

# Are You a Kim Kardashian or Tara Reid Bride?



By Brea Gunn

Not every woman is cut out for a big Kim Kardashian-style bash for her big day. Many would prefer a quick and discrete elopement, much like Tara Reid's wedding. So, what's a girl to do? And how do you decide what's the right choice for you?

Let's take a look at things objectively for a minute. If you have a large family (and, wow, Kim K. does), then you have to examine how many people you're comfortable inviting to your celebration. If you have dreams of being a princess, a big traditional ceremony is just the thing for you.

Kim Kardashian's ceremony was just about as close to a fairy

tale wedding as you can get...without actually being a royal.

Between the three costume changes, black and white color scheme, and nearly 400 guests, she wowed the guests with glitz and glam.

Here are four things to consider about a large, traditional ceremony:

**1. The size of the guest list:** A traditional ceremony and venue will allow you to invite all of your family and friends, including those that you don't see too often.

**2. The ability to change outfits multiple times:** I loved all three of Kim's dresses. She looked fantastically glam, and because she was in a traditional setting (most likely with a dressing room), she was comfortable changing outfits.

**3. Knowing your vendors:** If you get married locally, there's word-of-mouth to rely on. I don't know many of us out there with a direct line to Vera Wang, but you should totally get the number of that amazing caterer that your friend had at her wedding.

**4. Help:** I cannot stress how important it is to get good help. It can be hard to find, unless you have family close at hand. Plus, you need to have someone there to help lace you into your gown.

Now, if a large, lavish affair just isn't your thing, you may want to consider elopement. Take Tara Reid and her whirlwind romance. One minute she's engaged, and the next second (okay, it was actually more like two hours), she's married! Thanks to Twitter, her family probably got the news the same way the rest of the world did. And eloping is just the thing if you aren't into all kinds of fussiness. It's quick, discrete and you can invite people...if you want. It's totally up to you.

With an elopement, you have far less to worry about than with a big ceremony. Here are some things to consider:

**1. Destination:** You could go to the courthouse, I suppose, but it really wouldn't be much fun. So let's think bigger, like Tara Reid. Greece? Jamaica? Hawaii? There are lots of beautiful destinations out there from which to choose.

**2. Guests:** Beyond the location you get married, you have to think about whether you want to truly elope with no attendees, or have a few close friends and family fly in for the occasion.

**3. Pack:** After you make your travel plans, all you have to do is pack your bags and go. Quick, easy, and no fuss. Just be sure to bring a camera!

Whether you choose to be a bride like Kim Kardashian and live out your fantasy princess wedding, or you just want to get away and tie the knot with no chaos like Tara Reid, that's a choice that's totally yours. Whatever you choose, it'll be a day you will never forget.

*Brea Gunn is a monthly contributor to Cupid's Pulse, and writes for a Hudson Valley weddings site for real weddings, reviews and inspiration from local wedding business resources.*

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## Rachel Weisz Talks Babies With Daniel Craig





It looks like there's a possibility of adding a James Bond, Jr. to Hollywood's children in the future. According to [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com), Daniel Craig and his new wife Rachel Weisz are considering having kids at some point ... or at least they aren't ruling it out. "Oh, I wouldn't make [a baby] just for the sake of giving my son a sibling," the actress said. "But... You never know." The pair married in June after a courtship mainly out of the public eye.

**How do you avoid the pressure from family and friends to have kids?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

"Everyone else is doing it" is often the justification for doing something, but it's important not to let that rationale get to you when it comes to having children. Here are some ways to avoid the pressure:

**1. Blow it off:** If you're unwilling to dignify a discussion about having a family in the future, people will stop asking you about it. Respond to any questions about having kids with

one-word answers, and then change the subject.

**2. Explain:** Sometimes it can get annoying to have to discuss your life plans and why they exist, but with close family and friends it can be necessary sometimes. When they ask you about having kids, explain to them why it is you aren't ready. Chances are, you have logical reasoning behind it, and your loved ones will understand.

**3. Be straight:** If being subtle doesn't seem to be working, let your family and friends know straight out that you will have kids when you want to have them and you don't want them to pressure you. Tell them you'll have children when you're ready to make that step.

**How do you keep the pressure of having kids from getting to you? Share your thoughts below.**

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## Celebrity Couples Who've Made the World a Better Place





By Erika Mionis

Celebrity. For some, the word implies arrogance, narcissism, and superficiality. For others, it implies kindness, charisma, and power. While it's true that both definitions have their part in celebrity culture, more and more celebrity couples are trying to change those stereotypes by turning their focus towards charity and humanitarian efforts. Here are some of the main culprits:

**1. Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie:** It's no secret that longtime partners Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt like to give back, especially when it comes to adopting children from impoverished countries. Jolie, a Goodwill Ambassador for the UN since 2001, has traveled to over 20 countries in attempts to raise refugee awareness. Brad Pitt, though relatively new to charity work, impressed many by starting *The Make It Right Foundation* after seeing the damage caused by Hurricane Katrina. The Foundation has built over 50 "green" houses, and has brought more than 200 people back to the Lower Ninth Ward, a devastated neighborhood in New Orleans. More recently, the Jolie-Pitts made headline news when they donated \$500,000

dollars to the Joplin Tornado Relief Services in Missouri. Also newsworthy are the Jolie-Pitts tax returns, which according to Britain's *The Independent*, show that Jolie and Pitt donated almost 5 million dollars to various charities in 2009.

**2. Will Smith and Jada Pinkett Smith:** Will Smith and Jada Pinkett Smith's charity work has been somewhat of a recent development. Since 2007, the Smiths have made several large donations of over 1 million dollars each, usually to religious causes. In addition to their religious donations, Smith and Pinkett Smith started the New Village Leadership Academy, a private school that offers both a challenging curriculum and generous financial aid to students. Recently, the longtime couple decided to "donate their birthdays" to the *charity Water*, an organization dedicated to providing clean water for developing countries in Africa. Will Smith asked fans to send \$42 to the charity in honor of his 42nd birthday, while Jada Pinkett Smith simply asked for fans to "send what they can."

