotized by his looks or money or fame or the fact that he's considered to be one of the most eligible bachelors in the world." With this thought in mind, learn how to snag your own dream man!

Related Link: [Find the Love of Your Life](#)

For more information about our dating mentor, click [here](#).

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

What is your best move for snagging an ultimate bachelor? Tell us in the comments below!

**Exclusive Celebrity
Interview: Beauty Expert Kym
Douglas Says, "Fall in Love
as Often as You Can"**





Interview by Brittany Stubbs. Written by Laura Seaman.

Kym Douglas, known around the world for her beauty expertise, is a woman of many talents, as shown by her frequent television appearances, radio spots, and multiple books. Her motto “bliss happens” is an inspiration to people everywhere as she helps them find ways to be healthy, feel beautiful, and live their lives to the fullest. As she says in our exclusive celebrity interview, “It’s not about trying to look younger; it’s about trying to look your best.”

Exclusive Celebrity Interview with Beauty Expert

The beauty guru started out on *The Ellen Degeneres Show* nine years ago on a one-time guest segment. “Ellen isn’t interested in lipstick and rouge or beauty products. It’s never going to work,’ everyone kept telling me. But the moral of the story is similar to dating: You might count someone out because of your differences, but it may turn out to be something great.” And now, Douglas is the show’s only regular contributor and says

that she and the host bring out the best in each other.

Fans may also recognize the beautiful blonde from *Home & Family* on the Hallmark Channel. “I think it’s a wonderful show,” she says. “It’s just so real – real values, real issues. There’s beauty, cooking, making your home reflective of who you are inside.”

Kym Douglas Shares Beauty Tips and Dating Advice

Being the expert on beauty, we asked the TV personality to share some of her summer secrets for looking your best – and she drew from personal experience. Recently, Degeneres sent her to Hawaii for a segment, and her hair had trouble with the heat. However, a dab of deodorant along her hairline and on her neck kept the sweat from frizzing up her luscious locks.

Another seemingly odd beauty tip involves egg whites. “Before a date night with my husband, I’ll wear a mask of whipped egg whites on my face. It helps tighten up my skin so I feel comfortable wearing less makeup.” And we all know: The less makeup you pile on, the less chance that it will melt off in the heat. An easy and inexpensive way to conquer the summer weather!

When it comes to summer makeup trends, Douglas knows exactly what’s in this season. “The biggest thing is dark, full brows,” she says. Everything else on the face is muted and light to give your eyes a great pop without having to wear a lot of heavy makeup.

In terms of hairstyles, Douglas says it’s all about the braids – “whether it’s a braid wrapped around the crown of your hair or a small braid on the side.” No surprise there, as we’ve already seen celebrities like Beyonce and Blake Lively rock this style.

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

While these trends may come and go, Douglas notes one simple trend that's here to stay: "I really think that, if I had to sum it up in one word, I would say that 'fresh' is the goal for beauty. Try to look fresh!" she explains in our exclusive celebrity interview.

This summer look is bound to get a man's attention, and Douglas knows a thing or two about a summer relationship and love. In her experience, summer love was always the best type of love. "It was something about the free feeling and the happiness of summer. I always fell in love with a new guy, and he would be the love of my life at that time." Douglas still remembers the names of them all and encourages others to enjoy their summer flings: "Fall in love as often as you can!"

Related Link: ['RH0A' Star Phaedra Parks Talks New Book and Marriage: "Remember What Made You Fall in Love"](#)

Since then, Douglas has found the real love of her life and started a family. She now "has it all" with her husband, her son, and her successful career. She had always wanted these things but didn't know how to make it happen. So when she first went on *The View*, she looked to Barbara Walters for life and relationship advice. "I asked her what it took, and she told me, 'You can have it all; you really can. You just can't have it all at the same time.' I really took those words to heart."

You can see Kym Douglas regularly on Hallmark Channel's Home & Family weekdays at 10 am ET/PT.

Date Idea: Live Out Your Fairytale



By Leslie Chavez

Once upon a time, in a land far away, there was a place where chivalry prevailed, where it was acceptable for fair ladies to wear flower garlands, and where a princess could always count on being rescued by her Prince Charming. But fear not, dear maidens, for this enchanted image need not remain only fantasy. This weekend, let whimsical romance take over and live a few days in make-believe.

