

Amy Winehouse Unexpectedly and Sadly Joins the 27 Club



By [Whitney Baker](#) and Imani Brammer

Lady Gaga said it best: “Amy changed pop music forever, I remember knowing there was hope, and feeling not alone because of her. She lived jazz, she lived the blues.” With her soulful voice, peculiar demeanor and unruly habits, Amy Winehouse wowed audiences despite sometimes tripping on stage, throwing her shoes at people and struggling to stand up straight. Her fans still loved her. Now, with her music still echoing in their ears, they’re left with an all-too-obvious reminder that life is short.

At 3:54 pm on Saturday, July 23, 2011, 27-year-old jazz-influenced soul singer Winehouse was reported dead. She was

found in her London home, and a police source confirms that there were no sign of drugs near her body. A toxicology report may take weeks to complete, and until then, the cause of her death is unclear. Even so, Winehouse battled with a long-term – and well-known – drug addiction. Suspicions are in the air as to whether her addiction to crack cocaine, heroin, alcohol, ecstasy, ketamine and cigarettes may have played a part in her untimely death. Although she checked into rehabilitation centers at various times throughout her career, she believed that her illness was manic depression rather than alcohol or drug dependency.

As she was off-and-on with checking into rehab, she was similarly off-and-on with her marriage to Blake Fielder-Civil. With their shared drug abuse and Winehouse's penchant for adultery and violent, drunken moments, the marriage was severely damaged. In January 2009, Fielder-Civil divorced Winehouse after she admitted to adultery in court papers.

Her failed marriage may have caused Winehouse to sink deeper into depression. However, it seems like she tried to reinvigorate her love life through her most recent relationship with Reg Traviss, a film director. Their love was still going strong as recent as April, but took a downward spiral last month when Traviss ended their relationship. Heartbroken and inconsolable, Winehouse briefly checked into Priory Rehab Clinic in London and then proceeded to cancel her European tour. Traviss wanted to play a positive role in her life, but realized that he couldn't make her stand strong against her drunken demons, reported Celebs.

According to Drug Addiction Treatment, Traviss did the right thing:

"... your reasons for leaving must be based on the best interests of all concerned. The decision should come after all other options have been thoroughly explored, and/or you've

come to the realization that by staying, you're doing more harm than good – harm to you, your spouse and your family.”

Revealing how important love was to Winehouse, many of her songs were dedicated to her relationships – both the good and bad parts of romance. For instance, in her ballad “Love is a Losing Game,” she sang about how she lost to love and laments the trouble that it has caused:

“Love is a losing game
One I wish I never played
Oh what a mess we made”

In addition to using her music as an outlet for her pain, Winehouse may have used her drug addiction to wipe away her sorrows and regrets. But can addiction really cure a broken heart? Perhaps she should've looked to love as the ultimate reason to overcome her addiction. Just as both of these forces made their mark in Winehouse's life, this uniquely talented artist unequivocally impacted the lives of her fans. There will surely be a gaping hole in the world of music.

Sadly, with her early and unexpected death, Winehouse joins the 27 Club, an ironic club of deceased, influential rock artists who died at age 27, generally with some sort of controversy surrounding their death. Winehouse was aware of this group, also known as the Forever 27 Club or Club 27, and sometimes referenced its existence in interviews. Now, her name will be remembered along side legends like Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin and Kurt Cobain. May their souls rest in peace.

In light of Winehouse's death, what celebrity passing has most affected you and why? Share your thoughts below.

Jennifer Aniston Is House Hunting With Beau Justin Theroux



Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux are making the big move. According to UsMagazine.com, the *Horrible Bosses* actress is looking for places to either rent or buy in the Beverly Hills area with new serious boyfriend, Justin Theroux. Sources close to the couple say that the relationship is going extremely well, and they hope to make it permanent. As far as other recent big real estate purchases for the actress, Aniston just closed on an \$8 Million Penthouse in New York's West Village. She also purchased the one-bedroom apartment below it with plans to turn it into a duplex.

How do you know when you're ready to move in with your partner?

Cupid's Advice:

Real estate can be a serious issue for a couple. But, when you can finally agree to move in together, it should be a joyous occasion. Here are some signs that you and your partner are ready to make the big move:

- 1. When you spend every night together:** If you are spending every night together anyway, it may be time to start splitting the rent.
- 2. When you foresee being together for a long time:** Nothing makes a relationship more permanent than sharing a place together. Plus, it's a good way to get to know each other on a deeper level.
- 3. When you want to spend more time together:** If all the time you spend together just doesn't seem to be enough, start looking for a new place together.

Have you ever cohabitated with a partner? Tell us about it.

Hugh Hefner Says He Missed a Bullet By Not Marrying Crystal Harris





According to [People](#), Hugh Hefner is experiencing no hard feelings over Crystal Harris' decision to call off their wedding. In an interview on ET, he announced that by not marrying his ex-fiance, he "missed a bullet." The *Playboy* mogul declared that he's better off single. Reportedly, Harris dropped the bomb on him right before the wedding, not having given Hefner any clues to her change of heart. "I didn't see any of this coming... If you're having reservations about the person you've been with for two-and-a-half years, the logical thing is to sit down and talk about it," said Hef.

What are some positive ways to look at a broken engagement?

Cupid's Advice:

A broken engagement is often looked upon with a heavy heart. How can you handle it with a positive state of mind? Cupid has some tips:

1. Maintain self-worth: Remind yourself that no matter what, you deserve to be happy. Don't beat yourself up about the broken engagement, because it's best to have broken it off now

than later.