**3. David and Victoria Beckham:** U.K power couple David and Victoria Beckham actively participate in humanitarian work. In late 2009, Victoria visited Clay County, Kentucky, with the charity *Save The Children* in order to learn more about the children in the poverty-stricken area. The former Spice Girl rewarded the children with book bags and advice. Her husband, soccer star David Beckham has been a Goodwill Ambassador since January 2005 and is also a spokesperson for Malaria No More, a New York City-based nonprofit dedicated to treating Malaria in Africa. David is often seen on ESPN and other sports channels in short clips for *MLS WORKS*, the Major League Soccer's charity project. Recently, the couple made news when they donated many of the gifts sent to their newborn daughter, Harper Seven, to charities in Los Angeles.

**Is there a celebrity couple you feel belongs on this list? Feel free to leave a comment below, and keep your eyes peeled**

for more celebrity humanitarian efforts.

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## LeAnn Rimes' Ex Dean Sheremet Is Married



LeAnn Rimes isn't the only happily remarried half of her broken marriage to Dean Sheremet. Now, Sheremet has tied the knot with photographer Sarah Silver, according to [People](#). The pair became engaged in November of last year. After being married by a City Clerk, the proud husband posted a video of he and his bride stepping out of the office. He was wearing a gray suit with no tie and his new wife was wearing a short

one-shoulder red dress while holding a bouquet of flowers. Congratulations to the newlyweds!

**How do you know when you're ready to move on after a breakup?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Dean Sheremet and LeAnn Rimes were married for seven years before calling it quits. Now, both of them seem happy in new marriages. Cupid has some tell-tale signs that it's time to move on:

**1. You're smiling:** Perhaps you don't have a smile on your face *all* the time, but it's important that you've recovered from your past relationship enough that you're able to let loose and have a good time. No one wants to date a frowny-face.

**2. You've established independence:** When you get out of a long relationship, it's important to come into yourself again and regain all of the things that make you, you. Once you've done that, it's much more likely you're ready for a new and healthy relationship.

**3. You've tied up loose ends:** "She has a lot of baggage" is not something you want to hear about yourself. Make sure you've gotten close on your past relationship before you attempt to bring someone new into your life.

**How did you know when you were ready to move on? Share your thoughts below.**

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# Are Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel Rekindling Their Romance?



Are they back on? Justin Timberlake was spotted biking with ex-girlfriend Jessica Biel on Sunday post-brunch. “They were in good spirits,” an eyewitness at the diner claimed. “They seemed happy ... They had a nice time.” A close source to Timberlake tells [People](#) that it wasn’t shocking to see the former couple hang out together. “They always remained friendly after the split and spent time together,” the source says.

**After a split, can you remain friends with your ex?**

## Cupid's Advice:

Remaining friends with your ex isn't difficult, unless your relationship ended terribly. Cupid offers tips on when to know you're ready to rekindle your relationship with your ex:

**1. Take a break:** Spend some time away from your ex for a while to process your feelings about him or her.

**2. Process your feelings:** After some time, if you realize that it was best for you to split with your former flame and you know that you wouldn't want to be in a romantic relationship with your ex, talk with him or her and figure out how you can remain friends.

**3. Spend time:** It's best to start off spending time with your ex by inviting him or her to get-togethers with your friends. If you're spending time alone instead of in a group, your feelings may return.

**Do you think one can remain friends with their ex? Let us know by commenting below.**

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## He Said/She Said: David Good and Natalie Getz Discuss Episode 4 of Bachelor Pad 2





By Jennifer Harrington

The drama is never-ending on Bachelor Pad 2! This week's episode started with Jake's dramatic farewell, a kissing competition and more emotional breakdowns from Melissa. Two more contenders – William and Melissa – were eliminated in their quest for love and money. After this crazy episode, we chatted with our Bachelor Pad 2 experts, David Good and Natalie Getz, to see what they thought about the action.

**We learned tonight that Blake and Ella are the best kissers in the house – were you surprised they were crowned the King and Queen of Kissing in the Pad? When you first learned of the competition tonight, who did you predict would be the winners?**

**He Said:** I was not surprised actually. Ella is pretty quiet and they say “it's always the quiet ones” and she has nice lips. I thought Michelle might win when I first heard of it, but she vowed out so it was wide open.

**She Said:** I thought either Blake or Kirk would win the competition, because neither of them are in a relationship and

they just look like they would be good kissers! As for the girls, I predicted Ella to win because she is bound and determined to win the money for her son. She was on the chopping block last week, so I knew she would do anything this week to stay safe! The guys were being all dramatic and weird about kissing Vienna and Holly, which was annoying because it's a game! Tenley and Elizabeth kissed all the guys on our season even though Kovacs and Kiptyn were their boyfriends. I even kissed Kiptyn and Kovacs right in front of the girls and we all laughed so hard about it.

**Do you agree or disagree with Michelle's decision to sit out of the kissing competition? Did you think she was putting herself in a risky position by sitting out of this week's challenge?**

**He Said:** I don't disagree or agree with it. She has a daughter that she does not want to see her doing that. On the other hand, you know you are signing up for that kind of thing on the show. It's not right or wrong because she is the one putting her neck on the line by not giving herself a chance to get a rose.

**She Said:** Not at all, she definitely did the right thing. She knew there was no possibility of her going home, so she didn't need this challenge. She respectfully bowed out and didn't make a big deal about it like some on our season. Plus, her daughter is only 6, but extremely mature so Michelle wants to be a good role model for her. Ella was on the chopping block the week before so her situation was very different. She felt as though she needed to win to be safe and closer to the money.

**Blake is definitely playing the field – we've seen him charm Melissa, Holly and Erica. This just doesn't seem smart, but is it possible this strategy may work out for him, or do you think it's just a matter of time before the group turns against him and votes him off?**

**He Said:** It is just a matter of time before they turn. They are women and whether women want to admit it or not, very few can handle that sort of thing and roll with it without letting their emotions get involved and turning on him as a group.