Related Link: [Dress Up](#)

Head to the nearest medieval fair and see the world of knights and queens come to life! After picking up a sword for your man

and a piece of handcrafted jewelry for you, take a leisurely walk through the marketplace on your way to the big joust. You'll be on the edge of your seat watching the lance-armed knights battle it out for her majesty. To settle your nerves after all that excitement, grab two mugs of ale before experiencing the festive music and entertaining jesters of the town. However, be aware of the peasants, pirates, and wenches that also roam the streets – although there's no doubt that your gallant knight will surely come to your rescue if need be.

If the realm of poetry and plays is of more interest to you, check out a summer Shakespeare festival and immerse yourself in his beautiful prose, filled with star-crossed lovers and noble cavaliers. Spend the day in the grass, listening to the expressive words of one of the world's greatest poets. Many festivals also include talks, readings, and classes that allow you to gain more insight into the romantic, chivalrous world portrayed on the stage. Submerge yourself in the imaginary love stories and embody the intense passion of Shakespeare's knights and maidens.

For a more intimate experience, create a magical evening at home. Together, prepare a small Middle Ages feast of roast chicken, honey cakes, and mead, fit for the king and queen that you are. While you're at it, listen to some instrumental tunes worthy of a royal ballroom waltz.

Related Link: [Expand Your Tastes](#)

After dinner, you can relax with the remainder of your mead and a fantasy TV marathon, be it *Game of Thrones* or the romantic tales of Disney's finest: Charming, Phillip, Eric, and the Beast. Either way, get ready for a night so jam-packed with true love's kisses and acts of bravery and charisma, it will definitely inspire your prince to follow suit. You'll both be so enamored by the romantic storylines of these old-fashioned and courtly characters from another time that it'll

bring meaning and magic back to the words, “And they lived happily ever after.”

What is your fairytale date? Share with us in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Being Your Own Person in a Couple



By Shannon Seibert

A growing misconception about relationships is that the

partnership defines who you are as a person. First and foremost, you have to do what is best for *you* and be your own person. This doesn't mean you love your sweetheart any less; it just means that you know who you are individually. It takes two strong halves to equal a united whole, so we have pulled together these five articles from our partners to make your relationship stronger than ever:

1. Don't marry your self-esteem to your man: Basing your happiness off of the circumstances of your relationship is just a ticking time bomb heading for the inevitable explosion. If you're in a foul mood the entire day because you and your man are disagreeing over where to put the new couch, there may be a deeper problem. A woman who creates her own happiness is beautiful, and a woman who shares her happiness with someone she loves is even more beautiful. (YourTango.com)

2. Establish your independence: Much like our favorite independent woman Kourtney Kardashian, you can be in a strong, loving relationship while holding your own. Kardashian is a spokesperson, model, and partner in numerous businesses apart from her man, but she still has the utmost love and respect for him. They are even expecting baby number three! (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

3. Focus on yourself: Sure, we all know that inner beauty is just as important as outer beauty...but sometimes, we just want to feel pretty. Take some time to focus on your skincare and haircare rituals with these beauty tips from actress Amanda Seyfried. (GalTime.com)

4. Have outside interests: What is the point in coming home to tell your honey about your day when you spent the entire day doing everything together? Having separate interests is actually liberating in a relationship. It gives you an outlet to be your own person without having to take someone else's opinions into consideration. So embrace your passion! (YourTango.com)

5. Don't wait on the approval from your loved ones: Your friends and family are important to the decisions you make, but you can't give them the reigns and just ride their opinion wave. If you're happy in your relationship, don't let your pals and relatives make you feel otherwise. Be confident in your feelings and learn to trust yourself. (GalTime.com)

How do you stay true to yourself when you're in a relationship? Share with us in the comments below.

So You're Dating a Mama's Boy!



By [David Wygant](#)

Congratulations! You're now in a relationship with a mama's boy. Mama's boys are tough to date. Mommy took such good care of them over the years, and while she's still in their lives, you might always play second fiddle to her.

I know all about mama's boys because my dad was one. I remember when we used to go out to the Hampton's during the summer. My dad would have his own special blueberries and sugar on top. His mom, my grandmother, would always reserve the coffee ice cream for him, her king. She catered *everything* to him. He'd call her at least three or four times a day. It was like he couldn't stand not having contact with her for even a couple of hours.

When you're dating a mama's boy, you're going to be under such a powerful microscope, and you can never win because nothing will ever be good enough for her "sweet little boy." Moms sometimes cradle and pander to their boys, no matter how old they are. Not just that, but they give them their full backing and support, even when they've done something wrong.

Related Link: [Five Ways To Get His Undivided Attention](#)

It's almost too much. He's used to being catered to, and he's used to having everything done for them. I've even known grown men who still take their laundry home for their moms to do. Some let mom come over to their place and tidy it up for them too!