2. Surround yourself by people who love you: Don't spend too much time mourning your broken engagement. Instead, spend time with family and friends. It's important to be around supportive people who value you.

2. Forgive: Holding a grudge against your ex isn't healthy. Forgiveness is one of the most difficult things to do, but it's also one of the most rewarding. If you're able to let go of your anger, you'll be able to look at this experience as something that allowed you to grow.

Got any tips on maintaining a positive attitude when dealing with a broken engagement? Share your comments below.

Tiger Woods' Ex Elin Nordegren Is Dating Again





Tiger Woods cheated, and it's time that his ex-wife moves on. For the first time after her recent divorce, Elin Nordegren is back on the scene, only this time, Woods isn't by her side. Nordegren has been spotted dating Jamie Dingman, a 31-year-old American financier. Nordegren and Dingman were found on July 12, kissing and hugging in Sweden, as reported by [People](#). As of right now, there's no stamp on their relationship, but who knows what the future may bring.

What are some ways to “go with the flow” in a relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

Forget the hassle of preparation, high hopes and constant wondering of where your relationship is heading. What are some good ways for you to go with the flow? Cupid has some tips:

1. Have fun, with a light heart: Relationships don't always have to be so serious. Let loose a little. It'll help you and your partner to bond on a fun-loving level.

2. Don't take anything too serious or personal: If you take everything to heart, there won't be any room for enjoyment.

Over-analyzing things can sometimes cause a lot of issues in relationships.

3. Treat it like a friendship: Friendships build great foundations for almost all relationships. Kissing and hugging doesn't mean that your partner can't be your friend. With a friendship base, going with the flow might be a little bit easier.

Have something to add? Share your comments below.

5 Reasons To Play Hooky From Work With Your Honey





By Andrew Pryor

You're sitting at your computer at work and you've had it up to "here" with the pile of papers sitting on your desk. All you can think about is an afternoon escape. After all, the work will still be there when you get back. If you're contemplating calling in sick or checking out early, double up with your partner so that you can really enjoy the day. A vacation for two is much more fun than one. Here are five ready-made reasons to hop the cubicle walls and make time for yourself and your loved one:

1. Celebrate a promotion: If you've just picked up a new title and a pay raise, what better way to celebrate than to spend some time off with someone you love? He or she can accompany you to an early and fancy dinner date where you can toast your latest success.

2. Get an early start on happy hour: If you leave half an hour early, it should be five o'clock by the time you hit your favorite bar. Meet your partner there and think back to the first time you bought him or her a drink.

3. Adopt or create your own holiday: Whether it's Talk Like A Pirate Day, Flying Spaghetti Monster Day or the birthday of a celebrity you've always worshiped, find a reason to celebrate, and take time off from work. Here are a few silly suggestions for the month of July from BrownieLocks.com.

4. It's a nice day outside: Look out the window, feel the sunshine hitting your face and imagine lying in the grass with the love of your life. Life is too short to spend eight hours of your day indoors, so find an out-of-the-way spot you and your honey can call your own.

5. You don't need a reason at all: The best things in life are unexpected. Come home early and surprise your husband, wife, partner or lover with a sensuous and lovely day together. Sometimes, you don't need an excuse to spend a day away from work – you just need someone to make that day worthwhile...and maybe a 'broken' alarm clock.

Do you have any ideas about how to escape the workday with your partner? Share them with us in a comment below.

Rumor: Is Demi Lovato Hooking Up With Ryan Phillippe?





18 year-old Demi Lovato and 36 year-old Ryan Phillippe. Could it be true? Reportedly, Lovato has been hooking up with Reese Witherspoon's ex-husband and the father of their two children. According to a UsMagazine.com source, it was "nothing serious."

How do you keep a relationship casual?

Cupid's Advice:

There are plenty of reasons to want to keep the relationship casual, especially if you just started seeing someone. But how do you go about it? Cupid has some tips:

1. Expectations: If the relationship is not of a serious nature or isn't at that stage, then make sure you know what to expect. Don't assume that your partner will be more emotionally available than he or she actually is. Don't expect that the relationship is more meaningful than it is, or you may risk getting hurt.

2. Communication: Communication is key. It may be awkward discussing the status of the relationship, but it's important

to be open about where you stand and make sure you and your partner are both on the same page.

3. Group dates: A good idea may be to go on a group date. This will ensure that the setting is more fun and less intimate. If you're out with a group of friends, you'll be less likely to discuss your feelings.

How do you keep your relationships casual? Share your experiences below.

Maya Rudolph and Paul Thomas Welcome a Son





Bridesmaids star Maya Rudolph and husband, director Paul Thomas Anderson, welcomed a baby boy into the world July 3rd, according to [People](#). Rudolph kept the sex of her baby unknown until the day she popped. She said, "The exciting part is not knowing who's coming, you have to wait nine months for a surprise, but then it's a good payoff because it really is a surprise." The newborn, Jake, is home with his older sisters, Pearl and Lucille. The family is doing great, according to Rudolph's rep. You can check Rudolph out in her new role in *Up All Night*, which premieres this fall on NBC.

What are the advantages of keeping the sex of your unborn baby unknown?

Cupid's Advice:

Having a baby is always exciting, but a big decision every parent has to make is whether or not to find out the sex of the baby prior to the delivery. Cupid has some advantages to keeping the sex of your unborn baby unknown:

1. It's a surprise: Take a tip from Maya Rudolph and Paul Thomas Anderson. Who doesn't like a good surprise? Not

knowing the sex of your unborn baby creates a sense of excitement and suspense prior to the big day, which makes the whole experience even more memorable.