**She Said:** This is a terrible strategy, but he shot himself in the foot when he partnered up with Melissa right off the bat.

He jumped the gun before assessing the situation and he will ultimately go home. I predict next week since he now has all the guys pissed at him out of his lack of respect for Michael.

I like Blake, but I don't think he necessarily needs the money as much as others in the house.

**William didn't get too much camera time and it was hard to tell what others in the house thought of him. If you had to guess, why did he go home? Did it ultimately hurt him that he didn't have a romantic alliance or partner?**

**He Said:** I think the household liked him as a person. He is a funny guy. He was kind of a floater, though, and that can make you an easy target for everyone to send home. That's exactly what happened.

**She Said:** With the mentality of this cast, being in a partnership certainly didn't help his cause. The cast loved him and it was difficult for them to see him leave, but no one was in an alliance with him. If I were part of the powerful 6, I would have gathered everyone when Kasey and Vienna were off making out somewhere and collaborated to kick them off.

**The field of competition is getting smaller and smaller every week – at this point, which pair do you think is the strongest contender for the \$250,000? And which couple do you think is most likely to walk away from the house in love?**

**He Said:** I think the couples will be split up, so no couple is safe. I think Vienna and Kasey (as weird as it sounds) will still be a couple and go out together on this show. Crazy, but hey ... love is crazy.

***She Said:*** I think the strongest partnership by far is Graham and Michelle. They are just coasting along right under the radar. These two are also most likely to walk away with love. They are both incredibly mature individuals who know what they want in life and I wouldn't be surprised if they won the money and the love.

Be sure to tune in **next Monday night for the next episode of Bachelor Pad 2!** While you're watching, send us your questions for David and Natalie!

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## Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux Move In Together





Jennifer Aniston and her new beau Justin Theroux took a big step in their relationship by deciding to become roommates. [People](#) reports that the couple is currently renting a two-bedroom house in the Hollywood Hills while searching for a more permanent settlement. “Jen and Justin are very excited about living together in their new home,” a source said. Aside from some privacy, the home, which Aniston rented Aug. 1, offers hardwood floors, a new ozone pool, spa and viewing deck. Aniston’s old home in Beverly Hills sold for \$38 million.

**How does your relationship change when you live with your partner?**

### **Cupid’s Advice:**

In most cases, moving in with your lover can make things complicated at times. Cupid weighs the pros and cons:

**1. Time is of the essence:** Most couples expect to be spending more time together when they move in together. Technically this is true because you have the night together, but you’ll

be surprised by how much “quality time” is missing once the honeymoon period is over.

**2. ‘Space: the final frontier’:** If you’re a person who needs a lot of space after a disagreement, then you may want to reevaluate your living situation – or have a spare room.

**3. ‘After the thrill is gone’:** Similar to the beginning of your relationship, once the initial “honeymoon” period is over, a person’s guard is let down and his or her true character appears. This happens when you move in with your lover, except on a much larger scale. Act accordingly.

**What do you think are the pros and cons of moving in with your partner? Share your experiences below.**

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## **An Introduction for a Lifetime: Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick**





By Bari Lyman, author of *Meet to Marry*

With so many options for meeting a potential partner these days, like dating sites, speed dating or singles events, we often forget that one of the most successful ways to find that special someone can be through an introduction. It's a time-tested and successful model for creating a good match and since the person introducing you is usually a close friend, family member or mentor, they typically have your best interest in mind.

An example of a happy celebrity couple who met via introduction are Sarah Jessica Parker and her husband, Matthew Broderick. The duo have been happily married for 14 years and were originally introduced through her brother.

If you're looking for a way to meet someone special, following are some Meet to Marry, Date To Marry tips I share with singles who want to find "the one." Hopefully this advice will lead you toward a wonderful and inspiring union.

**Be marriage ready, make dating a priority and be open to all possibilities!**

Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick met when her brother introduced the two during a trip to the movies.

Shortly after their initial meeting, they were inseparable. Because they were both open to the possibility of love, they still have a successful marriage to this day.

**Never marry potential.**

Broderick told *People* magazine in 1998, "We love each other and let the other person be themselves. We don't try to convince the other to be something they're not." A key element for a successful relationship is to be happy with your partner without trying to change him or her.

**When it's right, it will flow.**

This celebrity pair was clear about who they were in their relationship and they were both ready to become involved in a serious commitment. Throughout their marriage, Broderick says that the two have never spent more than two weeks apart.

Marriage-ready people understand that a relationship requires maturity, generosity and self-awareness in order to work.

**Be clear about your vision, values, and goals when dating for marriage.**

While these two celebrities are from different parts of the country (Ohio and New York City), they share the same important underlying vision. They are both half-Jewish, so their backgrounds reflect similar religious values as well. Having a common ground is important for building a family. They also share mutual admiration for each other and find the same characteristics (such as humor) to be important.

If you're looking for your happily ever after, try out the tips above and let us know how they work.

Were you introduced to your partner through a friend or family member? Share your experiences below.

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## 'American Idol' Alum Jason Castro Welcomes a Baby Girl



*American Idol* alum Jason Castro and his wife Mandy welcomed a beautiful baby girl into the world this past Sunday, according to [People](#). The baby girl, named Madeline Emilia Castro, is the first child for the Castros and they are ecstatic. On his website back in April when he first announced they were expecting, Jason's quoted as saying, "We just found out

yesterday that it is going to be a girl! That makes me laugh ... what am I going to do with a sweet little girl?! Probably just smile a lot ... I cannot wait!!!” Congratulations to these two love birds and their growing family.

**What are some ways to prepare your lifestyle for a child?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

Bringing a baby into the world is a pretty big task, and Cupid has some tips on how to prepare your lifestyle:

**1. Make 'me' time:** Even though your about to have a child, that doesn't mean you and your partner have to give up time for yourselves. The most important thing to remember is to continue to maintain a healthy and loving relationship.

