Dating After Divorce: How Soon Is Too Soon?





By Marni Battista

There is a certain philosophy that touts the best way to get over someone as getting *under* someone else. When we peruse the headlines and photos that cover those magazines at the checkout line, it seems clear that most Hollywood celebs certainly subscribe to this way of thinking.

Although Kim Kardashian's divorce from Kris Humphries isn't even finalized, there's talk about Kanye West designing her engagement ring. Plus, we've seen photos of their romantic trip to Italy for her birthday and heard rumors of them moving in together. Her recent marriage, albeit a short one, should have still been a significant part of her romantic life. It seems as though it's long forgotten – almost as if it didn't exist at all.

Thus, we wonder, when is "too early" to start dating after divorce? Here are a few lessons learned from Kimye's whirlwind romance and a few tips on navigating the dating world after divorce and answering the question, "How soon is too soon?"

1. It's okay to stay private about your romantic life. Kim's relationship with Kris, their wedding, and their subsequent divorce was splashed across every news outlet, gossip rag, and television station, practically documenting every minute of every day of her most private moments. Then, just weeks later, we got to watch concerned Khloe meddling in her sister's relationship business further as she questions Kanye about *his* relationship with Kim.

After a somewhat catastrophic end to a 72-day marriage, Kim pledged to keep her private life under wraps. But it seems as if she's been more enthusiastic than ever to share her life with millions, which could prove to be her downfall. While we know *People* will most likely not be camped outside your door, it could be yours too. If you were recently divorced or your divorce was just finalized, it is not necessary (nor do we recommend) to announce to the world your newfound status. (This includes minute-by-minute tweets and Facebook status updates.) There's no glory or dignity in "punishing" your ex by going public.

Related Link: 6 Things Women Should Never Do in a Divorce

Moreover, subscribing to Facebook as "Vaguebook" is also not recommended. Posts such as "So over it" or "Remind me never to trust men again" aren't going to help you recover in the long term. Avoid sharing your pain publicly, as it ultimately only creates ill will, makes friends of both you and your ex uncomfortable, and leaves everyone feeling shocked and helpless. If you feel ready to date, however, get out there! Whether it's six months post-divorce or two years, there's no need to call everyone in your social circle and ask if they have anyone to set you up with. We say keep it on the down low and take it easy. Also, consider your underlying motives for putting "the word out" to the general public. If it makes you fiendishly delighted that your ex finds out your "good news," thereby thinking you have "moved on," it's time to re-think your dating readiness. Any sort of delight in his possible pain means you still have some healing and forgiving to do before diving into the dating pool.

In fact, Kim may even be taking a bit of our advice; she has stated that if she does indeed get married again, "The next time, I want to do it on an island with just my friends and family, and that's it." Kim, we gotta tell you: we 100 percent agree.

2. Take your time. Kim says of her marriage to Kris Humphries, "I think I fell in love so quickly and wanted that to be my life so badly, but I just didn't take the time to find someone." Taking your time applies to standard dating as well as dating after divorce. Some of the biggest losses you'll experience in divorce are things like having regular love in your life, a warm body next to you, an activity partner, and someone to rely on.

So while it may seem like Kim is barely heeding her own advice by jumping quickly to a serious relationship with Kanye, she does note that they have known each other for 10 years; perhaps she did, in fact, "take her time." What's important to remember is that jumping into anything will not get you any closer to happiness if you forget about your actual needs.

Related Link: Breaking Up Without Breaking Down

Check in with yourself post-divorce and evaluate if your needs have changed. You might be looking for someone different

because you yourself have also changed. Remember, more than 60 percent of second marriages fail, and more than 70 percent of third marriages fail. That's typically because men and women marry the same person with a different face again and again. Make sure you reflect on your dating patterns and do the internal work necessary to change those patterns. Fixing your broken picker now, before you head back into the pumpkin patch to look for your horse and carriage and the Prince Charming who comes with it, can help you prevent making the same mistakes.

3. You are in control of your life. Kim has a string of rocky relationships and two failed marriages behind her, but she hasn't let that affect her faith in love, marriage or happiness. One of the main reasons people wait to start dating after a divorce is caution about the prying eyes of family and friends, along with worries about what others will think about your new dating life. Kim seems to have skipped over that part rather breezily, and she has many more people to contend with than you probably do.

She has stated she ignores negative comments and no longer follows gossip blogs. If you're worried about what people around you will think when you begin dating again, avoid bringing up your dating escapades right away. But if it's making you feel good, just remember that **you** are in charge of your own happiness. When it comes down to it, it's you, yourself, and you – not anyone else.

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

Kanye West Surprises Kim Kardashian with Birthday Cake at NYC Event



By Jennifer Ross

Although Kim Kardashian's birthday just passed on Oct. 21, the gifts just keep coming! While at the Angel Ball in New York City Monday night, Kanye West surprised his girlfriend, who just turned 32, with a wonderful chocolate cake. The reality star was very much surprised by the gesture, as West sat there, happy that he was able to pull this off. A witness reported to <u>Usmagazine.com</u>, "She looked genuinely surprised and thanked Kanye with a kiss!" As the charity gala continued on, the couple hardly stepped away from each other, looking very much in love and sneaking kisses ever so often. With this birthday cake surprise AND the birthday trip to Italy, you can definitely say Kanye West knows how to be romantic.

How do you surprise your partner on his/her birthday?

Cupid's Advice:

Remembering your partner's birthday is a must in life. After all, it is the day they were born! No matter what your partner says, celebrating their birthday shows that you value them and truly care. So write it in your calendar, tattoo it to your body or do whatever it is you need to do in order to remember the date. Most importantly, have fun planning the event with ideas such as these:

1. A false birthday party: When planning a surprise party, it's easy for someone to accidently leak the surprise out. To prevent this, why not plan the birthday party a few days in advance. This way, people can feel comfortable speaking to your partner about the party, just not the exact day. Plus, your mate will definitely be surprised on the day of the event.

