## Is Russell Brand Writing a Memoir About Katy Perry?





Russell Brand is full of surprises. After filing divorce from Katy Perry, Brand has decided to do what celebrities do best after a break-up: write a feel-for-all book. According to <a href="USMagazine.com">USMagazine.com</a>, Brand will reveal all the details of his marriage with Perry in a memoir. A friend of Perry said, "Katy is insulted and feels betrayed that Russell has treated her so poorly. She will never forgive him. Ever."

What do you do if your ex airs details of your failed relationship?

### Cupid's Advice:

It would be nice to think that after a break-up, your ex would

refrain from giving away the good and the bad of your relationship. However, sometimes it happens. Here's how to cope:

- 1. Ignore: It may seem easier said than done, but you need to be the bigger person and show your ex that you are a confident single gal.
- 2. Fight fire with fire: If you want to get rid of your babbling ex partner, why not tell everyone a secret from your past relationship that will put him/her to shame? This may be stooping to his level, however, so think about it carefully before doing so.
- **3. Own up:** Go ahead and confess to the bad that your ex is laying out to the world. You will look like the honest ex who has nothing better to do, but move on.

How have you dealt with your ex telling details of your failed relationship? Share your comments below.

## Katy Perry and Russell Brand: What Went Wrong?





By Amy Osmond Cook, Ph.D.

The fairy tale marriage of Katy Perry and Russell Brand is over, fourteen months after it began. Katy and Russell join the ranks of celebrities whose wedding nuptials were . . . temporary. Kim Kardashian and Kris Humphries lasted only 72 days. Britney Spears and Jason Alexander lasted two.

We've all heard a jumble of less-than-educated guesses as to why many celebrity relationships don't last: "They spend too much time apart." "They have intimate scenes with other people." "They're too obsessed with themselves." "They only care about fame." But what are the real reasons for so many celebrity break-ups?

According to Judith Wallerstein and Sandra Balkeslee, authors of *The Good Marriage: How and Why Love Lasts*, all good marriages have one thing in common: Both partners feel respected and cherished.

In a study of 50 married couples who described themselves as "happily married," Wallerstein identified nine building blocks

that created a foundation for a good marriage, which we can condense into three major take-home recommendations for a happy relationship: (1) create your own space; (2) fireproof; and (3) go organic.

#### Create Your Own Space

Happy couples carve out their own little piece of the universe—a place where only *they* have the final say. They listen to mom-in-law pontificate about the advantages of hardwood floors, but choose carpet if their partner has a penchant for shag.

Happy couples enjoy each other's company but support independent hobbies. They watch *Vampire Diaries* together—of which separate viewing constitutes a personal betrayal—but also welcome independent golf trips and weekends at the spa. In essence, they build togetherness, but foster autonomy.

Katy and Russell certainly had autonomy, but they had trouble staking a claim and prospecting together in the gold rush of marriage. Katy's parents may have been toxic. Russell may have sown his seed in places it didn't belong. But certainly, as time went on, it became clear that the couple didn't have a real sense of "place." They failed to make the transition from "you and me" to "us."

#### Fireproof

To prevent a house from burning down, you take certain precautions. You blow out the candles before you leave the room. You don't leave the dishrag next to the gas stove. And you certainly don't let your three-year-old play with matches.

Happy couples fireproof a relationship in much the same way. They create a safe place for conflict by avoiding inflammatory communication like name calling, stonewalling, or derogation. They deal with an issue specifically and avoid making blanket statements. Pizza on the wall after Monday

Night Fooball? Game on. But it doesn't snowball into, "You don't pull your weight in this relationship." And the pizza on the wall five years ago after a bachelor party? Off-limits.

As Katy and Russell's marriage progressed, it was clear that they lacked fireproofing skills. According to Rick Mahr, a music executive and friend of Katy, their communication skills needed an overhaul—they fought almost every time they were together. It was clear that their reactions to life's stresses were creating a wedge (not the hoped-for solidarity happy couples experience) as they spent more and more time apart, even on holidays.