**2. Get advice:** A great way to prepare for a baby on the way is to get advice from family and friends on what to expect. This way you know what you're getting into, and you can prepare accordingly.

**3. Coordinate your schedules:** Make sure you and your partner have a plan when it comes to taking care of the new addition to your family. Whether it be who is on diaper duty or who is going to stay home with the baby, making appropriate plans is the key to preparing your lifestyle for a child.

**What are some ways to prepare your lifestyle for a child?  
Share your thoughts below.**

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# Does Kim Kardashian Want Babies Already?



Although Kim Kardashian tied the knot with Kris Humphries earlier this month, she's already thinking of babies, according to family friend Lisa Gastineau. "She wants babies. Let's cross the fingers. And her mom wants her to have babies quick!" Gastineau told [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com) on Saturday in Hollywood. Gastineau believes Kardashian will be a great mom, and she's confident that Humphries will be a great family man. "He adores [Kim]. I wish that every girl that I know had someone that adores her. Just the way that he looks at her. He's so cool, he stands up to her. Kim is a little dynamo. It is amazing; it is a fun, fun relationship watching them!"

**Is there such thing as bad timing when it comes to having a**

**baby post-marriage?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

Although some couples take advantage of their time alone as newlyweds, others prefer having children immediately. Here are a few things to consider before starting a family:

**1. Financially stable:** Make sure you both have a career and are doing well financially, because taking care of children is expensive.

**2. Goals:** Do you both have future goals? Think about how having children might affect your dreams and relationship.

**3. Ready for babies:** You and your spouse have to understand the responsibilities involved when raising children. Make sure it's something you both want.

**When do you think a couple should start having kids after marriage? Share your thoughts below.**

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## **Beyoncé Announces Pregnancy at VMA's**





Beyoncé stunned the world Sunday night when she announced that she and husband Jay-Z are expecting their first child. If it wasn't already obvious, the diva showed up to the VMA's in an orange wrap dress and kept rubbing her belly, according to [People](#). After confirming the rumors from the red carpet, she went on to show off her baby bump while on stage performing 'Love On Top' and started off the performance by screaming, "I want you to stand up on your feet. I want you to feel the love that's growing inside me." Jay-Z was in the crowd, as excited as ever about the news, and the couple seemed happy to share it with the world.

**How do you know at what age to have a baby?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

It's not always easy to know when it's the right time to have a baby. Cupid has some advice:

**1. It feels right:** If you and your partner have discussed having a child for a while and the two of you agree that now is the time, then it doesn't matter what age you are; the time

is right for both of you.

**2. Ask your doctor:** With modern day technology and medicine, your doctor should be able to tell you when the best time to have a child is in order to have a smooth and healthy pregnancy.

**3. It just is:** Most pregnancies aren't planned and, in fact, are a surprise, so sometimes you're ready because you have to be!

**How do you know at what age to have a baby? Share your thoughts below.**

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## **Relationship Expert, Andrea Syrtash, Teaches You How to "Cheat on Your Husband (with Your Husband)"**





By Diamon Hall

To outsiders looking in, marriage is a sign that your life is complete, and both people are still “head-over-heels” in love. Privately, however, the husband may be thinking, ‘my has she changed,’ while the wife is often silently wondering, ‘is this really what I signed up for?’ Andrea Syrtash is a dating and relationship expert, on-air personality and author. With her new book, *Cheat on Your Husband (with Your Husband)* ready to hit the stands in September, she gives women solutions and advice that will help their marriage prosper for years to come.

Although she is married herself, Syrtash says the book isn’t only from personal experience (although there are some personal lessons shared), but also from interviews she conducted with other women and by citing the latest research on marriage, giving her readers a wide variety of opinions. Syrtash didn’t want the book to come off as a desperate attempt to save your relationship, but rather as a source of tips and advice to rekindle the romance. This book is ideal for anyone who feels they’ve lost track of why they’re married

and don't know where to go from here.

Recently, Cupid had a chance to chat with Ms. Syrtash, and here's what she had to say:

**How did you come up with the title of your new book?**

The original title was *How to Date Your Husband* and that became the subtitle to *Cheat On Your Husband (With Your Husband)*. I chose the word 'cheat' because too often we feel guilty when we focus on ourselves and our marriage when we have so many other competing demands; but cheating in this case is a good thing! I wanted a title that was fun, playful, and a little provocative. I didn't want it to be a relationship rescue book, but rather a relationship renewal book.

**What made you choose this career field?**

I actually went into it undecided, but I knew I loved journalism and connecting with people about their experiences. I was always the advice-giver amongst friends and family, but didn't know that I would eventually do that professionally. After journalism school, I earned a certificate in life coaching. Over the last decade, I've interviewed hundreds of people and spent thousands of hours focused on relationship research. I love it.

**Is the book more so you speaking from experience, or is it mostly advice?**

The book opens by telling the readers that I'm not just interested in lecturing them, but I do want to inspire them into action. It's not a memoir, but I do share my marriage experience so that I can have a little more intimacy with my readers. My advice is driven by my journalism and coaching background. I know the best advice I can share comes from interviewing real women in different situations.

**What is the best piece of advice you give to couples in the book?**

Marriage is a choice that you have to make every day. People need to realize they can't just be complacent because that's the easiest option. Another theme in the book came from an 80-year-old woman I interviewed. She said, "The most important thing you can offer in a relationship is your presence." One of the big elements of my book is "Small steps will create big changes."

**How does being a dating and relationship expert come into play in your own life?**

The irony is that sometimes I'm not taking my own advice! As I'm writing about a topic and researching it, sometimes I get a wake-up call, because I'm immersed in the material. In my last book *He's Just Not Your Type (And That's a Good Thing)*, I talked about how I was writing advice columns to follow your heart, and I discovered I wasn't. I don't wanna be a hypocrite. I definitely want to practice what I preach.