2. No expectations: By not knowing the sex of the unborn baby, you won't know what to expect and therefore won't be planning out the child's entire future before he or she arrives. Having an open mind will allow you to see the baby in an unbiased way.

3. Keep your family and friends anxious: Keeping the sex a secret won't just make you anxious about the big day, but also your family and friends. What's better than seeing or hearing their reactions when you say 'It's a boy' or 'It's a girl'?

What advantages do you feel there are to not knowing the sex of your unborn baby? Share your thoughts below!

Real Housewives Stars Taylor Armstrong and Husband File for Divorce





It may come as no surprise to *Real Housewives* fans that Taylor and Russell Armstrong have called it quits. After all, the Armstrong couple likened their marriage to a business agreement. The two were going through “huge martial problems related to finances,” an inside source reported to UsMagazine.com in May. Although they have a five-year-old daughter named Kennedy, they decided that the best decision would be to split. On Friday, they filed for divorce.

What are ways to work on your marriage before calling it quits?

Cupid's Advice:

It seems like the Hollywood-inspired trend today is to file for divorce when things don't work out. The roles of husbands and wives in our society has changed over the centuries. Although most of us do make an effort to resolve marital turbulence, it can be tough. Cupid has some tips on how to work out your martial issues:

1. Communicate: Often times, communication is at the heart of

relationship problems. The next time you and your spouse start arguing, try to verbalize your points effectively before things get heated. Always focus on the particular situation and, by all means, avoid using phrases like “you always do this.” Stay calm, and try to get to the heart of the issue that’s troubling you.

2. Listen: We often complain that our partners don’t really listen to us, but we could all probably make an effort to be better listeners. When your spouse is mad at you, don’t get defensive or show contempt. Although this may sound silly, take turns rephrasing each other’s points. This will ensure that you both understand where each other’s anger is coming from and allow you to better work through your problems.

3. Consult a counselor: Seeking external help is always a wise step to take before calling it quits. It can be really hard to work through your issues without the aid of a third party. A marital therapist can really help you gain awareness of your communicative difficulties as a couple and give you valuable advice on how to work through your marriage.

Got any tips on alternatives to marital counseling? Share your suggestions below.

How to Deal With Life After Divorce





By Mark Shields

Divorce can be a truly painful experience, and people deal with the aftermath in different ways. Some begin to see the light at the end of the tunnel quickly, while others continue to foster darkness and deeper feelings of pain and loss. The key is to choose the path that leads you towards the light by keeping yourself active, staying close with friends, developing new relationships and becoming a healthier person mentally, physically and spiritually.

Stay Active

Once divorced, you may find you have much more time on your hands to participate in activities you've always wanted to do. Have you ever wanted to take a tennis lesson? Now is the time to do it! You might also consider joining an adventure group who experiences the wonders of the outdoors and who climbs, bikes, hikes or simply meanders through the paths and trails of nature. There are organizations of all kinds that don't necessarily call themselves 'support' groups, but just turn out to be supportive. It's a great way to meet new and interesting people and to get in touch with yourself. Some

other ideas include: book clubs, ballroom dancing and taking fitness classes at a gym. No matter what your interest, do some research to find your niche.

Write

Writing is another way to exfoliate your pain. Grab a leather journal, and begin a journey. Write down everything you feel, think and dream without anyone looking over your shoulder. There should be no one there to judge you; you're just answering to yourself. It's a great way to cleanse your system of all of the hurt and pain you've recently experienced.

Hang with Friends

Staying close with those you care about is important. How many times have you been there for your friends when they were having a tough time? Just try to remember that you're not burdening your friends when you need them during the divorce process. Feeling lonely in an empty house? Call up a pal and go for a walk or watch a funny movie together. Being surrounded by love in this hard time is one of the best forms of medicine, as long as you open up and allow them inside to comfort you.

Be Healthy

You will also want to get on a health routine if you haven't already started one. Working out helps boost your endorphins and can turn sadness and sorrow upside down, giving you hope and happiness. Join a gym, a hiking club or a sports team. Even just getting out there for and walking your pain away can be just what you need.

No matter what you do, let go of your past and live in the present. Once you've used these ideas to fully move on, you can look forward to your future.

Mark Shields is a partner at the law offices of Gillespie, Shields & Durrant. His specialties as a Phoenix family lawyer include Paternity and Grandparent's rights. He has been practicing law in Arizona since 1997.

Jennifer Lopez May Have Hinted at Split With Marc Anthony in Songs



He's the father of her twins and the man she decided to marry. However, Jennifer Lopez may have been singing subliminal lyrics about marriage troubles between she and Marc Anthony on

her album *Love*? The title alone questions the stability of their marriage, but to supplement that, in one of the songs on the album, *One Love*, which Lopez co-wrote, the singer names off three previous loves before she gets to “number four.”

This one “sang to me, but I’m not sure, so worn out, but ... made me wanna try once more,” she sings. According to [People](#), Lopez may be referring to her previous romances between Sean “P Diddy” Combs, Chris Judd and Ben Affleck, followed by “number four,” who is presumably Marc Anthony.

What are some ways to get your pain out in order to heal after a breakup?

Cupid’s Advice:

Lopez has been in the entertainment industry for a number of years, so it only makes sense that she takes to singing as an outlet. But there are many other ways to let off intangible steam. What are some ways to get the pressure of emotional pain off of your chest? Cupid has some advice.

1. Wash your sorrows away: No one can ever go wrong with a nice, warm shower. We all know that standing underneath steamy water pouring over our bodies can feel like the best thing ever. Let the water seep into your pores and calm your emotions.