#### Go Organic

There's something about growing your own food that makes you appreciate nature's magic. It's exciting to see the first tendril break ground, then another, and another. And when those sorry little tomato plants in chipped clay pots are weighed down with ripe, red fruit—well, that's something to celebrate, especially when you find out how much better homegrown tomatoes taste than their store-bought lookalikes.

Much the same way, happy couples know that a relationship needs constant nurturing—emotional, sexual, and social—to grow. If even one of these areas is neglected, the relationship can become diseased and die. Happy couples rally when they're really too tired for sex, because their partner is in the mood. They say, "You do not look fat in those jeans" for the thousandth time and still manage to sound sincere. And they laugh at the same old story that their partner has been telling at parties for years, even when everyone else groans.

It is clear that Katy and Russell felt passionately about each other; but their frequent fighting and long stints apart prevented them from cultivating a relationship in which they

both felt respected and cherished. (Russell's tweeting of unflattering pictures of his wife probably didn't help matters, either.) Their relationship withered because they weren't able to give it the nutrients it needed to grow.

#### Conclusion

Now, there's no doubt that Katy and Russell are exceptional people. They exude talent, personality and charm. Perhaps the time wasn't right for this couple to make a go of it, or perhaps they still have more to learn about creating happy relationships. But we can learn from their all-too-public divorce. Create a space for your relationship, fireproof it, and cultivate it into something special.

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.

## Newlywed 911: Protecting Young Marriages





By Malia Karlinsky, GalTime Love/Sex Editor

Sad news about one of Hollywood's hottest couples—Russell Brand has filed for divorce from wife Katy Perry. The news about the break-up does not come as a complete surprise. Celebrity gossip columnists have been buzzing about a rift between pop music princess Katy Perry and her actor/comedian hubby Russell Brand. Married for just 14 months, the often lovey-dovey pair reportedly spent this past Christmas miles apart (two-thousand miles to be exact). Photos showed Perry splashing around on a Hawaiian beach (without her wedding ring), while Brand was also snapped on a beach— in Cornwall, England— sans Perry.

What broke this celeb couple up? We may never know for sure, but Us Weekly recently reported that Brand's lack of respect for Perry's parents' Christian beliefs as the cause of some tension.

If that's the case— the problems of this glamourous newlywed couple are quite common.

Jeanine and Mark Earnhart, spouses who co-authored a book titled Marriage Works, cite the in-laws as one of the biggest issues that cause problems in new marriages. According to the Earnharts, there are some very predictable problems that plague the newly married.

Related: Delve Into a Modern Day Marriage With 'The New I Do'

### Top 5 Issues Newlyweds Face

- 1. In-law issues
- 2. Finances
- 3. Sex
- 4. Time spent with friends (without the spouse)
- 5. Household chores.

Jeanine Earnhart suggest communication as way to get over these newlywed "speed bumps" on the road to a happy marriage. "It may seem like a simple answer, but it works for every one of these problems," she explains. "If a couple gets their communication skills down right from the start, they can talk about anything and solve most problems."

Tina B. Tessina, PhD, (aka "Dr. Romance") a psychotherapist and author of *Money*, *Sex and Kids: Stop Fighting about the Three Things That Can Ruin Your Marriage*, suggests putting some work into the relationship before *putting a ring on it*.

Tessina shares that there are several questions every couple should consider **before** moving in together or making joint financial commitments.

Related: Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Rushing into Marriage

### 7 Questions Every Couple Should Talk About

1. What is your definition of commitment? If you don't know what your relationship means to the both of you, you risk repeating past mistakes, getting stuck in uncomfortable roles, or fighting about what a healthy relationship is.