I've heard many nightmare stories about girlfriends moving into their boyfriend's house and buying some new furniture and decor, only to come home one day and find out it's all been moved. Mom came over, decided she didn't like what you chose, and replaced it with all her own stuff.

Don't get me wrong though! Mama's boys have some great

qualities too. They're gentle, they're sweet, and they're respectful.

The big problem is you may be used to dating a man-boy, someone who has struggled to leave the nest. He's a boy at heart who can't bear to leave his mom's side. It's hard when you're dating a mama's boy because you're going to find he'll increasingly want you to take over her duties.

Related Link: [4 Ways to Know You're Dating a 'Man-Boy,' Not a Man](#)

Now, you can try to break the boy out of mama's cradle, but that's not going to be easy. He's lived his entire life this way. He enjoys it, and he expects any woman he dates to treat him the same as his mom does. Are you ready to be in a relationship where you have to mother your partner and his mom knows all your business? If you're ready for a relationship where your mother-in-law is going to know everything, and you can handle it, then go for it. If you can't, then you need to think again.

I remember I once dated a daddy's girl. Nothing I did ever compared to her father. She'd say it all the time too: "Dad did this for me, and Dad did that for me." I felt like I was competing with her dad, and it drove me crazy. If I ever did anything wrong, her daddy would get a phone call right away.

You want to be the woman in a man's life, not his caretaker. You don't want to compete with his mom, and you don't want to be second best. The next time you meet an amazing guy that happens to be a mama's boy, you need to ask yourself whether you can put up with this kind of behavior. If not, it's time to send him on his way and send him back to his mother. She'll welcome him with open arms!

For more information on David Wygant, click [here](#).

5 Reasons to Move In with your Mate



By Laura Seaman

Moving in with your partner is a big step. Sure, maybe you've spent the night at each other's apartments before, or gone on a trip where you shared a hotel room or lake house, but this is something else entirely. Living together means more than just sharing a house (which is a big responsibility on its own), it means sharing bills, personal space, and secrets that may have been hidden before. Despite the intimidation that comes with this decision, there are a few good reasons to take

the plunge and move in with your mate:

Share the Cost

Living together gives you half the rent and none of the transportation costs that came with two separate living spaces and the drive it took to visit one another. That's one utility bill, one water bill, and one gas bill. You'll also only be using one set of furniture. Just be sure that splitting these costs doesn't lead to conflict. Establish ahead of time who will pay which bills and how much each of you will pay. With another living companion, paying the bills might be a bit more complicated, but they will be much less expensive.

See Their Habits (and Vice Versa)

There are plenty of habits you may not get to see while you're dating someone. People tend to hide their bad habits when they're trying to impress, so you might have a pet peeve they haven't revealed. When someone is at home, they're much more comfortable with themselves and they can't help but show their little quirks. It may be something as little as biting their nails, or something difficult to ignore, such as counting having to walk through a doorway three times. It's important to see these habits before taking your relationship too much further, because there might be one habit that pushes you over the edge, and the sooner you find this out the better.

Related: [What You Need to Know Before You Move In Together](#)

Seeing the Ugly Side

When you're dating, situations rarely arise that will bring out a person's temper. While living together, you have the chance to see their tempers flare. This may not seem like a pro, but you will be thankful for it in the future. Moving in with your partner is taking your relationship to the next step

and seeing a side of them that they wouldn't normally show you. This step may not be pleasant, but it's very important and cannot be overlooked if you hope to maintain a stable relationship.

Learning to Share

With one place to live, one set of furniture, and maybe even a pet, sharing is essential to staying in a happy relationship. It may be something we learned as children, but it seems to get harder as we get older. It's difficult to share a home; that's why so many people argue with their families growing up. Once you learn to share more of your home with your partner, you can then learn to unwind and share more of yourself. It will be the most open and honest that you've ever been with each-other, and that is something you might not get when being apart.

Related: [QuickieChick's Video Dating Tips: Moving In with your Man](#)

Long-Term Decisions Come Up

Living together is a big step in a relationship. For many, it means further commitment; it's a trial-run before marriage. However, what if not everyone involved feels that way? When going on a date, the subject of children and marriage isn't likely to come up. But when you're living together, you and your partner are bound to talk more, and these serious subjects will likely come up. This is the perfect way to find out if your mate made the move to become something more, or if maybe you both have something more to talk about.

Living together can be tough, and many people advise against it. However, it's these hardships that truly make it worth the risk. If your relationship can't make it through the step of living together, how can it make it through marriage? The pros might not be as happy or pleasant as expected, but as with all learning experiences, it is necessary.