2. Adrenaline: This might be the only appropriate time it’s OK for you to “run away from your problems.” If you’re feeling pain, taking a quick jog can work wonders. Releasing endorphins can definitely help with the anger and hurt . It makes you happy, while keeping you in tip top shape.

3. Creativity: Get creative! Whether you write poetry, make collages out of magazine scraps, build or write music like Jennifer Lopez, getting creative is a great way to clear your mind of unwanted problems. Pouring your emotions into something hands-on can relieve some of the pressure.

What is your outlet for releasing negative energy? Share your thoughts below.

Betty White Is Asked to Marine Corps Ball



Betty White recently received a flattering invitation, following similar invitations to Mila Kunis and Justin Timberlake. Sgt. Ray Lewis asked the 89-year-old former *Golden Girls* star to be his date to the Marine Corps Ball in a YouTube video, according to [People](#). “She’s funny, she’s sweet, she’s mature. She’s the all-around perfect woman,” he says. “I really think we’d have a good time. I’m fun, you

know. I think I can make her laugh. I think she can make me laugh. I think we can laugh together. So, call me!"

Unfortunately, White had to turn the offer down because of work. "I am deeply flattered and truly appreciate the invitation," White said in a statement to Access Hollywood.

"As everyone knows I love a man in uniform, but unfortunately I cannot accept, as I will be taping an episode of *Hot In Cleveland*."

If you're busy and can't go on a date, how do you let someone down gracefully?

Cupid's Advice:

If you must turn down a date, do it with class. Here are three ideas:

1. Be honest: If you keep it honest from the beginning, you won't have to go through any twists and turns when he or she asks more questions about why you turned the date down.

2. Always give a reason: It's rude to simply say "no." Always give a reason as to why you can't go on a date with someone. You may not feel obligated to do so, but there are millions of excuses out there. Pick one.

3. Plan another date: If your reason is because of your busy schedule, make sure you let him or her know that you're still interested, and plan another date at a more convenient time. Make sure it fits into his or her schedule, too, although it may not be as busy as yours.

How did you turn down a date? Share below in a comment.

Nicole Scherzinger Rumored to be Engaged to Race Car Champ



It looks like Nicole Scherzinger's heart is racing! Rumors started swirling that the couple was engaged after Nicole's father spoke to the UK's Mail Sunday. According to [RadarOnline](#), Scherzinger's father, Alfonso, said that Hamilton is "a really nice guy, real-down-to-earth. My family all like him. The good spirit is there," which got misinterpreted as Alfonso announcing his daughters engagement but the rumor is false. The couple has been together for 4 years. Scherzinger, a former Pussycat Doll, will now be sitting alongside Paula Abdul, Simon Cowell and L.A. Reid on the judging panel for *The X Factor* premiering this September on FOX.

What do you do if your parents don't like the person you want

to marry?

Cupid's Advice:

Getting married is one of the most important moments in your life, but how do you handle this joyous occasion when your parents don't like the person you want to marry? Cupid has some tips:

1. Show them your happy: As the old saying goes, your parents always want what is best for you, and they want you to be happy. Show them that you're truly happy with your beau and they will be more willing to support your decision.

2. Show them what you like: Show your parents what you like about your significant other. Maybe they don't see what you see, but open their eyes to the great things about your honey.

3. Let it go: If you love your significant other and you're happy, then nothing else should matter. Hopefully your parents will warm up to him, but it's really what you think and feel that counts, not what your parents think.

What do you do if your parents don't like the person you want to marry? Share your thoughts below.

Find Out if Your Partner is Unfaithful with 'The Cheat Sheet'



By Melissa Caballero and Krissy Dolor

Have you ever had that aching suspicion that your partner was cheating on you? You find yourself pacing back and forth worrying where they are, who they're with and not knowing what to do? Maybe you start beating yourself up even though it's not your fault. *The Cheat Sheet* by Rea Frey and Stephany Alexander can help ease your nerves and give you the tools to find out for yourself if your partner really is bunking up with someone else. Stephany Alexander is an infidelity expert and founder of WomanSavers.com, a forum for women to speak to each other about men, abuse and infidelity. *The Cheat Sheet* will help guide you and give you the advice you need to find out if your man is being unfaithful. We had the opportunity to speak with Stephany to find out more about this common issue. Here's what she had to say:

What was the inspiration behind WomanSavers.com?

I started WomanSavers.com in 2002, after getting out of a bad relationship. I've had a history of abuse throughout my life. I was abused as a child and experienced date rape as a young adult. I even had to file a restraining order against one of my boyfriends who became physically violent with me. I tried online dating and when I signed up for all the matchmaking websites, I experienced a lot of bad dates. I thought I knew what I was doing and it was just a numbers game. However, I found that there were a lot of men who were misrepresenting themselves on the Internet. I became very bitter after all of this. Then one day I was walking along the street and an idea just hit me like lightning. The only way women are going to survive in the future is by sharing information with each other. Now, they have an open forum to speak to other women about men.

What were some of the obstacles you've had to overcome when launching WomanSavers.com?

WomanSavers.com was very controversial and I had to alter the terms of agreement many times. I had to build a shelter against lawsuits, death threats and stalkers because men were not okay with this sort of information being leaked out. However, we do follow very strict rules that comply with U.S. laws that third-party providers are not held liable for what someone else writes as long as we do not edit the post. In fact, before a woman submits a post she has to agree that she is telling the truth or she can be sued in a court of law. It has been a very stressful process.

What can we expect to find in your new book, *The Cheat Sheet*?

The Cheat Sheet is a book about how to catch a cheater. It also shows you the best way to catch them, what to do once you have, how to move forward and how to fool proof your relationship to avoid cheating. The book has a lot of real-

life stories about infidelity ranging from all races and genders.

