

Date Idea: Binge Watch a New TV Show



By Emma L. Wells. Updated by [Mary DeMaio](#)

Who doesn't love a good day of binge watching TV, especially when there's someone to snuggle with? This weekend, you can stay in *and* try something new. Find a show that you and your partner haven't seen before (but that you both are interested in), and dive in. With so many series available on Netflix, Amazon Prime Instant Video, and Hulu or Hulu Plus, this shouldn't be a hard [date idea](#) to pull off. All of these options offer free trials, so you don't have to fret if you don't have a membership. A great piece of [dating advice](#) is to load up your couch with blankets and pillows (maybe you want to take it a step further and build a fort), pop some popcorn, and prepare to relax.

Follow this relationship advice for a low-key date idea.

Think you've seen every series already? Even if you watch a lot of television, you probably haven't seen *everything*. Go back to the beginning of SNL on Netflix, or pick up something that aired before you were born. Perhaps you're more interested in a newly-released Netflix or Amazon Original Series, like *House of Cards* or *Transparent*. Following this [relationship advice](#) will not only amuse you, but it'll help you see if your entertainment preferences are compatible.

Don't forget about the snacks! You and your partner can put a buffet together by each bringing your favorite tasty treats to share on this weekend date idea. Some essentials include flavored popcorn, candies like peanut M&Ms, pretzels, or chips and dip. Make sure you have a few healthy options, too – maybe a fresh fruit salad or vegetable platter. If neither of you are prone to snacking, you can order take-out instead. Pizza and beer go great with a *Friends* marathon!

Related Link: [Date Idea: Spend an Intimate Night Indoors](#)

If you need a break from staring at the small screen, head to the kitchen and see what you can cook with the ingredients you have. Make a meal together like breakfast for dinner: eggs, bacon, and toast; or go Italian with a pasta dish. These meals are all easy to whip up with items that are usually in your refrigerator or pantry. It's also a fun way to connect with your partner.

Related Link: [Date Idea: Slumber Party](#)

To make this date idea even more exciting, play a game based on the show you chose. For instance, if you are watching something suspenseful like *CSI* or *Lost*, try to guess how each episode will end. Predict the outcome, or bet on who the

killer is. You can even pick a prize: Winner gets the last chocolate chip cookie!

Ever had a binge watching session with your significant other? Comment below!

Date Idea: Volunteer and Build a Foundation Together



By Emma L. Wells. Updated by [Mary DeMaio](#)

Shake up your usual list of [date ideas](#) and try something new! A great way to bond with your beau is by volunteering for a good cause. This weekend, work on strengthening your

relationship by building a home for someone in need. Lots of organizations, such as [Habitat for Humanity](#), need volunteers to help with their current community projects.

Build a house for someone in need with this date idea!

Giving back is a great way for you and your partner to do some real relationship-building. Working alongside your honey will enable you two to connect on a new level. Plus, completing a physical task together will bring you closer and clue you in to your ability to be a successful team in the future. Following this [relationship advice](#), you may even discover something new about your significant other. Perhaps he's handier than you thought with a toolbox. Next time your faucet is leaking, you'll know who to call!

Service projects aren't only about work. Building houses is a great outdoor activity for a sunny August afternoon (soak up that vitamin D!) and can also double as your daily workout. Swinging that hammer over and over again or lifting heavy pieces of wood will leave you sweaty and exhausted. You may even meet some other couples and expand your social circle.

Related Link: [Date Idea: Take a Charity Walk](#)

Most organizations allow you to sign up for just one day at time so you don't have to make a big commitment with this weekend date idea. Don't worry if you don't have any experience with construction, as there are jobs for all ability levels. They will also teach you new skills if you're interested in learning how to lay tile or want to improve your painting abilities.

Related Link: [Date Idea: Get Off the Beaten Path](#)

After you're done, head out for drinks or a sweet treat. You

can even invite some of the new friends you made today. Talk about what you learned from the day's activities and what you most enjoyed about pitching in. The next time you're looking for a weekend date idea that will help your relationship *and* your community, consider building a home for a good cause!

Tell us: Have you and your partner ever volunteered together as a date idea?

Date Idea: Couples Barbecue



By Maria Darbenzio. Updated by [Mary DeMaio](#)

Invite a few couples from around your neighborhood to get together for a backyard barbecue bash as a fun and romantic

[date idea](#) this weekend. Sure, it's fun to have some alone time with your sweetheart, but mingling with other couples is a great way to make new friends, especially if you haven't met all of your neighbors yet.