**I know you interviewed our founder, [Lori Bizzoco](#). What type of advice did she give, and what was it about her story that interested you?**

I love that Lori is a mother of two and has her own business. She strikes me as a person who's loyal to her passion. She models advice in my book very well: You can't be passionate in your marriage if you're not passionate in your own life, and I saw that in Lori. She's featured in my "Sweat the Small Stuff" chapter, and that's because I see her and her husband doing small things for each other all the time, just to show their appreciation. I dedicated the book to jugglers (women who are juggling a lot of different responsibilities). Lori is definitely a juggler.

**Do you think women need a book like this, and why?**

I hope that people see my brand of advice as upbeat and inspiring. My advice isn't driven from a place of fear or scarcity. I try to focus on what is there already – and how to make it better. This is intentional because I want to inspire my readers to try new things...not because things will be doomed if she doesn't, but because her life will be great if she does.

In addition to the release of the upcoming book, Syrtash has also been a regular advice columnist and contributor to numerous popular sites, including Yahoo, The Huffington Post, and Oprah.com, as well as being the on-air host of 'On Dating', produced by NBC Digital Studios. She has shared advice in various media outlets across the country, including *The Today Show*, *USA Today*, VH1 and NPR, among others. Syrtash also speaks regularly about effective relationships at conferences and workshops across the country. For her upcoming schedule, refer to [www.andreasyrtash.com](http://www.andreasyrtash.com).

Syrtash feels the book will give readers' marriages a boost! She stresses the fact that this isn't heavy relationship self-help; but a positive, encouraging tool full of keys to a successful (and fun!) marriage.

Cupid wants to give a big thanks to author, Andrea Syrtash for giving us some of her time. Be sure to check out her new book *Cheat on Your Husband (with Your Husband)* at Amazon..

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## **10 Restaurant Ideas to Help Your Relationship Grow**

# Stronger



By Molly Borter

You've heard it before: "The way to a man's heart is through his stomach." While men all over the world "eat up" this saying, what they forget is that food is a major way into a woman's heart, too. More to the point, couples who share a mutual love of food form stronger bonds with each other.

Statistics show that 75% of Americans eat out at least once a week, so why not spend that meal with your special someone?

Here's a list of restaurant genres that should be on every couple's food forecast:

## 1. The Quiet Café

They say that breakfast is the most important meal of the day,

so why not find a café that both of you love that's calm and cozy. It will make waking up every Saturday morning even better, and there's nothing more comforting than a place that knows exactly how you like your eggs and coffee, without even asking. The best cafés are less crowded and more secluded, so find a low-key spot that not a lot of people know about. For extra intimacy points, opt for al fresco seating!

## **2. The Favorite Pizza Joint**

On nights when neither of you really want to cook, pizza makes a great fail-safe plan. Better yet, pizza can be taken to go, when a Friday night spent cuddling in front of the DVR is in order, or eaten right at the "joint" itself, when a laidback, Italian atmosphere is just what you need to relax and wind down. Having a favorite pizza joint to turn to, where you can enjoy some quality, casual conversation, is the perfect pair pleaser.. Bon appétit!

## **3. The Swanky Bar**

Every once in a while, a couple needs an excuse to dress up and enjoy a few cocktails and hors d'oeuvres over sultry music and hushed voices. A swanky bar makes it easy for you and your significant other to spend a sophisticated evening together – sipping, snacking, and schmoozing. On evenings like these, let loose and explore the city together, because you never know where it might lead you.

## **4. The Neighborhood Park**

It's not technically a restaurant, but a park can be the best place to snuggle up together on a blanket and enjoy a homemade meal, especially if there's live music playing nearby.

Whether it's hummus and pita chips or a new dinner recipe, grab a picnic basket, throw a bottle of wine into your cooler, and have yourself an instant (and affordable) meal full of deep conversations and quality time stargazing.

## **5. The Local Brewery**

What guy doesn't love beer tasting with his babe? Local micro-breweries are popping up left and right these days, and they're the latest choice for a fun date night. Not only will the beer be a hit with your man, but with menus that feature all the American classics, like juicy burgers, hearty sandwiches, and baskets of fries, these bustling establishments score points on all levels. Go spend a rowdy evening together and enjoy one of the newest dining phenomenons around.

## **6. The Ice Cream Shop**

Not just for after dinner anymore, spending a random afternoon at an ice cream parlor, with one hand clutching a giant waffle cone, and the other hand intertwined with your significant others, can be a playful way to eat together. Spontaneous moments like these can spark childhood nostalgia and help you connect to the memories you're creating at the moment.

## **7. The Go-To Ethnic Food**

Some like it hot. Others like it with chopsticks. Decide on your go-to ethnic food, whether it's Mexican or Thai, and make an attempt to visit every restaurant in town specializing in your favorites. For example, become sushi experts together by sampling different types of rolls at each place. You'll not only love trying dishes together you previously might not have eaten alone, but you'll be able to recommend your top picks to other couples as well.

## **8. The Quirky Diner**

Most towns have an old diner that everyone loves because of the endless menu, eccentric wait staff, and a hodge-podge of tacky décor. Diners have a little bit of this and that, from chicken to pancakes, and usually serve a majority of their items all day long—which is perfect for when you two get the

craving for breakfast at dinner time. Channel your old-fashioned side as a couple.

## **9. The Trendy, Upscale Restaurant**

An upscale, modern restaurant is ideal for the times when you want to create perfect evenings together under dim lighting and listening to soft background music. And with fresh, innovative food, whether it is a premiere seafood restaurant or the latest steakhouse, you both will enjoy the chance to bond on a whole new, elegant level. Special restaurants make you feel special together.

## **10. The Classic**

This is probably the easiest to choice on the list, because you've already been there. Perhaps it's the place you went on your first date, the place you got engaged, or the place you find yourselves going to over and over again. It's the restaurant where you relive special memories, and it never fails to keep the spark alive.

As you start to find your favorites spots to frequent from the list above, your choices will shape and shift to include the atmospheres and menus you both love. Soon, you'll find that each restaurant becomes a classic, where you can sit and talk for hours, sharing hilarious and meaningful conversations and creating memories together that earn the coveted title, "Your Place."