2. Party-less surprises: If your partner happens to not like surprise birthday parties, don't fret. There are many ways to surprise him/her; such as filling the bedroom, their car or office with balloons, making them breakfast in bed, planning a fun road trip for two or surprising them with tickets to their favorite concert or event. The ideas are endless. Remember, a party is not the only way to show your love.

3. A party for one: If your partner devotes more time everyone else but himself/herself, why not throw him/her a party for one. Set them up with a day at the spa, a golf lesson with a former pro, or a ride-a-long with a professional race car driver. The gift of time doing something they truly enjoy will leave him/her feeling loved and renewed.

What kind of surprise did you give your partner for his/her birthday? Tell us your story below.

Top 5 Celebrity Couple Predictions





By Yolanda Shoshana

It can be hard keeping up with the love life of celebrities. If you blink, you just might miss a breakup or a week long relationship between two costars. I pulled out my crystal skull to do predictions on some of the celebrities everyone wants to know more about: 1. Blake Lively and Ryan Reynolds: This was the surprise wedding of the summer. Some media outlets have called Lively a trophy wife, because they believe she nothing but arm candy. I say, take a good look at Reynolds, because last time I checked, he was quite easy on the eyes. If anyone won a trophy it is Lively. Their age difference actually evens out since women tend to mature faster than men; they meet right in the middle. I predict that Lively and Reynolds will have a fabulous marriage and stay pretty quiet when it comes to Hollywood drama. Let's root for these two, as their future is bright. By February, there will baby news from this sexy couple.

Related Link: <u>Blake Lively and Ryan Reynolds Are Married!</u>

2. Kristen Stewart and Robert Patterson: Can you say hot mess? The rumors continue to fly that they are on again, spending time apart or can't live without each other. The list goes on. Who knows what we should believe at this point. Stewart and Patterson are attempting to figure out what is going on between them, because they do care for each other. Once the *Twilight* hype is over, it will be the end of their relationship. The movie is the glue that holds them together, and Patterson will end up finding love with another actress which will prompt his ending the relationship with Stewart for good.

Related Link: <u>Sources Say Rob Pattinson and Kristen Stewart</u> <u>Are a Couple Again</u>

3. George Clooney and Stacy Keibler: Despite breakup rumors, these two are still a couple. But tick tock! Can't you hear the clock ticking on this relationship? The main reason people are saying the pair is close to splitsville is because it's about that time when Clooney calls off the relationship. Keibler can take a deep breathe; she will make it to the Oscars with Clooney. However, her days are numbered. She will love again, and you know Clooney will. In a few years, I see that Clooney will pull a "Warren Beatty type move" and find someone younger than him with whom to settle down. They will never marry, but she will be around for the long haul.

4. Mila Kunis and Ashton Kutcher: This pairing is interesting indeed. Did you know that Kutcher was Kunis' first kiss? From what we have seen, we know that Kutcher has it in him to be in a long term relationship, but it is said that Kunis wants to take it at a slow nice pace. This is not to mention the fact that Kutcher is still married to Demi Moore. Kunis and Kutcher will have a nice run, but eventually she will want someone a little more grown up, which will break Kutcher's heart. What goes around comes around, dear Ashton.

5. Kim Kardashian and Kanye West: Who else is surprised that they are still together? This couple has lasted longer than Kardashian's last marriage. That deserves a round of applause. Then again, according to the media, Kanye has always had a thing for Kim. They are a good match since they both love the spotlight, expensive things and causing a commotion. Kardashian and West may taunt the public with an engagement, which they may actually mean (at the time); the wedding will, however, not take place. Media and money aside, Kardashian wants love just like anybody, but has to get her self love in check before that happens. Kardashian really loved Reggie Bush and continues to seek that type of love. Also telling the media that she thinks she will marry West was a bad move. It's like giving a guy an ultimatum in front of a live audience. The stars are coming into play for these celebrities, so stay tuned into their love stories because now only time will tell.

Yolanda Shoshana is a lifestyle provocateur, seduction alchemist, and clairvoyant courtesan who helps women tap into their senses to obtain more love and pleasure in life.

Kim Kardashian Says She Can't

"Imagine Being With Anyone Else" Other Than Kanye West





By <u>Jessica DeRubbo</u>

It looks like Kim Kardashian and Kanye West are getting pretty serious, according to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>. In the November issue of *Tatler* magazine, Kardashian opens up about her strong romance with West. She says, "It's so nice to have a best friend in this game who understands everything you're going through. Being with someone I've known for so many years is comforting." Kardashian, who has been married twice before to Damon Thomas and Kris Humphries, is certain the West is "the one." "I can't even think about being with anyone else than the man I'm with," she says.

How do you know when you've found "the one"?

Cupid's Advice:

Dating around can get confusing, and it's sometimes hard to know when you've found the person you're meant to be with long-term. Cupid has some advice:

1. The spark doesn't fade: Even after months of dating, you still get butterflies in your stomach when you go to see your partner. That's a sure sign that the connection you have is likely not to fade for some time.

2. You feel secure: Security is a great thing in a relationship. If you don't feel as if something small could throw your relationship off, it shows that you're committed to making your relationship work far into the future.

3. You trust each other: Part of security means trusting one another. You should have no doubt that your partner will never cheat on you, for one. If you question it, you may want to rethink whether he/she is "the one."

What are some other ways to know you've found "the one"?

Five Ways To Make Sure Your Summer Romance Falls Into Autumn





By Dr. Tranquility – Lydia Belton, PhD, Ct. H.A.

The fun and flirtiness of summer makes this season notorious for lust and love. Whether you're still testing the waters like Kim Kardashian and her new beau Kanye West, or you have found long-lasting love like Jennifer Anniston and Justin Theroux, here are some tips to make your summer romance endless.