Do you think there is a surefire way you can prevent cheating?

There is no surefire way, but there are steps you can take in order to improve your relationship. For example, keep yourself out of situations where cheating can occur. I would never go to a happy hour and have cocktails with a male that I work with, especially one I may be attracted to. That's one way to help prevent the possibility of cheating. You have to be especially careful when you or your partner has a profession that requires you to travel because it creates more opportunities to cheat. One way to help overcome the long distance is by calling your wife throughout the day or scheduling Skype videos with each other for more intimacy.

Why do you think people stay with partners who have cheated?

Well, some people have a lot more to lose. People stay in bad relationships for 3 reasons: One reason is their children. Parents don't want to break their family unit. Another reason is finances. A lot of people would rather keep their comfortable living situation rather than downsize. The third reason is co-dependency and insecurity; people are scared to be alone.

What is the number one piece of love advice you have for singles out there who are dating?

The most important thing that you can do is research and gather all of the information you can about the person you are about to go on a date with. Get his or her first and last name as soon as you can. Run a background check, especially if you're serious about them. Google them. Go on WomanSavers.com. I know it sounds a little stalker-ish but if you allow the wrong person into your life it can ruin you emotionally, financially and physically. The more you screen, the more likely it will be in your favor to end up Mr. and

Mrs. Right. Also, don't take anything for truth if it sounds fishy. Many times women fight their own gut instinct.

Cupid thanks Stephany Alexander for her time! You can find *The Cheat Sheet* on Amazon. For more on Alexander, visit her website at www.StephanyAlexander.com. Here's to confirming your sneaking suspicions!

5 Of Our Favorite Celebrity Beach Bum Couples



By Melissa Tierney

We aren't the only one's trying to hit the beach this season to escape the hot summer heat. Sizzling celebrity pairs can be spotted in Miami, Los Angeles and the Hamptons, soaking up some rays and having fun in the sand. If you're lucky, you may spot your favorite duo while you're taking an ocean dip.

Here are a few of the celebrity beach bum couples that we'd love to join at the beach:

1. Kim Kardashian and Kris Humphries: This newly engaged couple has been all over the media lately and one of the last trips they made caused a huge splash. The duo traveled to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico in late May, and by looking at the pictures of them, it seemed like they had a blast together.

The couple played in the ocean and embraced on the beach – talk about summer lovin'.

2. Justin Bieber and Selena Gomez: The teenage royalty twosome hit Maui in May and turned heads when they were spotted smooching in the sand. Things have gotten serious for the young lovebirds as Gomez was even seen visiting Bieber's family in Canada this spring. We wonder if they love her as much as we do.

3. Ice-T and Coco: The hip-hop couple showed their overwhelming love for each other on the hot beach of Miami in February. Rapper Ice-T kept it cool while his wife, former Playboy model Coco, showed off her sexy beach body in an itty-bitty bikini. The couple, who have been married for five years, now have their own reality show, *Ice Loves Coco*, every Sunday night on E.

4. Kristin Cavallari and Jay Cutler: The ex-reality star went to Cabo San Lucas in April on a romantic getaway with beau Jay Cutler and came back engaged – what a treat. Love was definitely swirling around this pair as they spent their weekend hand-in-hand walking in the sand before Cutler popped the question. We don't know what was more blinding: the

bright sun or her new 5.2 carat engagement ring.

5. Reese Witherspoon and Jim Toth: These newlyweds celebrated their nuptials by having a fun-filled getaway in Belize with Witherspoon's two kids. The new family came back with some nice color. They were just in time for Witherspoon to promote her latest movie, *Water for Elephants*, and accept the generation award at the MTV Movie Awards. Good thing they got to enjoy an exotic getaway before heading back to work.

Who's your favorite celebrity beach bum couple? Share your thoughts below!

Marc Anthony Jokes About Being Single At Concert





Sure, his marriage with Jennifer Lopez fell by the wayside, but Marc Anthony isn't showing signs that it's slowing him down. The pop star played through his set list of romantic salsa tunes while flirting and blowing kisses to the ladies in attendance, calling one in particular, "Mamacita" – hot mama. "They're saying I'm single," Anthony said jokingly to his crowd at Simon Bolivar Metropolitan Park in Bogotá Saturday night. Despite his divorce, Anthony and Lopez still plan to go forward with their show *Q'Viva*, which will begin to film in the fall, according to [People](#).

Does flirting with the opposite sex help relieve the pain of a break-up?

Cupid's Advice:

Flirting can help when you're fresh out of a relationship because it can boost your confidence with potential lovers. Here are some tips to help you get back into the game:

1. Timing is key: It's important to remember the "mourning period" that follows a break-up. Give yourself some time to get over your ex before you start turning up the flirt. After

all, nobody likes thinking about their ex when they're with someone else.

2. Man overboard: The key with flirting is that it's like alcohol—best in moderation. Taking it too far is not only a sign that you're not over your ex, but you just look silly.

3. Be playful: Remember, it's just flirting. Similar to Anthony, keep it fun, but don't try to get a rebound right after a break-up.

Do you think flirting after a break-up is appropriate? Comment below.

Ivanka Trump and Husband Welcome a Daughter





How exciting! Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner are embarking on parenthood. The married couple welcomed their first child, a baby girl, on Sunday, and they're currently making adjustments to venture into parenting. Trump told [People](#), "We have our work cut out for us to ensure that our daughter is grounded and not spoiled."

What are some ways to change your lifestyle for the arrival of a first child?