*Molly Borter is a writer from Fishers, IN, who specializes in women's sunglasses. She loves trying new restaurants with her chef boyfriend, keeping up with the latest celebrity gossip and fashions, like the must-have sunglasses for fall, and giving helpful relationship advice to her girlfriends.*

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# Jim Carrey Professes Adoration for Emma Stone in a Video



For actor Jim Carrey, age is only a number. The *Mr. Popper's Penguins* star posted a video on his official website declaring his love for Emma Stone, reports [People](#). The 49-year-old told Stone, "Emma, I think you're all the way beautiful. Not just pretty, but smart and kind-hearted. And if I were a lot younger, I would marry you." Carrey went on to say how he wished he was "the appropriate age" for Stone so that they could have "chubby little freckle-faced kids." Carrey ended

his video by stating, " I think you're very special and I wish you continued success and artistic fulfillment. But most of all, I wish you love and contentment."

**How do you tell your partner you love him or her?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Saying "I love you" is one of the biggest milestones in a relationship. Here are a few suggestions as to how to go about it:

**1. Go out:** Take your mate out for a nice dinner or a romantic date on the beach. The classic romanticism of the night will make for a memorable revelation.

**2. Be casual:** If overly romantic dates aren't your style, then be casual. Have your partner over for a movie night and profess your love as you fight over the popcorn. The casual atmosphere will be romantic in its simplicity.

**3. Wait:** If you can't gather the courage to tell your significant other how you feel, wait for him or her to tell you. There's no rule that says you have to be the first to speak up. While you may be holding on to your secret for a while, it's best not to feel pressured into telling your partner how you feel before you're ready.

**How did you tell your partner how you felt? Feel free to share a comment below!**

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# DJ Jessica Who Says Men Can Be Intimidated By Independent Women



By Mia Salituro

Miami born Celebrity DJ Jessica Who has been getting all the buzz lately. She recently began filming in Miami for the MTV Dove Fresh Spin project and she attended her first VMAs on Sunday. Now in the spotlight, Jessica's career is booming and she admits that it's tough to find a guy who can handle it. How do you balance a relationship when you're career is on fire? Cupid's Pulse caught up with Jessica after the VMAs to find out.

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

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# Sean Penn Dating Producer Shannon Costello



One of Hollywood's most sought after actors, Sean Penn, is officially dating producer Shannon Costello, who has worked on high-profile projects such as Davis Guggenheim's documentary *Waiting for Superman* and ABC's *20/20*. Penn's newest flame is also the former Communications Director of the actor's J/P Haitian Relief Organization. The couple met in the fall of

2009 and took their relationship public in early July of this year. According to [People](#), Costello was mistakenly identified at first by the media for Stacey Koplin. In spite of this short-lived case of mistaken identity, both Penn and Costello were seen looking very much like a couple on the sandy beaches of Malibu, at Nobu and dining out in Miami.

**What's the best way to introduce your partner to your family?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Meeting the family is a huge step in your relationship. Try making the introduction in a casual setting where there's no pressure on you, your partner or your family:

- 1. Go out to dinner:** Meeting at a neutral setting where everyone can eat what they like is a great way to make an introduction. Besides making reservations, there's no preparation on your part.
- 2. Include them in a family event:** If there's a birthday or holiday party coming up with your family, bring your partner along to meet your nearest and dearest.
- 3. Have a dinner party:** If you like to cook and entertain, have friends and family over for dinner. If you aren't one to cook, you can always order in.

**How have you gone about introducing your partner to your family? Share your experiences below.**

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# 'Real Housewives of Orange County' Stars Gretchen Rossi and Slade Smiley Go to Mexico



The *Real Housewives of Beverly Hills* may be dealing with the death of Taylor Armstrong's estranged husband's suicide, but one Housewife of Orange County was happy and relaxing poolside. Gretchen Rossi and her beau Slade Smiley headed down to Mexico for a little romantic five-day getaway, according to [RadarOnline](#). The duo stayed in the Presidential Suite at the recently opened resort called Villa del Palmar at the Islands of Loreto. They snorkeled, kayaked and paddle boarded the days away. In fact, Rossi had nothing but good things to say about the mini-vacation. "It's heavenly to be off-the-grid in such a romantic, gorgeous place!"

**What are the benefits to your relationship when you go on vacation with your partner?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

Sometimes a relationship can go stale when you follow a routine and do the same things over and over again. Going on vacation is a way to spice up your relationship. Here are some specific benefits:

**1. Relax:** Real life can be stressful, so going away with your partner is a great opportunity to forget your worries and simply enjoy each other's company.

**2. Connect:** On a day-to-day basis it can be difficult to remember to carve out quality time with your significant other. When you're on vacation, it's a good time to re-connect on a deeper level again.

**3. Focus:** There are so many distractions when you're juggling your career, the gym, a social life and potentially children. Getting away as a couple allows you to focus on each other ... and only each other.

**What are some other relationship benefits of vacationing with your honey? Share your thoughts below.**

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**Should a Woman Propose to a Man?**



By McLean Robbins, GalTime.com

A woman dreams of the day when that special someone sinks to one knee, looks them lovingly in the eyes and utters those four magical words, "Will you marry me?"

But in today's glass-ceiling breaking, two-income household holding, Mr. Moms-are-totally-cool day and age, is this notion a bit antiquated? Has the women's liberation movement come so far that we can now propose our own version of happily ever after?

Our initial reaction after being presented with this topic was a resounding "heck no," but naturally, more exploration was necessary. So we queried leading relationship experts, lawyers, dating coaches and wedding professionals to get their opinions.

We'll warn you – there's no concrete answer, but our industry experts did come up with some valuable arguments for and against the issue.

## **Traditionalists Say “No Way”**

Tasha, a love coach who appeared on VH1's *Secrets of Aspen*, says that when a woman proposes to a man, she castrates him. “When you take the proposal away [from the man], you cut off their ability to make you [the woman] the happiest you could be.”