Do you think it's a good idea to move in with your mate? What's your experience? Let us know in the comments!

Date Idea: Write a Book



By Leslie Chavez

The act of writing can be so romantic. It's a creative way to reflect on an experience and express your feelings on a special moment in sweet, expressive language. Just think of John Keats, Lord Byron, or William Wordsworth penning their observant and emotional poetry. They'll be sure to inspire you to create a written keepsake with your love.

Be each other's muses as you construct a work that reflects your relationship. If you both love reading, put together a book of your favorite quotes from literature and poetry. You can go back to the book every now and then and take a trip down memory lane, reminiscing on what quotes you chose and why you chose them.

Related Link: [Take a Trip Down Memory Lane](#)

Sharing with each other why these words are important to you will make you feel more emotionally connected. Or take it to the next level and do a special exercise: Pick a poetic quote that reminds you of your man and have him do the same for you. Flattery with beautiful verse is such a turn on. Indulge in a little *wordplay*, if you will.

If you both enjoy cooking, develop your own special cookbook. Jot down your favorite recipes to make together. You can even include drawings or funny stories about your experiences when making a specific recipe. Did you stop and have a flirty food fight? Is this something that you made on one of your first dates? Document your experiences! Each time you turn to your special cookbook, it will help you remember the sweet moments that you've spent together. This reminder will give you more than just a meal to savor.

If you want to get even more creative, write a short story, poem, or love sonnet together. Throw some ideas around and don't be afraid of what the other person thinks. Being able to express creative ideas with your partner without feeling self-conscious brings your trust for each other to a whole new level.

Related Link: [Publish a Love Sonnet](#)

Let yourself be silly. No matter how crazy an idea seems, tell your love; the worst thing that can happen is that you'll laugh at each other, only elevating your mood and enhancing creativity. When you guys finish your masterpiece, you'll be

able to say that you created a work of art together, serving as each other's inspirations.

You can even write about your own relationship. According to new research from Northwestern University, a few minutes spent writing about your relationship can protect your bond. In the exercise, couples were asked to write about an argument that they recently had from a neutral third-party perspective. When doing this activity, they were much better able to contemplate what the best, most logical solution to a problem in their relationship would be. According to the article, "The reflection and contemplation involved in writing makes for a healthier relationship and reduces the amounts of distress couples feel about arguments." What a relief!

So whether used to reflect or to create, writing serves as an intellectual experience you and your muse can connect with and benefit from.

Have you ever written something special with your love? Tell us in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Defining Your Relationship





By Shannon Seibert

Lately, it is becoming seemingly more difficult to define a relationship than it is to find one. The two of you have been hanging out for a couple of weeks, and you send each other flirty “I want to see you” text messages when you’re apart, but you don’t want to seem too pushy for a commitment. We’ve pulled together these five articles from our partners to help you figure out your next step:

1. Talking about it can help: Opening up a can of worms can be scary at first, but it’s always better than wondering about those “what if?” scenarios. If you’re really starting to develop feelings for him, you need to let him know. Look him in the eyes, remain calm, and be confident with each word you speak. A stimulating conversation could be just what the two of you need in order to progress in the right direction. (GalTime.com)

2. A strong friendship is a great foundation: One of our biggest fears when we start to have feelings for someone is that we’ll be trapped being “just friends.” For some couples, the unforeseen future stemmed from this stage. For example,

newlyweds Kim Kardashian and Kanye West began a slow and steady friendship, and now, they are happily married with a beautiful daughter. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

3. "Hooking up" is not an exact science: Casual relationships have become increasingly popular in recent years, therefore changing the rules of the dating game. We start out thinking that the idea of a no-strings-attached encounter is the perfect temporary solution until we figure things out, but eventually, it becomes one powerfully-enticing cocktail that will leave you with a nasty love hangover. (YourTango.com)

4. Sometimes, the wait is worth it: When it comes to mixing the mental and physical elements of relationships, things can get a little hairy. How far is too far? The answer to that, of course, is wherever you're comfortable. Never let a man dictate the happiness of your relationship or allow him to make you feel like you have to measure up to his expectations. (GalTime.com)

5. Don't rely on subtle hints: Men aren't exactly rocket scientists. We want to believe in the fairy tale we read about in Nicholas Sparks novels, but this is the real world, and sometimes, in the real world, women need to be their own heroes. Here are 50 ways to say what is weighing on your heart – without even opening your mouth. (YourTango.com)

How do you know how to define your relationship? Tell us in the comments below!