- 2. Have you discussed finances? Different financial habits (one likes to save, the other spends more, or doesn't keep track) can become a source of argument.
- 3. What about household responsibilities? If you're not yet living together, take a tour of each other's homes. Drastically different decorating styles, neatness, and organization levels can become sources of argument, and so can housekeeping and chores.
- 4. How close are you to family or friends? If one of you has a lot of family or friends, and the other does not, find out what those relationships mean. Where will you spend holidays? If there are family members who have problems, such as addiction or mental illness, how much will that impact your relationship?
- 5. How do you handle anger and other emotions? We all get upset from time to time. If you are usually good at diffusing each other's anger, and being supportive through times of grief or pain, your emotional bond will deepen as time goes on.
- **6.** How do you show love to each other? Sharing what actions and words mean love to you may be surprising. Even if it's a struggle, discussing how you give and receive love will improve your relationship.
- 7. How well did you discuss these very questions? Asking yourselves these questions are excellent tests of your ability to define and work out problems. Constructive discussion that leads to a mutually satisfactory solution means you know how to solve problems in your relationship. If not, get counseling before going further.

So how can bickering newlyweds resolve their issues— and create a stronger relationship? Tessina suggests some simple steps.

Related: Pamela Anderson Says 'Marriage Has Its Ups to Downs'

### Simple Steps to Create a Successful Marriage

- Talk frequently and honestly to each other: Discuss everything from your frustrations to your appreciation of each other.
- Strive to work together to solve anything that comes up: Don't get stuck on who's right or wrong, focus on solving the problem.
- **Keep your connection going:** Connect through communication, sex, affection, understanding and concern for each other.
- Have a sense of humor, give the benefit of the doubt, care about each other.

Our hearts go out to Katy and Russell.

## Katy Perry Says Her Heart Is 'Happy Again'





Katy Perry made it clear that the only opinions about her impending divorce, filed on December 30, that matter are her own. She tweeted about the gossip saying, "I want to be clear that NO ONE speaks for me. Not a blog, magazine, 'close sources' or my family." According to <u>People</u>, the newly single Perry also thanked "supporters for their concern and well-wishes during a difficult time." She tweeted that she was "grateful for all the love and support" and that her fans had "made her heart happy again."

What are some ways to start to feel happy again after a split?

### Cupid's Advice:

It can be hard to move beyond the negative emotions of a divorce or break-up. Cupid has some tips:

- 1. Make it a clean break: It can be difficult not to contact your ex after having them in your life for so long. However, the only way to truly move on and find happiness in other things is to cut off contact for a while.
- 2. Refocus your energy: Put the time and energy that would've

gone towards the relationship into something positive in your life. For Katy Perry, she's focuses on her fans and her music to get over the ending of her marriage.

3. Acceptance: Accept that he or she wasn't the one. Perhaps your ex was only meant to be around for a season or two. Understand that this experience will help you grow and that you will find someone new.

What are some ways you were able to find happiness after a split? Share your thoughts below.

## Russell Brand Files for Divorce from Katy Perry





Russell Brand and Katy Perry had a strenuous holiday season. Brand filed for divorce on Friday after 14 months of marriage, reports <u>People</u>. Rumors started circulating when Brand and Perry spent the holidays apart, with Brand in the U.K and Perry in Hawaii with friends. The couple were also spotted without their wedding rings in the days prior to the split. "Sadly, Katy and I are ending our marriage," said Brand in a statement. "I'll always adore her and I know we'll remain friends."

## How do you stay on good terms with your ex during a very public divorce?

### Cupid's Advice:

Going through a divorce is hard enough even without attention from others. Here are a few ways to stay friendly with your ex:

1. Monitor rumors: When a split gathers attention, false rumors are bound to pop up. Try monitoring the rumors, and denying false assumptions whenever possible.

- 2. Keep it private: Though you are probably surrounded by friends who want to know the details behind your split, some things are best kept private. You can tell your friends the details later when you and your ex have had time to heal.
- 3. Keep in touch with your ex: Keep in touch during your divorce. Don't let your lawyers do the communicating for you. In order to stay friends in the future, you'll have to lay the groundwork now.

Have you gone through a public split? Feel free to share your experience in a comment below.