Related Link: 10 Ways to Get Into a Summer Romance

1. Plan your fall activities now: With Labor Day right around the corner, you and your special someone will have no problem finding something to do as long as the long weekend is filled with activities. Consider the Hudson Valley Fall Festivals or visit Cape Cod in Boston to check out Martha's Vineyard for festivals and fairs going on all weekend. On the West Coast, travel to San Francisco (the weather is better in the fall than in the summer) or Laguna Beach. Wherever you decide to go or not, the point is that planning together strengthens the commitment in your relationship while giving both of you something in which to look forward.

2. Get into a routine: Things tend to get a little "real" when September rolls around and you realize that you have to get back into your work or school routine. Now is the time to ease those verv important chats about into where your relationship fits among all of the other chaos. Fall also brings along family and holiday gatherings. Get a feel for each other's traditions and core values. Holidays tend to bring tension and anxiety to a new relationship, so reduce the stress with lots of communication, and be prepared for the family reunions and gift giving to come.

3. Get excited for football season: What is more fun than tailgating for a big game with all of your friends? Get all of the food and beverages together, and make an awesome day trip out of it. If either of you have a college homecoming game on the horizon or a professional football game you're dying to attend, go together for an unforgettable experience.

4. Fall means fall clothes: Shopping is my all-time favorite sport. Plan to go on a spree like a Kardashian, but do it together. Hit one of those great outlet malls to make your shopping outing even more enjoyable. Helping one other select clothes you both like is an intimate activity – you'll both be stimulated by the experience, so make sure to have a great night planned as well.

5. Stay in touch while at work: If you are both career people, the end of summer means an accelerated work schedule. Don't let work have all of your attention. Call or text your honey to simply ask how his or her day is going. Try to keep it short to respect each other's schedules, but do it at least once each day. It shows that you are in each other's thoughts and that you care, which is essential to budding your relationship. When you get together after a long day, give each other a detailed breakdown to show your partner that they're a part of your life even when you're not together.

Related Link: <u>5 Reasons to Play Hooky From Work With Your</u>

<u>Honey</u>

There are a couple weeks still left of summer, so keep up the romance by completing everything you have left to do on your checklist. Go kayaking, continue to dine outdoors and have another beach day before it's back to business in the fall. All of the time you spend together now will help you develop and maintain the feelings that will keep your relationship thriving throughout the fall.

Developed by Lydia Belton PhD, Ct.H.A. of DrTranquility.com, Date Therapy® is an effective protocol that helps people get in touch with their criteria for an ideal mate. DrTranquility's protocols® have been featured most recently on Forbes.com & Yahoo, ABCNEWS.com, ABC's the View, KISS FM, CupidsPulse.com, Metromix for the Chicago Tribune, British Glamour, REDBOOK, Cosmopolitan Magazine & promoted by Match.com.

Celebrity Couples Who Are Better Off Single





By Nisha Ramirez

It's hard to be in the spotlight 24/7, but celebrity relationships can make that even harder. Famous people are known for pairing up with other stars for publicity or because of their poor judgment, but neither ensures success. Whether they find each other before they make it big or start out their relationships at the top of their careers, it seems like celebrity relationships always end badly. It's no surprise that many celebs often seem on the verge of a breakup, and the following celebrities are some of the many who seem better off single:

Related Link: Love in The Limelight: Why You Should Be Happy You Aren't Famous

1. Selena Gomez and Justin Bieber: From the moment Selena Gomez started dating Justin Bieber, she received death threats from Bieber's many fans, indicating some serious stresses that are unique to their partnership. It's likely a sign that Hollywood's cutest couple should think about having fun apart and enjoying their youth and fame alone. 2. Bethenny Frankel and Jason Hoppy: Early on Bravo TV's The Real Housewives of New York, Bethenny Frankel and Jason Hoppy found love and success. She gave birth to their first child, Bryn, and increased her Skinny Girl trademark with her own Bravo reality shows Bethenny Getting Married and Bethenny Ever After. However, on this season of Bethenny Ever After, the couple bickered in almost every episode and divorce rumors began to spread. Though Frankel addressed these rumors on her talk show and stated that she and Hoppy have not seen a divorce lawyer, it's clear that this couple should take some time out from the reality TV spotlight or call it quits altogether.

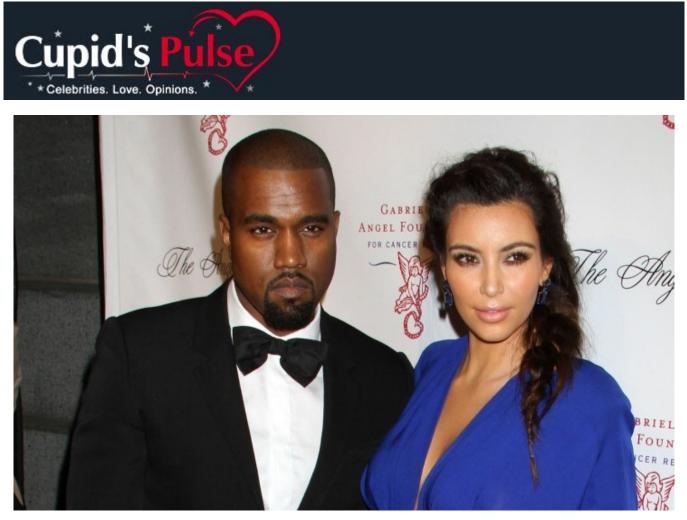
3. Kim Kardashian and Kanye West: Kim Kardashian and Kanye West are becoming serious and aren't shying away from the public eye. Rumors of their romance began after Amber Rose, West's ex, explained how Kardashian sent emails and pictures to the rapper while she and West were still dating. Plus, Kardashian recently ended her marriage with Kris Humphries after 72 days. Relationships that start off as affairs rarely end happily. These two would be better off on their own.