Cupid's Advice:

So you're expecting your first baby, and you're both excited and scared. Cupid has some tips on adjustments you can make in preparation for the big day:

1. Read the lit: It's a good idea to do some research prior to the arrival of your child. There are plenty of guides to parenting out there. Go to your local bookstore and choose from a variety of books that will help you understand the changes you will experience as you are expecting.

2. Do the shopping: Before your newborn arrives, you're going

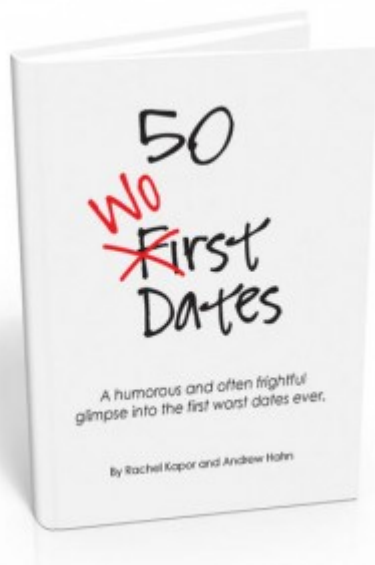
to have to stock up on infant clothes, toys, cradles, carriages, diapers, etc. You're also going to want to get the room or nursery set up. So make a baby check-list and start ticking off items well in advance.

3. Take some time off: Surely you've been running around trying to get things ready for the day you'll be a parent. Well, don't forget to dedicate some time to yourself. Allow yourself to relax by reading a book, going for a jog or getting a manicure. It's important to not get too stressed out before your child's arrival.

Got any advice on preparing for motherhood and fatherhood? Share your experiences below.

50 First Worst Dates: Looking for Story Submissions





We were contacted about a very cool new book called *50 First Worst Dates*. You know the one. The kind where his loving and unassuming wife calls in the middle of your dinner even though he said he was never married. Or, the one where he tells you that he's secretly in love with your best friend and would like you to make an introduction. Yes, these are real stories!

Maybe it was that first date with a guy who looked 26 in his online profile, but was actually 60. A first date that was so

bad, that staying in and cleaning your bathroom would have been more fun. You know the pain we're talking about.

Experienced "worst" daters and first-time authors Rachel Kapor and Andrew Hahn are developing a new book, *50 First Worst Dates* and they're looking for your stories. Feel free to share your story by submitting the brief details of that first date gone wrong on their website. If your story is selected you'll will receive \$150.

Just think, some cold hard cash might erase the memory of that traumatizing experience, especially when you're walking around with a new pair of shoes.

50 First Worst Dates will highlight the greatest romantic blunders of all time, provide an ego boost for the soul and be a reminder to all singles that their dating life could be much worse.

Submit your story now!

Mila Kunis and Justin Timberlake Confirm Marine Corps Ball Invitations





Talk about being patriotic! What better way to give back to our armed forces than by going on a date with a Marine? Mila Kunis and Justin Timberlake are doing just that, reports UsMagazine.com. Kunis, 27, was invited by Sgt. Scott Moore to the Marine Corps Ball in Greenville, NC and Timberlake, 30, was invited by Corporal Kelsey De Santis to the Marine Corps Ball right outside of Washington D.C. The two are both planning to attend the November balls with their dates. Timberlake said he wasn't doing it as a favor, but because, "I don't ever get asked out ever! So I was very flattered by that."

How do you let someone you're not interested in down gently?

Cupid's Advice:

While Justin Timberlake and Mila Kunis were happy to accept their invitations to the Marine Corps balls, sometimes you're just not interested. Cupid has some tips on how to let someone down gently:

1. Make excuses: It may not be the most moral thing to do, but

telling a little white lie makes things a lot easier. If someone asks you out and you say you already have a boyfriend or girlfriend, they won't get hurt by your rejection.

2. It's not you, it's me: Instead of saying "I don't like you," just say you're not looking to date right now. This takes the focus away from the person asking you out and puts the blame on you.

3. Honesty is the best policy: If you want to be honest, just admit you're not interested. Tell him or her it's not personal, and most people will get the hint and leave you alone.

What do you think is the nicest way to say "no" to someone you're not interested in? Share your comments below.

5 Post-Wedding Tips for Newlyweds





By [Terri Orbuch PhD](#)

Adapted from her book, “5 Simple Steps to Take Your Marriage from Good to Great”

Congratulations! You’ve survived one of the most difficult and stressful events in your relationship: the wedding. Now the two of you are settling in for the long haul. If you’re like the vast majority of newlyweds, the next 6-12 months will be some of your happiest. Relationship researchers call this “the honeymoon period,” and it’s characterized by a sense of newness and possibility.

But how can you keep that freshness and optimism going after the initial glow wears off? Here are five post-wedding tips that have been shown to build and strengthen marriage bonds, derived from my landmark Early Years of Marriage (EYM) study:

Don’t hide anything when it comes to money.

When happy couples in the EYM study were asked if their spouses were completely open and honest about money, their answers differed significantly from those of the unhappy

couples in the study. Nearly 8 out of 10 happy couples said they “never” feel their spouse tells them things that aren’t completely true about money, compared with only 54% of the other couples. **The take-away:** Money secrets and lies erode marital happiness.

Empty your “pet peeve pail” frequently.

My study found that couples who failed to talk about the small things that bothered them, letting those pet peeves grow into big resentments, were more likely to be unhappy in their marriages down the road. If you hate that she leaves her hair in the sink, tell her nicely. If you hate that he smokes cigars in the car, discuss it fairly. **The take away:** If you ignore small annoyances, they add up to major discontent over time.