## Rumor: Katy Perry and Russell Brand Celebrate Christmas Apart After "Massive Fight"





Pop sensation Katy Perry and actor husband Russell Brand spent Christmas apart this year. After a planned trip to Brand's hometown of London, Perry ended up flying to Hawaii with some friends. According to <code>UsMagazine.com</code>, the couple had a major argument, which resulted in cursing at each other and storming off. Perry was spotted without her wedding ring while splashing in the Pacific Ocean, and Brand was seen catching up with old friends in a local pub in Coverack, Cornwall. Although the couple denied divorce rumors in November, trouble is threatening. "The split may come soon, but they are both so dramatic and volatile, the relationship could become great again," says a source.

What are some ways to quickly move on from a fight?

#### Cupid's Advice:

All couples fight, but avoiding it is impossible. Moving on quickly and peacefully is easier than you think. Cupid has some tips:

1. Admit when you're wrong: We all make mistakes sometimes,

and it's okay to be wrong. The best way to move on from an argument is by pointing out your faults. Your partner will appreciate it and will learn from your example. They may admit to their wrong doings in future situations.

- 2. Apologize: Along with admitting your mistakes, make sure you apologize to your sweetheart. Saying you're sorry makes all the difference in an argument. Also, show your significant other how much you care by making it up to them with a personalized apology.
- 3. Don't let the issues hang in the air: The longer the fight sits, the bigger it will grow. Talk about your issues soon after they arise. Discussing how both members of the relationship feel will make for an easy fix. Compromising on the matter will make you both happier.

How did you move on quickly from a fight? Share your stories below.

## Best Celebrity-Couple Costumes for Halloween





By Whitney Baker

There are so many fun factors about Halloween. First, there are the pumpkins: pumpkin carving, pumpkin patches, pumpkin pie — and an annual viewing of the TV show, It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown. Next, you can't forget candy, like Brach's candy corn, which are only available seasonally in the autumn, making them a particularly delicious and coveted treat. Then, there's all that scary stuff: haunted houses, witches, goblins and ghouls — boo! And finally, perhaps the best part is the costumes — for one day out of the year, you get to be anyone you want to be, celebrities included.

For anyone looking for a little romance on a holiday that's typically filled with fright, you're in luck! Here's a list of celebrity couples whose looks can be transformed into costumes. One of them may be the perfect fit for you and your partner.

1. Justin Bieber and Selena Gomez: For the teeny-boppers out there — or anyone hoping to feel a bit younger for an evening — the prince and princess of pop make a very suitable duo.

For Bieber, any guy with longer locks can sweep his bangs to the side, and any boy with a shorter 'do can simply throw on a sideways Yankees hat. Add a pair of Ray-Ban Wayfarers (dark lenses not necessary), jeans, and a hoodie, and you're set! For Gomez, you can rock a casual but glam look: skinny jeans, a flowing tank top, flats, hoop earrings, and wavy hair. If you really want to channel these two lovebirds, PDA is highly encouraged.

Related Link: <u>Justin Bieber Plans 'Titantic' Date For</u> Girlfriend Selena Gomez

- 2. Katy Perry and Russell Brand: This eccentric and oh-so-in-love couple is an ideal choice for anyone looking to get a little crazy this Halloween. Perry has donned a number of hair colors and styles over the years, so take your pick: bubble-gum pink or bright blue, jet black, or her most recent, honey-hued blonde. As for outfits, anything is fair game, even that sassy and sparkly Smurfette dress that's hiding in your closet. For Brand, the look is quite low-key: a pair of skinny jeans and a tight (and low-cut) t-shirt, along with unbrushed and knotted hair, some stubble, and a bit of guyliner. Oh, and don't forget the British accent.
- 3. Prince William and Princess Catherine: Their wedding may have been months ago, but people are still talking about these newlyweds, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Princess Catherine has taken the fashion world by storm with her chic and totally relatable style, making her the ultimate princess to emulate on this costume-filled holiday. To truly standout, opt for their wedding look: your man can wear an outfit that resembles Prince William's Irish Guards' red military uniform, while you can get glamorous in a lacy and flowing white gown, a beautiful sapphire (faux) engagement ring, and a bouquet of flowers. Complete the look with a tiara, of course.