Related Link: <u>On & Off: When Celebrities Should Call It Quits</u>

4. Jennifer Lopez and Casper Smart: Pop star and actress Jennifer Lopez, 42, started dating her 25-year-old backup dancer Casper Smart months after she divorced Marc Anthony. However, critics and fans accuse Smart of being nothing more than Lopez's boy toy because of their age difference. Considering this and also Lopez's poor track record of dating celebs, she really needs to stop falling in love with love.

What celebrity couples do you think are better off single? Share your comments below.

Kim Kardashian Cries on Roller Coaster with Kanye West



Kim Kardashian and Kanye West are looking for quite the adventure, and and they seemed to have found it at Six Flags' Magic Mountain in Santa Clarita, California. According to <u>People</u>, the power couple visited the amusement park on Tuesday with Kim's youngest sisters, Kendall and Kylie Jenner, where they all made sure to get their fill of adrenalin. The reality star's Twitter featured a photo of herself on a rollercoaster with a petrified look on her face. She later added, "Mannn my crying face! I officially am afraid of heights now."

What are some romantic adventures to go on with your partner?

Cupid's Advice:

Romantic adventures are a great alternative to the usual dinner dates with lit candles and roses. Here are some great ways to incorporate exciting and new things in your relationship:

1. Skydiving: Going skydiving is guaranteed to be an unforgettable and fun experience. There's no one better to share this moment with than your significant other.

2. Snorkeling: Exploring the ocean can be amazing, especially if you go to a particularly beautiful beach. Hold hands and swim with your love to see the beauty of the underwater world.

3. Cruise: Travel on a boat and experience the beauty of the islands. This will let you have some one-on-one time with your sweetie while also being surrounded by other fun people.

What kind of romantic adventure would you want to go on? Share your thoughts with us!

Kanye West Serenades Kim Kardashian at His Concert





Kimye is at it again. Bad-boy Kanye West held a solo concert in Atlantic City this weekend in which Ms. Kardashian attended. The rapper performed for thousands as the reality star sang and danced in the V.I.P. box. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, West sang directly to his equally famous girlfriend as he performed his hit song "Way too Cold," in which Kanye sings "I admit I fell in love with Kim." The musician later yelled to the crowd, "If you love someone tonight… hold on real tight!" Although the pair weren't sideby-side, it is clear the rapper is taking his own advice when it comes to his love for Kim K.

What are some ways to publicly show you care about your partner?

Cupid's Advice:

Showing your significant other you care is important in every relationship because words are not always enough. Here are some great ways to express how you feel in more active ways:

1. PDA: Showing affection to your love is the simplest yet

sweetest gesture to show you care. Simply holding their hand or kissing their forehead can go a long way.

2. Recite a poem: Bring your honey to an open mic night and surprise them with your poem. Share your deepest feelings for them in front of a crowd of strangers.

3. Invite them to a special event: Take them to an awards show or a fancy business dinner. Sharing a special moment with them really shows how important they are and how much you want to show them off.

What does your partner do that shows they care about you? Share your experiences with us.

Kim Kardashian and Kanye West Visit a Children's Hospital





Kim Kardashian is really bringing out a kinder side of her new beau, Kanye West. Known for his bad boy image, West has calmed down his image since he first started dating Kardashian two months ago. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, the famous duo visited the Children's Hospital in Los Angeles. Could Kim be testing Kanye's true character before tying the knot? On *Oprah's Lifeclass*, Kardashian said, "I don't know why it took us so long to get together: I think we've always had an attraction to each other, but we've always been in other relationships or it wasn't the right timing. One day it just happened."

What are some ways to be charitable as a couple?

Cupid's Advice:

Getting to know a new partner is exciting and nerve wrecking. Taking time to be charitable together is a great bonding experience and can really tell you a lot about your new love. Here are some ways to be charitable as a couple:

1. Volunteer: Volunteering is the easiest way to help people

in need. Check out websites like volunteermatch.org to find short or long term volunteer opportunities and make it a date.

2. Entertain: Why not turn your next dinner party or get together into a charity event? Ask friends to bring donations or give a donation for the whole group.

3. Shop: Have a bunch of coupons you don't use? As a couple, gather coupons to buy items on the cheap or for free to give away to people in need.

How are you and your partner charitable together? Share your comments below.

Beyonce and Jay-Z & Kanye West and Kim Kardashian Show the Love at the BET Awards





What do you get when you bring superstar couples Jay-Z and Beyoncé Knowles and Kanye West and Kim Kardashian together at the BET Awards? A whole lot of love. The two couples brought a lot of attention when they took the best seats in the house right next to each other. Knowles wore a bright satin dress and Kardashian was showing off her sexy curves in a white mini dress. The two ladies seemed to get along perfectly, and all four of them looked thrilled to have this double date.

What are the benefits to a double date?

Cupid's Advice:

Even though you should always have one-on-one time with someone to get to know them, there are a lot of benefits to bringing along another couple for a double date. Here are some reasons why a double date might sometimes be better:

1. You're more comfortable: When you're alone with your date and there's a constant pressure of thinking of things to say and staring at them awkwardly, it's easy to feel nervous. When you're around more people, you're likely to loosen up a little.

2. More to talk about: There's always more to talk about when there are more people at the dinner table. When there's another couple around, you'll have fewer silent moments than if it was just you and your date alone.

3. Less likely to fail: Even if you have a terrible date, at least you have two other people to entertain you throughout the night. It's much better than being stuck alone with someone you truly can't stand.

How do you think a double date can be better? Share your thoughts below.

Is Kanye West Daddy Material?





By Amy Osmond Cook

All signs point to a third marriage for Kim Kardashian, after she revealed her strong feelings for grammy-winning artist Kanye West in a recent interview with Oprah. Kim stated, "I want babies; I want my forever; I want my fairytale." Kanye appears to be equally smitten. But is he daddy material?

As Dr. David L. Hill describes in his new book, Dad to Dad: Parenting Like a Pro, a father's role in his child's life has no equal. Premature babies gain weight better if their dads are involved in their care. Children with involved fathers have better language skills, make better grades and enjoy better self-esteem than those without them. Children whose fathers are involved in their care are less likely to wind up in jail, use drugs and alcohol or become pregnant in their teen years. Fathers are monumental.