“If you're putting the best product you have out there, you will capture your rational mate [without proposing] rather than drag him [to the altar],” says Constance Dunn, M.A. etiquette specialist and author of *Practical Glamour*. “And this is coming from a card-carrying feminist!”

“It's all about perceived mate value,” she says. “Sure, you might be able to drag some dude to the altar, but he's always going to wonder if he could have done better.” “If something is readily available, it isn't as valued ... look at the success of the Birkin bag wait list.”

Letting a man take charge isn't about letting go of your own self or conceding that he has more power in the relationship, says Tasha. It's about allowing the person you love to make a grand gesture.

“There's something important about that ritual of a man making that commitment to a woman,” Dunn says. But, she admits, women have the ultimate power – saying yes or no.

Dunn agrees that as society continues to evolve, the idea of women proposing may become both psychologically and socially more acceptable. “But it's only been a few decades ... we aren't there yet.”

## Moderates Say “You’re Doing It Every Day”

Laurie Puhn, lawyer, couples mediator and author of the national bestseller *Fight Less, Love More: Five Minute Conversations to Change Your Relationship Without Blowing Up or Giving In* says that women “propose” to men every day – they just don’t call it that. “It’s called an ultimatum.”

“The reality is that women initiate probably over fifty percent of the ‘are we in this for the long haul’ conversations,” says Puhn. This gives the man the information he needs to know that when he asks you to marry him, he’s assured you’ll say yes.

Of course, Puhn cautions, conversations of that nature should not be brought up lightly. But if you’re nearing or over 30 and have been seriously dating for six months or more ... it’s natural and fine for a woman to want to bring up the topic.

A huge number of changes in relationships, for good and for bad, come about as a result of women initiating, poking, prodding, and setting time frames, she says. The issue isn’t necessarily what one says, but how they phrase it. Relationship discussions of any nature won’t be successful if phrased as “you’d better do it,” she says. Women who feel the need to issue proposals – of the mini or major variety – need to know before speaking what they are and aren’t comfortable with ... and how to walk away if they don’t get the answer they need.

“You’re never too young to value your time.” If you want to make sure you’re giving yourself ample opportunity to meet Mr. Right before you have to meet Mr. Right, that’s the outlook to have, says Puhn.

While this type of proposal isn’t “fun or exciting,” it’s the reality of many relationships today.

And, if a woman wants to get down on one knee and ultimately

do the proposing, Puhn is fine with that – so long as she has the confidence and guts to “make that the story [you tell your grand kids].”

But will it ever become commonplace? No. “When we get to the male birth control pill, you can talk to me about a woman proposing.”

### **Progressives Say “Go For It ... Selectively”**

In the Old World where civility is king, the man should always make the moves,” says Paul A. Falzone, CEO of eLove, a dating and matchmaking service with a three-decade history. “But now we’re in 2011 and the world has evolved quite a bit. If a guy can take a woman’s assertiveness, God bless her; let her run.”

Of course, he says, this type of forward thinking need require a certain type of man. If your sweetheart is a traditionalist, a subtler hint might be the better route. But, as Falzone cautions, “at the stage in the game where you’re getting down and proposing, choice shouldn’t really be in the game. You should have it pretty nailed down by then.”

In other words, are you damn sure he’ll say yes? For some women, it’s about taking life into their own hands and being the master of their own destiny. “You’re the most important person in your life and you’ve got to look at yourself and think, what’s best for me?”

If the answer is marriage and your relationship and timing are right, a proposal might be the way to go.

If you’re determined to do the asking, make sure you’re planning a proposal the man would enjoy, says Sandra Aaron, owner of Mindless Sophistication Events in Toronto, Canada. “This isn’t the moment for a female’s fantasy proposal. This is the moment to make him feel appreciated.”

Sometimes, Falzone says, men need a god kick in the pants.

Just remember, he cautions, that one should make sure they're doing it for the right reasons – that they're truly ready to get married.

*What about you? Would you propose to your sweetheart, and under what circumstances?*

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## Khloe Kardashian and Eva Longoria Double Date



Two days after Kim Kardashian's wedding, Eva Longoria met up with the *Keeping Up with the Kardashians* star Khloe for a double-date on Monday. They were joined by their beaus, Lamar

Odom and Eduardo Cruz, at the Madeo restaurant in Hollywood. [UsMagazine](#) reports that once their meal was over, the couples headed to the Montage Hotel in Beverly Hills. Although there hasn't been any word on what they did at the hotel, it's safe to assume they had a great time. Khloe tweeted that she had a "magical night!"

## **What are some fun things to do on a double date?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Double dates are a great way to spend time with your sweetheart and friends. From movie nights to dinners, the options are endless to have a spectacular evening. Here are a few fun things Cupid suggests you do on your double date:

- 1. Game night:** This is a great inexpensive way to spend the evening. If you don't feel like being cooped up in the house, take a trip to the arcade. Or better yet, get out in the field and play a sport.
- 2. Trip:** Visit a town or attraction close to your area and spend the day checking out the site, shopping and having a meal.
- 3. Camp:** Summer isn't over yet, so consider going camping with your partner and pals. Enjoy a hike or go rafting, and spend the night cooking over a campfire.

**Know any other fun things to do on a double date? Share with our readers by commenting below!**

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# 'Big Brother' Star Will Kirby Is Engaged



Another reality star has decided to tie the knot. [People](#) reports that *Big Brother* season 2 winner, Will Kirby proposed on Tuesday to his longtime girlfriend, *For Love or Money* champ Erin Brodie. Kirby popped the question at Brodie's favorite restaurant, a romantic venue by the sea. "I'm so fortunate to be in a relationship with Erin," Kirby said. "I'm thrilled to now open the next chapter of our lives together." **What are some romantic proposal ideas? Cupid's Advice:**

Brainstorming ideas for a truly unique and romantic proposal can be difficult. Here are a few suggestions:

**1. A place with a view:** Try taking your proposal to new heights. Propose during a hot-air balloon ride or on a

mountainous scenic route. The view will be breathtaking and unforgettable.