Related Link: <a href="Prince William Discusses Queen Elizabeth's">Prince William Discusses Queen Elizabeth's</a>
<a href="Wedding Advice">Wedding Advice</a>

4. Blair Waldorf and Chuck Bass: Okay, okay — so they may not be a realcelebrity couple, but they've certainly made their mark as the "it couple" in the Gossip Girl—World of the Upper East Side. To imitate this high-society pair, girls should pull together their most designer-drenched look. Choose from high school Waldorf, who wouldn't have been caught dead without her preppy headband, or the now college-aged fashionista, who has adopted a more grown-up dress code — just be sure to accessorize accordingly. As for Bass, a guy only needs a three-piece suit, bow tie, pocket square, and all the charm that he can muster.

Cupid wants to know: Who do you want to be for Halloween?

## 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

# Russell Brand Is Deported From Japan While Visiting Katy Perry





Katy Perry's hectic Japan touring schedule was interrupted on Saturday, reports <u>E! Online</u>. The *Teenage Dream* singer was distraught when news came that her newlywed husband Russell Brand had been deported. Perry took to her Twitter account to share the news. "So…my husband just got deported from Japan. I am so. sad," tweeted Perry. "I brought him all this way to

show him my favorite place." Brand was deported due to criminal incidents that occurred over 10 years ago. Brand, however, did not seem too upset. The comedian-turned-actor also took to his Twitter, exclaiming, "Stockholm syndrome kicking in. Just asked my guard out for (vegetarian) sushi. He giggled."

## What do you do if your partner has a prior criminal background?

#### Cupid's Advice:

Not everybody has a squeaky clean past. Here are a few things you should be aware of when dating a reformed criminal:

- 1. Get the facts: Underage drinking and bank robbery are two very different crimes. Make sure you know what your partner was charged with and how serious the crimes were before you enter into the relationship.
- 2. Prepare yourself: It's harder to live life with a criminal record. Travel becomes difficult, as does getting a loan or applying for a job. Make sure that you are willing to carry some of the burden for your partner's past mistakes.
- **3. Shake it off:** Plenty of individuals make unwise decisions when they are young. Though the thought of dating someone who has had trouble with the law may scare you, don't be too prejudiced. Your partner now has different ideals and life experience to bring to the relationship.

Have you ever dated someone with a criminal past? Feel free to comment below.

### Katy Perry's Mom Wants Grandkids ASAP





Celebrity newlyweds Katy Perry and Russell Brand are in no hurry to have children, but Perry's mother, Mary Hudson, is singing a very different tune. As the wannabe grandmother told <u>People</u> on the red carpet of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Grammy Awards, "I just can't wait for them to have babies. Grandma, here we come!" She also stated that the couple makes a great team in spite of their busy schedules.

How do you handle pressure to have kids?

### Cupid's Advice:

Many couples have faced the pressure to start a family when

they aren't ready. The best course of action is to ignore the critics and do what is right for you:

- 1. Ignore it: People will say what they want and you can do what you want. Nod, smile ... and tune out.
- 2. Put the ball back in their court: Sometimes it's best to ask the people pressuring you when they are going to change something in their lives that is equally dramatic. See how they like it!
- 3. Put your foot down: Tell people that it's none of their business to decide when you make changes to your life, especially one as big as starting a family.

## Katy Perry Publicizes Wedding Video at Grammy's





After keeping her wedding details at top secret status leading up to the lavish ceremony in India, Katy Perry has shared some glimpses into her special day with the public. As she sang one of her popular songs, "Not Like the Movies" while sitting on a swing high above the Grammy's audience, her wedding video played in the background, reports <u>UsMagazine.com</u>. Images of the ring exchange and kiss between her and now-husband Russell Brand were projected on a curtain directly behind the singer. Talk about a grand gesture!

### What are the best keepsakes from a wedding?

### Cupid's Advice:

Whether it's you tying the knot or your best friend, you'll always want to remember the special day. Cupid has some tips on things you can keep from the wedding to do just that:

1. Wedding video: Take a cue from Katy Perry and have your wedding recorded on video. If you ever want to relive the feeling you got on your big day, pop in the documentation and watch one of the happiest days of your life.