Especially considering her recent snafu with Kris Humphries, Kim will want to take her time deciding if Kayne is the right man for her and her future reality stars. Here are three ways to tell if Kanye is ready for Kim's fairytale life with babies:

Related: Four Ways to Tell If He's 'The One'

1. How does he treat his mother? Does your guy respect his mother or talk down to her? Does he compliment her or criticize her? The first rule of good fathering is to love and respect his child's mother, and a boy's relationship with his mother is usually the model that he will follow in subsequent relationships.

2. Can he go with the flow? As every parent knows, the bestlaid plans are often foiled by a baby who won't sleep, a child who gets sick or a teenager who needs some reassurance. Before you walk down the aisle, a trip to Disneyland with someone's little terrors may be warranted. If it's still the happiest place on earth at the end of the day, chances are that your guy is flexible enough to be a good father.

Related: <u>Five Top Tops on How to Find "The One"</u>

3. You are more important to him than his party plans. If your guy is out partying with the guys every night, chances are he's not ready to settle down and have a dozen kids. Any parent knows that babies determine their own schedules—which (if you're lucky) consist of twelve hours of sleep. So, unless you plan on getting a night nurse, you're going to be watching a lot of movies at home.

Only time will tell whether Kanye and Kim will have little fashionistas of their own, but Kanye's storybook relationship with his mother, who has now passed, bodes well for his future parenting skills. This relationship is memorialized in his song, "Hey Mama": "Hey Mama, I wanna scream so loud for you/ 'Cause I'm so proud of you/ Let me tell you what I'm about to do ... I appreciate what you allowed for me, I just want you to be proud of me."

Maybe the third time is a charm.

Amy Osmond Cook, Ph.D. is a faculty associate at Arizona State University, where she teaches Communication and English classes. She is the publisher of Sourced Media Books and coauthor of Hope After Divorce and Full Bloom: Cultivating Success. Amy and her husband, Jeff, have five children and look forward to welcoming baby #6 in April 2012. For more information about Amy, please visit amyosmondcook.com.

Kim Kardashian and Kanye West Spend the Day in Paris





The new couple that has been causing all the buzz, Kanye West and Kim Kardashian, was spotted together in one of the most romantic cities, Paris. West had just been returning to the City of Love for his 'Watch The Throne Tour' encore performance, and Kardashian joined him, according to <u>People</u>. The pair was staying at the Four Seasons Hotel George V and stepped out for brunch and dessert on Father's Day Sunday. West, 35 and Kardashian, 31 took a drive in a white Lamborghini convertible later that day, and sat in traffic for a while, but at least in each others' company.

What are some of the most romantic cities for couples?

Cupid's Advice:

1. Paris: There's a reason so many celebrity couples are spotted in Paris. Who wouldn't want to have a candlelit dinner and champagne under the Eiffel Tower? Also, with the charming cafes and beautiful buildings, the city is irresistible for love.

2. Venice: When people think of Venice, they think of a romantic ride on a gondola ride down a narrow quiet canal, while viewing the beautiful buildings around them with someone they love. And it's all too true!

3. Rome: This city is also an ancient beauty. Nothing sets the mood more than beautiful ancient art and a nice stroll down the lovely streets of Rome.

What places do you find to be the most romantic? Share your thoughts below.

Celebrity Couples Who Have Worn Out Their Welcome





By <u>Whitney Baker</u>

There are some celebrity couples that we love to hate. Sure, they annoy us, but we can't help but wonder what they'll do next. And then there are those couples that we want to go away. They're constantly in the news — and often, for the wrong reasons. Thanks to their outlandish behavior, we've forgotten why they're famous in the first place.

From their frisky displays of public affection to their willingness to do *anything* for attention, these five Hollywood pairs have us wishing that they'd break up already:

1. Heidi Montag and Spencer Pratt: This couple first met when Lauren Conrad introduced them on *The Hills*, and we've been following their rocky romance ever since. After their reality show ended, the couple strived to stay in the spotlight with their alleged divorce, Montag's multiple plastic surgeries and her fledgling singing career. Most recently, Speidi has attracted attention by contacting their former – and estranged – co-stars through Twitter. These messages were ignored, making us wonder why we don't do the same.

Related: <u>Spencer Pratt and Heidi Montag Lock Lips on a Ski</u> <u>Trip</u>

2. Kim Kardashian and Kanye West: Although this new couple hasn't yet confirmed their relationship, they're certainly not keeping their feelings for each other under wraps. Taking their love from coast to coast, they've been spotted getting cozy at a restaurant opening in New York City as well as a Los Angeles Lakers game. Kardashian's even made a romantic fashion statement for her new man, sporting 'KW' earrings at numerous public appearances. Given Kardashian's romantic track record, here's to hoping this relationship doesn't surpass the 72-day mark.

3. LeAnn Rimes and Eddie Cibrian: Their relationship had a memorable start: the couple met when they co-starred in the Lifetime movie Northern Lights, and they instantly fell for each other; although, both were married at the time. Rimes and Cibrian have never been shy about their relationship, even going on public dates during their extramarital affair. From Rimes' revealing tweets to their constant PDA, it's time for this couple to get a room.

Related: Stars Who Go Public With Love and Affection

4. Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi and Jionni LaValle: Just when we've grown accustomed to their outrageous behavior on *Jersey Shore*,

Polizzi and LaValle shock us with a big announcement: they're engaged — and expecting a baby! Since promising to change her wild child ways, Polizzi says that her partying days are over and that "pregnancy just made [her] more mature." Still, the star can't help but attract attention, tweeting pictures of her cleavage and belly. When will enough be enough?

5. Miley Cyrus and Liam Hemsworth: The on-again, off-again couple met on the set of *The Last Song* and quickly took their chemistry off-screen, with Cyrus sharing private details of their relationship through her Twitter account. The former costars recently got engaged, but we're starting to care less and less about their next moves.