Make each other feel appreciated–daily.

My research shows that the accumulation of small acts of kindness is more essential for building a strong marital bond than occasional grand gestures and big pronouncements. At least once a day, make your spouse feel loved, appreciated, noticed, valued, or respected. Give her a surprise kiss or ask her advice; make his favorite meal or give him a heartfelt compliment. **The take away:** Frequent acts of caring reinforce long-term intimacy in marriages.

Don’t forget to have fun–together.

The happiest couples in my EYM study characterized their spouse as someone they enjoyed spending time with. Too often, as marriages mature, partners tend to look outside the marriage for friends and entertainment. Seek out fun activities to do with your spouse. Incidentally, studies show that doing an activity that’s new to both of you restimulates the feel-good excitement associated with dating. **The take away:** Avoid relationship ruts by actively seeking fun,

laughter, and novelty.

Make your circle bigger.

My research found that husbands, in particular, are happier when their wives have good relationships with their extended family. Also, the couples in my EYM study who made an effort to get to know—but not necessarily share—their spouse's friends were more likely to be happy in the long term than couples who maintained separate friends. **The take away:** It takes a village to make a marriage happy.

Psychologist Terri Orbuch PhD, known as The Love Doctor, is a research professor, a long-time marriage and family therapist, and a popular love advisor on radio, TV, and peoplemedia.com, most recently seen on NBC's Today. Project director of the landmark, NIH-funded Early Years of Marriage Project, the longest-running study of married couples ever conducted, she is author of 5 Simple Steps to Take Your Marriage from Good to Great (Random House). You can find out more about her at www.drterrihelovedoctor.com.

Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony Are Ending Their Marriage





Singer and actress Jennifer Lopez, and husband, Marc Anthony, also a singer and actor, have split after seven years of marriage, according to [People](#). “We have decided to end our marriage,” they said in a joint statement. Lopez, 41, and Anthony, 42, married in June 2004 in a private ceremony at Lopez’s Beverly Hills home. They have 3-year-old twins, Max and Emme.

How do you announce your divorce to family and friends?

Cupid’s Advice:

When divorcing, it’s always better to tell your family and friends right away rather than procrastinating. Here are some ways to break the news:

1. All at once: To avoid telling the same story time and time again, round everyone up at once. Invite your soon-to-be ex-husband or ex-wife, and just as you announced your marriage to them, announce your divorce.

2. Don’t mind judgment: Divorce is frowned upon by many people, and this may happen once you break the news to the

important people in your life. However, you should overlook any negativity, because at the end of the day, you are doing what's best for you.

3. Keep it cordial: No matter what the reason for the divorce may be, let your family and friends know that you will be mature about the situation. Keep it civil with your old lover. This should release a lot of the tension in the room and prevent any misunderstandings between your ex-husband or ex-wife and your family and friends.

How did you announce your divorce to your family and friends? Share in a comment below.

'The Bachelorette' Episode 8 Recap: Love Takes Time





By [Jennifer Harrington](#)

This week on [The Bachelorette](#), Ashley has narrowed the pool to four men for the hometown dates. Coming up are visits with the families of Constantine, Ames, Ben and J.P. Let's see what it was like to meet the in-laws:

First up was food-lover, Constantine and a visit to his family in Cumming, GA. After a cozy chat by a lake, Ashley and her man ventured off to his Italian restaurant. Yes, Greek heritage with an Italian restaurant-interesting combo. Anyway, the heat was certainly on in the kitchen as the lovebirds cooked up some treats. Following their delicious quality time the pair went to meet Constantine's extremely close-knit family. All season, we've known Constantine was a family man, and after his hometown date we can now see why. Ashley not only met his immediate family but the couple was surprised when the doorbell rang and in walked about 20 more extended family members to greet Constantine for a Welcome Back Greek-style dance party. Despite the good times and cool dance moves, Constantine's parents emphasized over and over that love takes time. This seemed to be the theme of the

night from most of the families.

Next Ashley flew up to Chadds Ford, PA to spend some time with Ames' family. Our bachelorette has been intrigued by Ames' "uniqueness" all season, and her day with his loved ones did not disappoint. In fact, Ames' older sister compared her brother to an onion with various layers. Speaking of layers, we learned that Ames attended boarding school and was an unpopular student. All afternoon, we heard Ashley (and Ames' family) questioning the spark and passion in their relationship, and despite sharing his motto that "life isn't all fireworks," Ames promised to "step up the romance" with Ashley after the couple shared a picnic, conversation, and carriage ride together.

After two dates on the East Coast, our bachelorette flew west for her hometown date with Ben in Sonoma, CA where they sipped on wine from his vineyard. After an "effortless" afternoon with her "sexy" long-haired man, Ashley settled in for a relaxed evening with Ben's mother and sister. Ben's father passed away several years ago and Ben expressed to Ashley that this process of being on the show has really helped him open up emotionally. He admitted that he had only brought home one girl to meet his family before, which could be a red flag for her. The hometown date was much more intimate than the others and a little more emotional. Ben's over-protective sister definitely was watching out for her brother's best interest but overall they seemed to accept Ashley into the family.

Last was J.P.'s hometown date in Roslyn, NY. J.P. treated Ashley to an afternoon of roller-skating, which she loved, remarking that she felt like she was in "seventh grade again. With the disco ball flashing, the chemistry between these two looked pretty heated on the rink. However, they did share some serious talk about why J.P. has been single for so long (Ashley has obviously never lived in NYC where the singles almost outweigh the married couples).

They finally joined J.P.'s family, where the defenses came up initially to protect him. Apparently, his last girlfriend broke his heart. When confiding in his family, J.P. shared that he was afraid to fully admit how he feels for Ashley.