- 2. Photos: These are the next-best thing to a video. If you don't have time to sit through a play-by-play of your wedding festivities, take out your photo albums and thumb through the captured moments.
- 3. Playlist: Sometimes the best way to remember a moment in time is by listening to the music associated with it. Make a playlist of all the songs that played at your wedding and crank it up when you want to remember your special day.

### Katy Perry Takes Russell Brand's Last Name





It's official: Katy Perry will soon be known as Katy Brand, according to <u>People</u>. The 26-year-old singer told Ellen DeGeneres that since her wedding on October 23rd, she has been in the process of taking her husband Russell Brand's last name. She said that people already call her Mrs. Brand to "try to get my attention... Like if I'm at an event or something like that, and they want special attention, they go, 'Mrs. Brand!' And I go shwoosh [looks back]."

How do you decide whether to take your partner's last name?

#### Cupid's Advice:

In a recent survey, 70 percent of Americans said they believe that women should take their husband's last name when they get married, but is it the right decision for you? Cupid has some things to consider:

- 1. Family unity: A lot of couples believe that having the same name is an important part of feeling like a family unit when you get married. If you're concerned about unity, changing your name may be the right choice.
- 2. Career/identity: You've lived with your maiden name for a long time, and it connects you to your parents and siblings. Plus, if you've already established yourself professionally, it might actually hurt your career to change your name now.
- **3. More options:** There are more than just two options when you get married. You can also have a hyphenated last name, you can take his name and use your maiden name professionally, or he can take your name!

### Katy Perry's Dad Speaks Out about Daughter's Marriage to Russell Brand





Sex, drugs and rock n' roll aren't usually a parent's "Teenage Dream," but they added up to the perfect husband for singer Katy Perry, according to her father Keith Hudson. The Santa Barbara preacher told *RadarOnline*, "You couldn't see two f\*\*king happier people," about his daughter and her new hubby, actor and comedian Russell Brand. "I could not have wished for a better son-in-law in Russell. He makes my girl so happy," said Hudson. "She's so happy and he makes her light up. They're going to be just fine..."

#### Cupid's Advice:

No matter how old you are, your parents will likely have some influence over your life. Cupid has some tips on how your partner can make a good first impression:

- 1. Show common interests: Before it's time to meet the parents, prep your significant other by briefing him on your parents' interests. That way, he can be prepared with with a shared interest to discuss, which will hopefully spark lively conversation right away.
- 2. Build trust: It's important to build a bond of trust between your parents and significant other early on. Give your partner a small responsibility (like picking your parents up from the airport or making a dish to bring to dinner), that will show he can be trusted to follow through.
- 3. Solicit relationship advice: At a certain age, parents see their child's romantic partners as potential parents of their future grandchildren. Encourage your significant other to interact with young relatives at family gatherings, and to ask for relationship advice from your parents.

## Katy Perry Praises Russell Brand's Spirituality





After tying the knot in what has been a detailed four-day wedding celebration in India, Katy Perry still can't stop talking about her husband, Russell Brand. Despite the provocative teasing good-girl image Katy Perry maintains in the public eye, she tells Harper's Bazaar, "I always knew I wanted a great man of God. Someone who was going to be an inspiration for people and also be a lovely husband and father." Wait, are we still talking about Russell Brand? Apparently so. <u>Us Weekly</u> reports that Brand is a "deeply spiritual man and ideal dad material." And what about the 10year age gap? Katy Perry explains, "We're at different places in our lives, but we can still grow together." With a man that's "though-provoking, articulate [and] a real advocate," it looks like clear sailing for the newlywed couple — with a few laughs along the way.

How important is religion in a relationship?