Which celebrity couple do you most wish would disappear? Share your thoughts below.

Kim Kardashian and Kanye West Buy His and Her Shoes





Kim Kardashian is lucky to be in a relationship with Kanye West, if only for her love of shoes! According to <u>People</u>, Kardashian tweeted a picture of her and West wearing the highly sought after Nike Air Yeezy II, with the caption "His & Hers!#AirYeezys." West designed these limited edition sneakers that are going for a retail price of \$245, but are over \$90,000 on eBay. Even though adult men were camping outside of stores for these sneakers, it's the gal dating the designer, who's rarely spotted in anything but heels, who gets the first pair!

What are some ways to coordinate your style with your partner's?

Cupid's Advice:

1. Formal attire: It may sound cheesy, but why not relive some high school prom memories and match his tie to your dress? If you're going to a fancy event, coordinating your outfits can be fun and looks great in pictures.

2. Casual wear: If you and your man are going for a day time

look, sport matching flannels. They're comfortable for him and can easily be dressed up with some jewelry for you.

3. Accessorize: Hats, scarves, and sunglasses are great items that both you and your man can rock. Aviators look great on almost anyone, and you don't necessarily have to be going to a baseball game to wear the same cap.

What are some other ways to coordinate your style with your partner's? Tell us below.

Kim Kardashian & Kanye West Double Date with Rob Kardashian & Rita Ora





The Kardashian's shared their love together while enjoying a double date in London on Wednesday night. Kim Kardashian sat comfortably beside her recent beau, Kanye West, while Rob Kardashian snuggled next to his girlfriend, Rita Ora at Zuma. Rob and Ora have been dating since last December, and she and Kim seemed to get along perfectly during the dinner, an onlooker for <u>UsMagazine.com</u> reported. West and Kardashian were even showing some affection during the dinner. "When Kanye got up to leave he gave Kim a lovely tender kiss on the lips," the witness added. Kanye West's collaborator and long time friend Jay-Z was also spotted in Zuma.

How can double dates bring you closer together as a couple?

Cupid's Advice:

Double dating can test out how your relationship works around other people. If you double date with your family or best friends, then it's all even more important as to how well the date goes, because when someone dates you, they date your family, too. These are some reasons as to why double dates can bring you closer together as a couple: 1. You're being social, together: If you're dating someone, you most likely have a good time together, but for the most part without other people. If you can both have a great time with other people, then you're even more compatible.

2. Get to know the people in each others' lives: Double dating can be a great way for both of you to get to know each others' friends and family. It could be a time to open up, under less pressure.

3. Learn more about each other: You know how your partner is when you're alone, but double dating could allow you to see how they are around the people who know them best. You learn more about what they like and how they are.

What are ways you think a couple can benefit from double dating? Share your thoughts below.

Bruce Jenner Says He Hasn't Met Kanye West Yet





Kim Kardashian seems to be getting very comfortable with her new found love, Kanye West. But, why hasn't her stepfather Bruce Jenner met West yet? Maybe things aren't getting serious after all. On *The View*, Jenner recently said about West, "Honestly I've never met him. I haven't seen him at the house." Regardless Jenner just wants Kardashian to find love and be happy. A source for *UsMagazine.com* says that the couple are "talking marriage." Will Kardashian be able to jump into another marriage so quickly after her divorce to Kris Humphries?

How do you prepare to meet your partner's family for the first time?

Cupid's Advice:

A new and important step in your relationship is meeting each other's family. Family has a lot to do with who a person is and how they grew up. So how do you prepare for such a step? Cupid has some advice:

1. Communicate with the family beforehand: You want to have

built some sort of relationship with at least one of the family members beforehand, to get a feel for how they are. It'll relieve some of the stress before you meet them all.

2. Get background info: Ask your partner about their family. You don't want to be completely clueless about the entire family until you meet them. Plus, they'll probably be impressed that you know so much about them already.

3. Invite them over: If you're the host, you have time to give a good first impression. The fact that you invited them all over to begin with is already a good first step.

How would you prepare meeting your partner's family for the first time? Share your comments below.

Rumored Couple Kim Kardashian and Kanye West Reunite in NYC





Rumored couple Kim Kardashian and Kanye West made their second appearance together in New York City on Saturday, reports <u>UsMagazine.com</u>. "They had drinks at the Mercer Hotel Friday night, then shopped all day," said a source. Though neither party has confirmed the romance rumors, Kardashian took to Twitter to express her happiness. "Hi dolls!" wrote Kardashian. "I'm so happy to be in NYC with the whole fam! Fun week! Have a good weekend guys!"

What are some reasons to go public with your romance?

Cupid's Advice:

Though being in a private relationship has its perks, it's best to go public with your relationship after some time. Here are a few reasons to announce your relationship:

1. Recognition: It's nice to be noticed as a couple. By going public, your friends can provide insight into your relationship and help you through some rough patches.

2. No hassle: Sometimes life can be easier when people know that you're in a relationship. By letting people know you're

off the market, many awkward situations can be avoided.

3. Less work: Keeping your relationship private can be tough, especially with today's social networking sites like Twitter and Facebook. By announcing your relationship, you can post photos and tweet messages without worrying about what you're revealing.

Why did you decide to go public with your romance? Feel free to leave a comment below.

Swag or Peacocking? Rappers Use Big Bling to Show Off Clout





By Steven Zangrillo

As August winds down and we start to tuck away our beach bodies, once again the focus returns to Fall fashions and lifestyles for 2011. It's interesting to see how the dating world is affected by our turbulent economy. Since we now need to tighten the strap, we also need to re-evaluate the way we spend money on that special someone – you know the drill… flowers, drinks, dinner, a new outfit. That new outfit, in particular, can really bust the bank and cause a headache or two. However, if you reside in the "young and wealthy rapper" demographic, chances are that you can still use that chunk of bling to woo the lady of your dreams.