The episode ended with roses going to Ben, Constantine, and J.P. Ames was sent home, eliminated and devastated – while it seemed obvious that Ashley was not able to find any spark with him, he had developed genuine feelings for her.

Join us next week for the exotic overnight dates in Fiji as we journey with Ashley towards the final rose! In the meantime, share your predictions with us – who do you think will be the final two men standing this season? And, if you can't get enough *Bachelorette*, be sure to check back later today to read *Bachelorette* expert Jesse Csincsak's take on the episode.

Vanessa Minnillo and Nick Lachey Get Married





When Vanessa Minnillo and Nick Lachey tied the knot on Friday in a tropical paradise surrounded by their nearest and dearest, their guests had no idea what to expect. According to [People](#), their wedding invitations came in the form of a place ticket with the only instructions being to dress “island chic.” The day of the ceremony, the lucky guests were swept off to a secret island location. On July 30th, viewers everywhere will also get to witness this special ceremony at 9 p.m. ET/PT on TLC as part of the *Nick & Vanessa’s Dream Wedding* special.

What are some creative wedding themes?

Cupid’s Advice:

Having a theme wedding is a great way to make your wedding memorable for your friends and family. If you’re considering revolving your wedding around a theme, here are some fun ideas:

1. Holiday theme: Have your wedding on your favorite holiday. Valentine’s Day is always a popular choice, but having a St.

Patrick's Day or Christmas wedding can also be fun.

2. Fire and ice: Even the best relationship can still run hot and cold once in a while. Embrace both the fiery and icy aspects of your relationship with some great decorations. Candles and ice sculptures are a great combination.

3. Wild Wild West: It may not be for everyone, but if you're a honky tonk kind of couple, go for it!

Was your wedding themed? Share your experience below.

How Social Media Changed Mila Kunis' Dating Life





By [Imani Brammer](#)

Surrounded by dust tracks and equipped with camouflage and war gear in the middle of Afghanistan, there is a Mila Kunis fan. This Kunis fan likes Mila so much, that he set aside time from his Marine Corps schedule to make a [video](#) asking Kunis to the Marine Corps Ball, November 18, in Greenville North Carolina. This fan goes by the name of Scott Moore ... and that's Sergeant Scott Moore to us.

It turns out that the *Friends With Benefits* star had no idea what was going on until the topic was introduced to her during an interview with [Fox](#). When Fox broke the news to her, though she was shocked, she automatically said “yes,” after a bit of persuasion from her co-star, Justin Timberlake.

“Do it for your country,” said Timberlake.

“I’ll do it for *you*,” Kunis said into the camera, speaking to Moore.

Let’s face it – Moore has guts, not only when it comes to fighting for his country, but also when it comes to putting

himself out there for love. What he did was such a sensation that his video can now be viewed on the Internet, from anywhere in the world. If it weren't for his public invitation, the news would have never landed in Kunis' ears. Social media has officially changed his dating life.

Fortunately, Moore's image will be altered for the better too. But social media isn't always healthy for your dating life. It can make, break, destroy and rebuild. Though a cliché, this remains true. Here are five ways the media can change a dating relationship:

1. Over the river and through the woods are rumors and rumors galore: Gossip has a bad effect on a relationship. However, it can be difficult to ignore when it's so easy to locate via social media vehicles. The worst thing you can do is allow it to take over your life.

2. How about some privacy, eh?: No. No, no, no. With media in your life, there is no privacy...unless you're really, really good at being secretive. If you want some intimacy in your relationship, don't post conversations on Twitter or your Facebook wall.

3. Live up to what he/she expects: People try the best to live up to what the public expects of them. Social media can lead to pressure to portray yourselves as a "perfect couple." The fact is, there's no such thing. Let go of expectations as much as you can, and live in the present.

4. Lasting impression: Social media can leave a lasting impression on your love life. You never want to regret the memories you've had, but if all of it revolved around false rumors on Twitter and drunken tagged pictures on Facebook, it can be hard to look back positively on your relationship.

5. Growth: Then again, there's always a bright side to it all. Social media makes it so much easier to stay in touch or check-out a potential partner. Of course, you can't rely

solely on the new technology but it is a good method of finding out information about someone you're interested in dating.

Have something to add? Share your comments below!

Ryan Reynolds Is Dating Charlize Theron



New hot couple alert! Ryan Reynolds, who split from ex-wife Scarlett Johansen last December, has been dating Charlize Theron for months, according to UsMagazine.com. An insider said, "They're both career-focused, but not in a crazy way."

Could Reynolds have found his perfect match?

What do you do if your partner's career focus is becoming too obsessive?

Cupid's Advice:

Ryan Reynolds and Charlize Theron may be equally career-driven, but sometimes in relationships, one partner may find the other partner a little too focused on work. How can you handle your partner when their motivation to work hard turns into an addiction and their entire life is centered around work? Cupid has some advice:

1. Accept your partner: It's important to remember that you can't change your partner. If work is central to his or her life, don't try to make him or her negotiate that. Respect your honey's priorities and give him or her space.

2. Communicate: So you want to give some needed space, but you also want to let him or her know that his or her career obsession is a problem, because it makes you feel neglected. As long as you put the focus on your feelings and emphasize your desire to spend time with your significant other, he or she shouldn't get offended.

3. Help him or her relax: When your partner comes home after a hard day at the office, give him or her a soothing massage and allow them to take their mind off serious matters. Let them indulge in a leisurely activity with you.

Got advice on how to deal with a workaholic partner? Share your comments below.