#### Cupid's Advice:

While Perry and Brand meet on common religious ground, does religion have to be a deal breaker? Here are a few arguments to keep in mind for your own blooming relationship:

- 1. Get your feet wet: If you and your significant other hold beliefs in different faiths, try enlightening each other about the culture and faith behind your respective religions. If you feel comfortable, attend a service and get a firsthand look!
- 2. Have an open dialogue: If your relationship is headed somewhere serious, don't be afraid about discussing spirituality. Talk about the importance of your faith. Explore the idea of conversion or allowing your relationship to follow a multi-faith path, observing both religions.
- 3. Think about the future: While kids might not be in the near future, or are perhaps around the corner, one thing to keep in mind is the future. Sure, religion might not be a problem when it comes to the two of you, but what will happen when you add a child into the equation? Raising a child in a certain faith might be an uncompromising matter in your relationship and in the end, religion might become a problematic aspect of your relationship.

## Katy Perry and Russell Brand's Wedding Noise

### **Complaints**





While singer Katy Perry and comedian Russel Brand's wedding may have been all about "no regrets, just love" — for neighbors not in attendance, it was anything but a "teenage dream." The couple's wedding at the Aman-i-Khas hotel in Rajasthan, India, last week was loud enough to draw noise complaints. The hotel, which is located next to a sacred tiger sanctuary, has been charged with violating the district's laws against loud music after 10 p.m. Perry and Brand, who were free from any charges, have headed to the Maldives for their honeymoon, but managers of the hotel could face fines or jail time.

How can you make your wedding stand out?

Cupid's Advice:

While Perry and Brand may have made headline news with their extravagant wedding, getting hotel managers fined with noise complaints isn't the best way to make your marriage memorable. Cupid has some tips on how to make everyone remember your special day in a positive way:

- 1. Personalize: Whether you're writing your own vows or featuring a slideshow of your sweetest moments as a couple, try to include unique personal touches in both the ceremony and at the reception.
- 2. Make it about everyone: Most people focus on the bride, but there are two people getting married, and you're celebrating your love with your friends and family. Whether it's a customized groom's cake, or a choreographed dance number, try to incorporate your wedding party and particularly your new spouse into as many details as possible. Little surprises will have a big effect!
- 3. Sparkling moment: Rather than blinging out your entire wedding, save some dough by featuring one shining moment at the ceremony and reception. It could be releasing doves after the vows, or a particularly moving speech, but make sure it's something unique to the two of you as a couple, and make sure you don't overdo it. It should be a tasteful unique addition to your big day.

### Katy Perry's Pre-Wedding

### **Excitement**





Katy Perry is enjoying her final days as a single woman. Following her performance on Britain's The X-Factor, Perry and fiancé Russell Brand talked to judge Simon Cowell backstage. A source tells <u>Us Magazine</u>, "She had so much fun with Simon, and Russell was chatting with him too. Katy was hugging Russell a lot after her performance. She kept asking him, 'Was I OK?' 'Was it OK?', but he was nothing but supportive. He was stroking her bum in her catsuit. He couldn't keep his hands off her, actually." The engaged pair also went to a private screening of *The Social Network* on Monday. Tuesday, Perry and Brand intend to fly to India for their extravagant 6-day wedding celebration. The few guests, including Rihanna, will stay in "pimped out" tents and are to be flown in on private jets. Despite the extravagance, Brand seemed uneager to talk about the celebration. "I'm trying to

"I think people get the wrong idea on how we want the wedding to play out. Love between two people is the most spectacular yet ordinary thing in the world."

## What are some things to be careful about before your wedding? Cupid's Advice:

The days before your wedding are nerve-wracking, exciting, and unlike anything you have ever experienced. While you should enjoy these last few days to the best of your ability, here a few things of which to beware:

- 1. Too much talk: No matter how excited you are, talking about your wedding too much may ruin the big day. By talking about the big day, you raise expectations. Hold disappointment at bay, and keep at least some of your excitement to yourself.
- 2. Stress: Wedding planning is stressful. You want the best day possible, but by accepting the fact that no wedding is absolutely perfect, you will be able to relax and really enjoy the day without worrying about minor things.
- 3. Too many nerves: Chances are, before your wedding you are feeling excited and nervous. While it is good to share your nerves, make sure you do so in a healthy way so you don't give your friends and family the wrong idea.