It's difficult for most of us to work up the cash to don a \$3000-\$8000 chain and pendant. Rappers of the right means, however, have the ability to display their fiscal clout. Financial stability displayed through ostentatious mediums is a tried and true recipe for romantic success (although it may not always attract the right partner). Psychologists call this bold style of dress for the purpose of attracting a romantic partner "peacocking", but if you ask a rap artist… they'll

flash a gold and diamond encrusted smile at you and utter one word.

"Swag."

According to Andrew Streyer, Director of Evaluations at <u>Pawngo.com</u> – the new online pawnshop by the founders of <u>Groupon</u> at <u>Lightbank</u> – you might be surprised at the cost for some of these pieces.

Below are three signature styles, the MCs who popularized them, and the estimated worth of each piece:

Rapper: Nelly

Bling in Question: <u>Silver (iced) nameplate and St. Louis Rams</u> <u>Chain</u>

Estimated Appraisal: \$6000+ each

The "Grillz" hitmaker and St. Louis native is known for showing his NFL team pride in concerts via his signature 18inch pendant, which he couples daily with an 18-inch nameplate pendant. Further showing his taste in high-end luxury, Nelly said in a 2000 interview, "Where I'm from, this Rolex could take care of the whole block for a year. It's crazy like that, but this is something you work for." Also, just to clarify, Nelly's aforementioned hit song about grills wasn't expressing the love of a fine hibachi. Which brings us to…

Rapper: Kanye West

Bling in Question: Permanent Gold and Diamond Stud Grills

Estimated Appraisal: \$5000+ not including dental work

Artist. Producer. Songwriter. *Metalmouth?* In 2010, Kanye West followed in the steps of friend Lil Wayne by having custommade permanent grills, or molds, imprinted on the bottom row of his teeth. Kanye premiered them on *The Ellen Show*, insisting that the diamonds were real and not cubic zirconia, as rumored. While it's unclear whether this gold is the "40 Carats" dropped in his Lil Wayne collaboration, gold is nevertheless one of the safest precious metals to have in one's mouth, as it's relatively non-toxic and rustproof. Who knew?

Rapper: Lil Jon

Bling in Question: Various handmade studded glass and Metal Pimp Cups

Estimated Appraisal: \$1000-\$2000

Lil Jon often calls upon Chicago artisan Debbie "The Glass Lady" Harrison to create lavish signature glass-blown and 24 Karat gold chalices exceeding the thousand-dollar price range. He made no exception for his second annual Crunk Cup Ball in Las Vegas in 2008. The Atlanta rapper and *Celebrity Apprentice* contestant premiered a custom gift from Debbie that was molded from metal and sported Debbie's encrusted name, with imprinted crystals on the handle and a studded crown on top. Of course, all of the cups are fully drinkable and non-toxic. For protection, Lil Jon uses a custom padded carrying case to tote each of his goblets when traveling.

About Pawngo:

<u>Pawngo</u> is the first full-service online pawn shop in the US and allows individuals immediate access to the cash they need for life's countless unexpected moments without leaving the comfort of their homes. As evidence of the market for this unique lending model, the company to-date has funded over \$2 million in 46 states. Pawngo is venture-backed by <u>Daylight</u> <u>Partners</u>, <u>Access Venture Partners</u> and <u>Lightbank</u>, the \$100 million fund started by the founders of <u>Groupon</u>

Celebrity Couples We Can't Wait to See at MTV's VMAs



By Tanni Deb

From Britney Spears to Nicki Minaj, this year's MTV Video Music Award (VMA) nominees are teeming with A-list music stars. The three top contenders include Katy Perry, with nine nods (the most of any performer this year), and Adele and Kanye West, both with seven nominations each. While it will be exciting to see which stars take home a trophy for their designated categories, we're also eager to see which of our favorite celebrity couples will attend. Although we won't know for sure who will show up to the VMAs until Sunday, Aug. 28, here are five celebrity couples we hope make an appearance:

1. Beyoncé Knowles and Jay-Z: Listed as the "most powerful couple" for *TIME* magazine's "100 Most Influential People" in 2006, the duo dated for six years before secretly getting married in 2008. *OK Magazine* reported that "the couple is very supportive of one another – making sure to attend performances and appearances together." That means we can definitely count on them to arrive together, since Beyoncé is up for a nomination, right?

2. Britney Spears and Jason Trawick: Although these two love birds have made many public appearances together, the first time they stepped out as a couple was at the St. Bernard Project Event in May, 2011. Spears' relationship with Trawick seems to be getting serious, but now the question is whether he'll attend the VMAs to support his pop singer lady, or not?

3. Katy Perry and Russell Brand: In May, 2011, comedian Russell Brand visited Japan to see his wife perform, but unfortunately, he was deported due to criminal incidences that happened more than a decade ago. Distraught with the news, the *Firework* singer tweeted, "So…my husband just got deported from Japan. I am so sad." Don't worry, Katy. Since the VMAs take place in L.A. this year, your hubby should have no problem attending. After all, how could he miss the opportunity when you have the most nominations?

4. Selena Gomez and Justin Bieber: The teen heartthrob and the *Wizards of Waverly Place* beauty were set up on a date by her mother and his management team at the end of last year. In an interview with *Seventeen* magazine, the 18-year-old Disney star admitted that she is head over heels for Bieber, and the pair were even seen exchanging 'I Love You's' while shopping in New York City last month. This year, they attended many award shows together, including the Oscars, the ESPY Awards show,

and the Billboard Music Awards. Let's just hope they won't miss out on this one.

5. Lady Gaga and Luc Carl: The mother monster credits her boyfriend for helping her become "successful" in the music industry. Last year, she told *Rolling Stone*, "I've really never loved anyone like I loved him. Or like I love him." Despite break-up rumors, hopefully her supportive boyfriend will be by her side to cheer her on at the VMAs.