**2. The place of your first date:** Try taking you partner back to the place where the two of you had your first date. The venue will amuse your partner and will serve as a welcome reminder of how far the two of you have come as a couple.

**3. Candle-lit dinner:** There's a reason why the stereotypical, candle-lit dinner has become cliché. It works. While the classic idea is perfect on its own, try adding your own twist by ordering your favorite foods or dining in your favorite town.

Have you heard any romantic proposal ideas or have you accepted any romantic proposals? Feel free to share a comment below!

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## Will Smith and Jada Pinkett-Smith Speak Up About Split





As most of us know by now, the rumors about Will Smith and his wife Jada Pinkett-Smith splitting are false. The happy pair set the record straight Tuesday according to [People](#), claiming that the buzz in the tabloid's about their 13 year marriage coming to an end are not true. The couple made a joint statement saying, 'Although we are reluctant to respond to these types of press reports, the rumors circulating about our relationship are completely false. We are still together, and our marriage is intact.' While talk of the split was swirling around, the Smith's were shopping at Michaels Crafts acting cutesy and giddy according to onlookers. The couple's son Trey tried to squash the headlines too by tweeting 'Did #WillandJada split? No they did NOT split! False information ... it's not true RETWEET!!!'

**How do you prevent rumors from ruining your relationship?**

### **Cupid's Advice**

When people lie or start spreading rumors, it can play havoc on even the happiest couple. Cupid has some advice on how to handle this stressful situation, even if it's truly bothering

you inside.

1. Laugh It Off: If you know the rumors you're hearing are completely false, simply laugh them off. When others see that you aren't taking them seriously, the novelty should eventually wear off.

2. Speak Up: What better way to squash nasty gossip than to set the record straight yourself. Sometimes heading the rumors off and dispelling the negative accusations may be the only option. Be sincere when you talk to others, this will demonstrate that you and your partner have nothing to hide.

3. Be Strong: Try not to let the rumors bother you. Go out in public as usual and have a great time. If people see you acting normal and the two of you still together the hype will begin to fade.

How do you prevent rumors from ruining your relationship? Share your thoughts.

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## Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck Are Expecting Third Child





Looks like there will soon be a third addition to the Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck clan. According to [People](#), Jennifer Garner is now pregnant with the couple's third child. The pair, who already has a 5 1/2-year-old daughter named Violet and a 2 1/2-year-old daughter named Seraphina, are "thrilled" to be expecting a third child. Garner also told the Associated Press that she believes she's gotten somewhat of a "split personality" from motherhood. One minute her brain is mush and she is a total ditz with all the thoughts of motherhood, and then somehow she pulls it all together when the cameras start rolling. Talk about mother of the year!

**How do you deal with the dynamic of three children versus two?**

#### **Cupid's Advice:**

Raising a family is always tough, but when adding a third child to the mix, it can change things a bit. Cupid has some advice on how to deal:

**1. Middle child:** Once you have three children, there's always the child that suffers from "middle child syndrome," so it's

important to show him or her the same amount of attention as you do the oldest and youngest children.

**2. More work:** With another kid in the family, that means more mouths to feed, more places to be and more clothes, school supplies and toys to buy. All in all, a third child means more work.

**3. More fun:** An additional kid means another personality in the household and more fun to have. Instead of just having two kids that may constantly be competing with one another, you now have three to even things out in that department.

**How do you deal with the dynamic of three children versus two?  
Share your thoughts below!**

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## Melissa Rycroft and Husband Move to California With Baby Daughter





After much deliberation, Melissa Rycroft and hubby Tye Strickland made the big decision to move to California with their 6-month-old baby Ava, according to [People](#). Rycroft admitted, “Adding a baby to the equation makes my job much harder. It involves travel and it was impossible to travel without her, but at the same time it was impossible to travel with her.” Even though the new mother is stressed between working and raising her daughter, she says it’s all worth it for that ‘one little smile’ she gets from Ava after a huge temper tantrum. Luckily, Strickland is a great father, according to Rycroft, and definitely takes his fair share of the parenting responsibilities.

**How do you balance traveling for your job and your family?**

### **Cupid’s Pulse:**

It’s difficult to balance raising a family and working, especially when you must travel for work. Cupid has some advice on how to ‘do it all’.

**1. Only go if necessary:** It’s not always required to travel

everywhere for your work, so it's up to you to decide if the trip is absolutely necessary, or if it can be cancelled or postponed. Instead of trying to do it all, it's time to prioritize.

**2. Take a break:** Everyone needs a break once in a while, and busy moms who have to travel are no exception. If you feel like you're spending a lot of time traveling, be sure to fit in a week of downtime in between so you don't overdo it. A little break to spend with your family is absolutely necessary.

**3. Bring your family along:** Why not bring your family on a business trip with you? Extend the trip by a few days and have some family fun.

**How do you balance traveling for your job and your family?  
Share your thoughts below!**

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## **Miley Cyrus and On-Again BF Liam Hemsworth Grab a Bite With His Brother**





Teen queen Miley Cyrus and on-again beau Liam Hemsworth were seen out and about this week, reports [People](#). The newly-reunited couple joined Hemsworth's older brother, *Thor* star Chris Hemsworth, for lunch at *M Street Kitchen* in Santa Monica, California.

**How do you avoid feeling like the third wheel when you're out with a couple?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Spending time with couples is difficult, especially if they get lovey-dovey. Here are a few tips to help you keep your cool:

**1. Be wary of the location:** If you're planning on joining a couple for dinner at a nice restaurant, you may want to reconsider. Lunch at a cafe is much more casual and less romantic, making the meal less awkward for you.

**2. Know your friends:** If the couple you plan on spending time with are in a relationship that can get touchy-feely and

romantically gooey at times, you may want to avoid making plans.

**3. Give the couple a heads up:** There's no shame in sharing your worries with a friend. Pull your pal aside and tell him or her that you're worried about being a third wheel. Hopefully, your friend will do his or her best to make you feel included.

**Do you have any experience with being a third wheel? Feel free to share your thoughts in a comment below!**