Single in Stilettos Show:

What Makes a Man Disappear



On this week's [Single in Stilettos](#) show, founder Suzanne Oshima talks to New York dating coach Hunt Ethridge about what makes a man disappear. According to Ethridge, there are three things that you should avoid doing if you want your guy to stick around: being too needy or desperate, thinking about the future too soon, and saying "we need to talk" (the absolute *worst* thing you can say to your beau!).

Related Link: [Hunt Ethridge on How to Ask a Guy Out](#)

Listen up for more great advice!

For more information about Single in Stilettos shows, click [here](#).

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

[channel](#).

How to you ensure that your new guy doesn't disappear? Tell us in the comments below!

The Height Factor: Short Men and Tall Women



By [Marni Battista](#)

Choosing a mate involves enough numbers to make the process a math equation, but daters of both genders place the most importance on a lot of the wrong ones. From a bird's eye

perspective, it doesn't make sense to prioritize such an uncontrollable physical characteristic as height, but as superficial as it may seem, biology is at work here. Women tend to go for taller men because of the masculinity and protectiveness it implies, while men seek out more petite girls who make them feel like a strong lumberjack of a guy.

I could tell you all day long that height is irrelevant in the long run and that, by following this primal urge, you're effectively ruling out a painful number of worthy potential partners who could make you feel just as meek or manly as someone who meets your height requirement would. But since it would be fruitless for me to simply suggest we all fight Mother Nature, here's a Dating with Dignity guide to how men and women who weren't blessed with traditionally ideal genes can exude the right qualities.

Related Link: [Why Hating Your Body is Destroying Your Love Life](#)

How Short Men Can Measure Up

If you're the guy who was always chosen last to play basketball in gym class and are a regular at the tailor to have new pants hemmed, you may have low expectations for your love life. If you hone other parts of your appearance and personality, however, you'll communicate power, presence, and an ability to protect no matter your magnitude:

Confidence: Many men express confidence by overcompensating and acting like a jerk, but simply being comfortable and carrying yourself accordingly will do. Don't forget that confidence is also associated with ambition and an overall happiness with your looks and personality. If you're not quite there yet, perhaps you're better off working on yourself for a while before hitting the dating game hard; it'll benefit both you and your romantic prospects.

Appearance: Height aside, overall appearance is an undeniable

attraction factor – especially when attempting to snag a lady's initial interest. Take care to dress well but also in a way that suits you, both size- and personality-wise. A well-groomed man with an eye for fashion can make a lack of height unnoticeable. Similarly, maintaining your physical shape can give a solid sense of that protective quality women seek in men.

Personality: While you may feel as though you have to embrace an abrupt and coarse demeanor to make up for your lack of height, kindness still matters and is especially desirable in a long-term mate. Believe it or not, kindness can still be considered masculine, so long as you express it with that confidence you've honed and refrain from becoming a doormat. Simply treat others, especially your lady, with respect, consideration, and compassion and stand up for what you believe in. That's sexier to us than being able to slam dunk a basketball.

Related Link: [Guys Edition: How to Behave like a Gentleman](#)

How Tall Women Can Appear Down to Earth

Many men find height in women imposing, no matter how charismatic and warm you may be. The key to attracting a man who may normally shy away from taller gals is to exude femininity and appear approachable, even if that means doing the approaching yourself.

Confidence: Though making the first move may seem like the opposite of appearing less intimidating, it may be your job to break the ice. Use your feminine wiles and approach him in a flirty, natural way to avoid seeming forward or "ballsy." Once he's had the chance to talk to you for just a few minutes, he'll likely see what a warm and welcoming person you are, and all the rest will fall away.

Appearance: You may be inclined to slouch to appear shorter, but improving your posture makes you appear more self-assured.

Be sure to smile often and openly. Don't be afraid to sling a smile at the cute guy in the next aisle at the grocery store or across the bar; it's the most surefire way to express your effusive personality and make someone feel more comfortable and open to approaching you.

Personality: If you're into soccer and fly-fishing and have an active career, by all means go for it – but try to balance it out through your relationship's dynamic. Allow yourself to be vulnerable and maybe even have your new guy take care of some of the fix-it tasks around your apartment early on, even if you're fully capable of handling them yourself. Making your man feel needed and giving him ample chance to take care of you will make your height difference irrelevant.

***Marni Battista**, founder of Dating with Dignity, is an expert dating and life coach with a 10-step system to manifesting love for your self and others. You can contact Marni at marni@datingwithdignity.com.*