Who did we forget? Anyone you'd like to see? Let us know in a comment below. Don't forget to tune into **MTV on Sunday, Aug. 28 at 9 p.m. ET.** For a complete list of nominations, visit MTV.

Eva Longoria Celebrates Birthday with Eduardo Cruz





Eva Longoria may have recently split with ex-husband and NBA star Tony Parker, but it's not holding her back. She recently celebrated her 36th birthday with new boyfriend Eduardo Cruz at a 1920's themed bash. According to <u>People</u>, other celebrity attendees included Eduardo's big sister Penelope Cruz and husband Javier Bardem, Kim Kardashian, Heidi Klum and Kanye West. A source says, "Eva and Eduardo were so cute. They were kissing and making out all night. He's so genuine."

How do you make your partner's birthday special?

Cupid's Advice:

Birthdays are the one holiday a year where you and you alone get to feel special. So, it's important to honor your partner the best way you know how on his or her big day. Cupid's got some tips:

1. Throw a surprise party: It may seem generic, but if you can really pull it off, a surprise party will make your partner feel all sorts of special. Just the fact that you went to the trouble says a lot! 2. Plan a vacation: If you want to go all out, plan a trip for two to somewhere tropical. If you're married, consider it a second honeymoon. There's so much thought that goes into planning a vacation, and your partner will surely appreciate it.

3. An "out of the box" gift: It's easy enough to stick with candy, jewelry and flowers for a woman and sports tickets, cologne or a watch for a man. Try to think outside of the norm for your partner's present so he or she can see how much you truly know him or her.

Kim Kardashian Flirts with Kanye West





On the Sunday night premiere of *Kourtney and Kim Take New York*, viewers got an up-close and personal look at Kim Kardashian's love life. The one-minute clip shown on <u>UsMagazine.com</u> shows a playful Kim showing singer Kanye West the new Dash boutique located in the SoHo neighborhood in New York City. Shortly after, West and Kim were caught having a giggly conversation about Las Vegas, and sister Kourtney explained. "Kim is single now, and she is the most boy crazy girl I've ever seen. She just *loves* to flirt."

What are some flirting rules to keep in mind?

Cupid's Advice:

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

1. Less is more: When it comes to flirting, don't over-do it. Excessive flirting may cause you to seem like a woman with little class, and you may give guys the wrong idea. Desperation isn't attractive!

2. Know when to stop: The best way to make an impression is to

mix flirting with some actual conversation. Flirt and joke with each other for a while, and then share your opinions and connect on a more personal level.

3. Don't be too physical: It's perfectly fine to flirt with a guy, but unless you're looking for a fling, be sure not to make too much physical contact. It's astonishingly easy for potential dates to misinterpret your flirting.

For more on Kim Kardashian: <u>Kim Kardashian Plays Hard to Get on Reality Show Date</u> <u>Kourtney & Kim Take New York Season Premiere</u> <u>'Kourtney & Kim Take New York' Earns More Viewers Than 'Miami'</u>

Taylor Swift is Careful About Love





After a hectic couple of years, Taylor Swift graces the cover of *Glamour* Magazine looking like a new, more mature woman. In the past couple of years, the 20-year-old And why not? singer has had to deal with everything from a breakup with actor Taylor Lautner to Kanye West's infamous interruption at the 2009 VMAs. <u>HollyScoop</u> reports that Swift was especially open about her love life in her interview with Glamour, where she said, "I don't seem to have any real strategy or pattern when it comes to love... At times I've been really guarded and careful and afraid to trust someone. But other times, you want to jump in headfirst... I've been careful in love. I've been careless in love. And I've had adventures I wouldn't trade for anything." To hear even more of her honest opinions about life and love, check out Swift's new album Speak Now, out October 25.

Can being too cautious hurt your chances at love?

Cupid's Advice:

Past experiences can teach us to be wary of love, but being overly cautious might lead to missing out on great

experiences. Cupid has some ideas about why you should never lose your childish enthusiasm:

1. Have no regrets: Taking chances when it comes to love means giving it your all and not holding back. If you're too afraid to go for it, you might regret it for the rest of your life. If things don't end up working out, at least you know you tried.

2. Make a good impression: Being overly hesitant might give the opposite sex the impression that you're guarded or indifferent. Show you're willing to take risks so people know that you're dedicated to finding love.

3. Don't miss out: Let's face it: by playing it safe, you're missing out on all the fun! You know those "adventures" Taylor Swift talks about? They're what makes life exciting, so go ahead and take a chance!

Kanye West Apologizes to Taylor Swift in Song





Few can forget last year's VMA theatrics starring controversial hip-hop superstar Kanye West and his outburst at country sweetheart Taylor Swift. Recently, West took to Twitter to formally apologize to the young starlette. His chosen form of expressing his sentiments – writing an apology song for Swift. "I wrote a song for Taylor Swift that's so beautiful, and I want her to have it," Kanye tweeted, according to <u>E! Online</u>. "If she won't take it then I'll perform it for her." It seems the rapper is attempting to clear the air and rebuild bridges with his tweet-happy apology.

What are some creative ways to say you're sorry?

Cupid's Advice:

Face it, everyone messes up sometimes. When apologies are in order, sometimes the more unique methods work best. Cupid gives some suggestions on how to say sorry with some flair.

1. Make a meal: Food is a quick way back into anyone's good graces, and the time and preparation that goes into creating a

meal will show how genuine your apology is.

2. Write a letter: Sometimes it's harder to say you're sorry than you'd expect. When this happens, don't hesitate to write down your apology in letter form. Not only will you be able to explain your thoughts and feelings clearly, but there's something flatteringly heartfelt about receiving a letter that will definitely help your cause.

3. Do something personal: The thought is what counts, so a personal gesture is the best way to get back in someone's good graces. Take him to his favorite place, buy his favorite candy or write an "I'm Sorry" card full of inside jokes or memories. With nostalgic moments like that, it'll be very hard for him to resist forgiving you.