

# Exclusive Celebrity Interview: Karina Smirnoff and Lindsay Rielly Share Dating Advice In 'We're Just Not That Into You'



Interview by [Sarah Batcheller](#). Written by Jenna Bagcal

We've all been on dates that have flopped miserably. Maybe they've even made us think, "What did I do wrong?" or "Why wasn't he into me?" In this exclusive celebrity interview, *Dancing with the Stars* (DWTS) professional dancer [Karina Smirnoff](#) and her best friend and manager Lindsay Rielly remind readers that these dating disasters happen to the best of us.

In their new book *We're Just Not That Into You: Dating Disasters From the Trenches*, which came out on Feb. 10, these ladies, along with some of their famous friends, share their perspective about relationships and love and prove that what seems like a bad date now may turn into a hilarious story that you'll learn from later on.

## Karina Smirnoff and Lindsay Rielly Share Dating Advice and Disasters

Sure, Smirnoff is well-known for her moves on the dance floor, but even winning the mirror ball trophy doesn't make you immune to heartbreak – which is why she decided to share the good, the bad, and the ugly in her new book. According to Rielly, the title of the book is a tongue-in-cheek reminder to women that “it's not that *he's* not into us. It's a mutual thing!” Their main goal was to remind people that “dating is ultimately fun, not something that you have to dread because of your previous experiences.”

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Embodying this mindset, these two women have not let dating flops get in the way of their positive outlook on relationships and love. Smirnoff's best piece of dating advice is simple: “Open your mind and your heart. Instead of thinking, ‘Oh my god, I gotta go on another date,’ go with good energy. Great things might come out of it! And the least you're gonna do is enjoy yourself.”

The best friends ultimately describe the writing process as “fun” with intense and challenging moments at times. “To be honest, I loved every second of it! It was a lot of work though,” Smirnoff says in our exclusive celebrity interview.

“Once we started remembering the dates and the details, we looked like Bruce Almighty. Remember when he was God and he was answering emails to everyone? At the end, I just wanted to say yes to all! But writing a book is very liberating and empowering too – I didn’t expect to feel that way.”

In addition to dating stories from Smirnoff and Rielly, *We’re Just Not That Into You* includes contributions from their girlfriends and other celebrities, including *DWTS* contestants Leah Thompson, Maria Menounos, and Ralph Macchio as well as fellow professional dancer Cheryl Burke.

## Why Men Will Enjoy This Book About Relationships and Love

While the book is geared towards women, Smirnoff and Rielly share that men may also enjoy reading it. “Our publishers read the book, not expecting to love it, and said that neither of them could put it down. It’s the type of book that, if their wives had it, they would steal and read in private,” they explain.

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No need to worry, guys: You’re not to blame for every dating disaster. “There are stories where we laugh at our own behavior,” Smirnoff says. “There were definite situations where we were the catalyst of our own downfall. But that’s the whole point: It’s not like all guys are bad and all girls are good. We’re all good, and we’re all bad...sometimes at the same time.”

Of course, the authors have their fingers crossed that some of their exes check out their new book about love. “I’m personally hoping that at least one specific person reads it. I think that he might learn something about his love life

by reading his story,” says Rielly.

“I just hope someone picks it up and asks, ‘Why were you talking about me?’” Smirnoff adds with a laugh.

## **Professional Dancer Shares What’s Next for Her in Exclusive Celebrity Interview**

With her new book being released and other secret projects in the works, Smirnoff will not be returning for the next season of *DWTS*. After being on the show for “an incredible decade of her life,” the dancer says that she felt it was time to move on and explore new opportunities. “There are a lot of exciting things coming up!” she shares.

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Some of her favorite memories from the show are the relationships that she formed with other professional dancers and her celebrity partners. “I developed real friendships – friendships where you call each other, where you see each other whenever you’re in town,” she reveals. “I still have that relationship with a lot of my partners, including Ralph Macchio, Jacoby Jones, and J.R. Martinez.”

Speaking of Martinez, one of her favorite seasons was season 13 when she was partnered with the former U.S. Army soldier and actor. She explains, “I love the military. Being partnered with J.R. was very powerful for me because I got to experience some of his world firsthand. I got to experience his story – what he went through and how he came out of it. That was a very important season for me personally.”

*You can keep up with Karina on Twitter @Karina\_Smirnoff. Check out We’re Just Not That Into You on Amazon!*

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# Rumor: Did Celebrity Couple Karina Smirnoff and Brad Penny Split?



[Karina Smirnoff](#) may have won a Mirror Ball Trophy on *Dancing With the Stars*, but rumor has it that she's lost baseballer Brad Penny. According to [UsMagazine.com](#), the 30-year-old professional dancer is no longer in a Hollywood relationship with Penny. The celebrity couple went public with their relationship in 2009, but in October of this year they decided to postpone their wedding due to "conflicting schedules." Despite wanting to spend more time together, the celebrity couple have now separated.



# Celebrity couple Smirnoff and Penny were close to getting married before announcing their split. How do you know when you've found "the one"?

## Cupid's Advice:

It can take a lot of bad relationships and love that end in hurt feelings before finally find "the one." Cupid has some love advice and tips to know your partner is your true love:

**1. Communication is key:** You have no trouble talking and there's never an awkward silence. If you find that you can talk to your sweetheart about anything without being bored, that is sign of a lifelong compatibility.