### Katy Perry's Vegas Poolside

### Bachelorette Party





Katy Perry officially said goodbye to her single days as she celebrated her bachelorette party this past weekend, reported <code>People</code>. To commemorate her upcoming marriage to comedian and actor Russell Brand, Perry arrived at the Las Vegas Hard Rock Hotel Beach Club with her BFFs in tow, including singer Rihanna. After some poolside fun, the bachelorette and her entourage packed into a Hummer limo for a trip to Cirque du Soleil's <code>KA</code> show, where they made sure to congratulate the cast. Bar-hopping at places like XS Nightclub and Sapphire soon followed. Keeping it short and sassy as usual, Perry tweeted, "Signing up for a liver transplant now."

What are some creative ideas for bachelorette parties?

Cupid's Advice:

Your bachelorette party should be a fun, and memorable experience. Cupid has some suggestions to make it unforgettable:

- 1. Awesome 80's prom: If you're in the New York City area and looking to relive the days of teased hair and spandex, Webster Hall's Awesome 80's Prom may be just the thing to make your party perfect. Remember, "girls just wanna have fun"!
- 2. Times Square: Where better to say "bye-bye" to your single life than the "center of the universe": Times Square. There's nothing that Times Square doesn't offer! From great food to great live music venues, to happening nightclubs with flashing strobe lights, you're bound to have a memorable time.
- **3. Viva Las Vegas:** Sometimes sticking with tradition is the best answer. Vegas has been one of the top bachelorette party scenes for years. If the future Mrs. Brand chose Sin City for her last night of singledom, then it may be a good place for you to consider too!

### Russell Brand is Daddy Material





Comedian Russell Brand has the faith of fiancée Katy Perry when it comes to his abilities as a future father. <u>People</u> reported last week that the pop singer thinks Brand will "be perfect" as a baby daddy, a quality she says was key for her in looking for a potential husband. The two have been engaged since January.

## Is being a good parent the most important trait in a future spouse?

### Cupid's Advice:

Perry knew what she was looking for when it came to a future husband. If you want to have children, then yes, it's important to find someone you think will be a good parent. However, it's a good idea to talk about your goals before thinking about getting hitched:

1. Prioritize: If having children is not something you're considering, the potential to be a good parent — while a good characteristic to have in general — isn't necessary. Figure out what your future plans are before you looking for your ideal mate.

- 2. Break the ice: If you decide that being a parent is something you want, make sure you broach the subject with your mate carefully. This can be a touchy and intimidating subject for people, so tread delicately.
- **3. Make plans:** If having a child is something you both want, and marriage is already in the works, then go ahead and plan for a family. This is a life change that should be addressed ahead of time.

## Katy Perry & Russell Brand Keep Finances and Marriage at Bay





Pop music star Katy Perry and Russell Brand (*Get Him to the Greek*) seem to embody the ultimate love story, and love to pose for the media. The couple has mentioned marriage, but details are sparse. While it's possible the duo is keeping their plans private to avoid a press spectacle, *Betty Confidential* wonders whether their net worth plays a role in their hesitancy to a full commitment.

## Can wildly different payrolls cause friction in a relationship?

### Cupid's Advice:

Whether yourself or your partner earns more money shouldn't be an issue since you are together, but money is often a hot button topic. If you need help resolving your issues, check out Cupid's tips:

1. Make this a priority from the beginning: When you first meet, the last thing on your mind is money and who makes more. When it's time to mingle your finances, you'll need to review your accounts, and figure out what you'll each

contribute. Consider keeping individual accounts on the side.

- 2. Manage your bills: While there's no need to breathe down your partner's back when they get their paycheck, it's important that bills paid. Staying on top of your money will lessen and avoid conflicts later.
- **3. Be understanding:** The budget you initially set up may change due to job loss or (hopefully) a promotion. Sit down and talk about the adjustments that need to be made to keep your bills paid, and both of you content.