**Related Link:** [Karina Smirnoff Loves Being Engaged to Brad Penny](#)

**2. One in the same:** If your life goals are similar, that's important. It's nice to be in love, but if you have no common life goals, trouble can occur quickly.

**Related Link:** [Paula Patton Says She's a 'Real Woman Now' Post -Split from Celebrity Ex Robin Thicke](#)

**3. Predict the future:** When you think of your future and you can't imagine your partner not being there, he or she may be "the one." If you find yourself thinking about making a family with them and expanding your relationship and love, that may mean that they're meant to be in your future.

**How did you know your partner was the one? Share your story below.**

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# Karina Smirnoff Loves her Celebrity Engagement to Brad Penny



As confirmed by [Us Weekly](#), *Dancing with the Stars*' vixen, Karina Smirnoff, is currently in the market for something borrowed, something new, and something blue! Smirnoff has been creating celebrity news showing off her new celebrity engagement ring at TAO's fifth anniversary party in Las Vegas. The dancer says her celebrity engagement to baseball player, Brad Penny, was a complete surprise. "I was in the middle of the show and had no clue what was cooking behind my back. The dinner meeting was set up at a restaurant in

Malibu. When [my manager and I] got there, it was completely empty. She excused herself to take a call and while I was sitting there alone, Brad came in,” said Smirnoff. “I had crazy hair and black lipstick on and was just concerned about looking like the Bride of Frankenstein. Even after Brad got down to one knee and opened the box with the ring, it still didn’t register.”

## **Smirnoff is happy about her celebrity engagement and excited to share her great news. What are some unique ways to announce your engagement?**

### **Cupid’s Advice:**

Everyone wants to be the first to make an exciting announcement. When it comes to an engagement, either yours or that of someone close to you, it’s everyone’s instinct to want to shout it from the rooftops. However, Cupid has some more creative ways to make the big announcement:

**1. Tweet it:** Online, information spreads virally. The moment it happens, share your good news with your nearest and dearest on the web in real time. Expect tons of comments and retweets. You can even tweet pictures of the ring! Something as little as changing your relationship status on Facebook from ‘In a Relationship’ to ‘Engaged’ is bound to grab some attention as well.

**Related Link:** [Jennie Garth Celebrates Celebrity Engagement with Dave Abrams](#)

**2. Throw a party:** Parties are great for any occasion and are the perfect setting to make your first toast as an engaged



couple. You may want to do a theme party that references a milestone in your relationship and love or have it where you first met.

**Related Link:** [David Arquette Celebrates Celebrity Wedding with Christina McLarty with Intimate Ceremony](#)

**3. Take over the holidays:** Thanksgiving and Christmas happen every year, but an engagement is far more rare. When you're with friends and family this holiday season, steal the spotlight away from the Thanksgiving turkey and Christmas gifts by announcing your engagement.

**How did you announce your engagement? Share below!**

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**'Jersey Shore' Cast is Against a Celebrity Hook-Up Between Reality TV Star The Situation and 'DWTS' Partner**





Reality TV star The Situation has officially laced up his dancing shoes for a stint on *Dancing With the Stars* this season, and the “lucky” professional dancer paired with him is Karina Smirnoff. The question is, is there a hook-up coming? According to [E! Online](#), fellow cast members of the reality TV show *Jersey Shore* don’t support the idea of a celebrity hook-up between the dancing duo-for Smirnoff’s sake. “She’s too good for him,” said Snooki. “She’s smart. She won’t even go there.” JWOWW agrees, adding “Karina’s a woman. She needs to stay a woman. She’s not a Jersey Shore girl.” On the other hand, Vinny is a bit more supportive explaining, “If he gets that, I’ll give props to him.”

**For reality TV star The Situation, his friends aren’t supportive of a celebrity hook-up with Smirnoff. What do you do if your friends put**

# you down in front of someone you like?

## Cupid's Advice:

Sometimes your friends may think they know what's best for your relationship and love and will offer their opinions about who you should and shouldn't date. Often times these opinions may make you look bad. Here's Cupid advice on how to handle your friends' negative comments:

**1. Stand up for yourself!:** Believe it or not, it *is* possible to stand up for yourself without looking defensive. Instead of coming back with obvious anger directed at your friend, stay calm and explain to them why they are wrong. The last thing you want is for your crush to think you have no self-esteem.

**Related Link:** [Newest 'Jersey Shore' Family Member](#)

**2. Talk to your friends:** It's often times best to discuss a situation that has upset you after you're out of the public eye. When you speak in the heat of the moment, you may regret what you say. But don't hesitate to tell your friends that you don't appreciate them putting you down, especially in front of someone you're trying to impress.

**Related Link:** [Exclusive Celebrity Interview: Karina Smirnoff and Lindsay Reilly Share Dating Advice in 'We're Just Not That Into To'](#)

**3. Stay positive:** In the moment, the damage has already been done. Salvage both the situation at hand and your future relationship with someone you really like by shrugging off what your friends are saying about you and proving to your crush that you're a positive and upbeat kind of person.

**Have your friends ruined a potential relationship and love**

**with someone you liked? Share below!**