Check out these fun barbecue date idea activities!

Hanging out together gives you a chance to see how other couples express their love. Not only can you learn a few pointers about your own relationship, but you'll get an idea of who to call when you want to go on a double dinner date.

For the barbecue, have each couple bring one of their favorite appetizers or entrees. Depending on how many guests you invite, you should be able to put up a decent-sized buffet. The diverse dishes will also be great talking points, as you can find out the history behind each recipe. As the hosts, you and your partner can provide beer, wine, and cocktails as well as desserts. Preparation for the barbecue can be just as fun and exciting as the actual event!

Related Link: [Date Idea: Be a "Cheap" Date](#)

If you have a pool, tell your guests to bring their swimsuits. After all, pool parties aren't only for kids! It's a great way to keep things lighthearted and fun. Of course, if you're serving alcohol at your get-together, remind everyone to drink responsibly both in and out of the water.

No pool, no problem. Set up some of your favorite backyard games – anything from horseshoes to corn hole to volleyball.

Related Link: [Date Idea: Old School Date](#)

Once everyone has had their fair share of swimming or games, build a bonfire and hang out around it as the sun begins to

set. Provide marshmallows, graham crackers, and chocolate bars to make s'mores for a sweet end to the evening. At the end of the day, you and your partner will have memories and friends that last.

What are your favorite barbecue activities? Let us know in the comments below!

Date Idea: Go Camping or Glamping



By Maria Darbenzio. Updated by [Mary DeMaio](#)

Enjoy a peaceful warm weather getaway with this weekend [date](#)

[idea](#), which involves sneaking away from all the hustle and bustle of everyday demands. Take a trip into the wilderness with your honey for a romantic camping trip filled with s'mores and star gazing. Don't want to rough it in the middle of the woods? Not a problem – there are ways to get around having to sleep in a tent.

Use Glamping as Your Next Date Idea

When the work day is over and the weekend begins, pack up those necessities – tent, blankets, sleeping bags, snacks, and entertainment – and head out. Take a look online for any campgrounds in your area, and make sure to book a spot in advance if needed. Once there, set up your tent, build a fire, and let the romance begin! Spend your evening cooking over the flames and cuddling up next to each other for warmth. You and your sweetheart can end the night by laying under the stars and talking about your summer plans.

Related Link: [Date Idea: Batter Up](#)

If pitching a tent and sleeping on the ground isn't your cup of tea, that's okay. Glamping is all the rage right now, and it's a great way to get the camping experience *without* having to sacrifice showers and electricity. There are companies dedicated to renting RVs and camping trailers.

Related Link: [Date Idea: Ignite Sparks While Camping](#)

Or if you'd prefer, check your local campgrounds for cabins available for rent. These houses are furnished and usually come equipped with most of the essentials. All you need to bring is toiletries, food, clothing, and bed sheets. And don't forget to pack that bug spray! You wouldn't want mosquitoes to get you itching and ruin the moment.

Whether you're camping or glamping, you and your sweetheart can slip into nature and away from crowded city streets.

Staying outside of civilization for a few days will strengthen your relationship and provide you with much-needed, uninterrupted one-on-one time.

Do you and your love like to go camping? Let us know in the comments below!

Date Idea: Summer Nights



By Sarah Ribeiro. Updated by [Mary DeMaio](#)

There's something so romantic about summertime. The fresh smell of flowers, the sweet salt from the ocean and all the fun and laughter. Embrace the warm summer nights this weekend with these enjoyable [date ideas](#) to do in the dark.

Top Three Summer Night Date Ideas

1. Evening picnic: Find a public park that's open after sunset, park your car at a scenic location or stay in your own yard. On this date night, bring a lantern, portable music player to set the mood, and two blankets, one to sit on and one to wrap around you if it gets chilly. Pack a simple dinner of late-night snacks, like crackers with cheese, chocolate-covered berries or a baguette and hummus. If you're in a zoned area, you and your honey can even light a bonfire and roast some marshmallows.

Related Link: [10 Cool Summer Date Ideas to Heat Up Your Relationship](#)

2. Midnight dance party: Pick an area in your yard and surround it with lights and midnight snacks, like popcorn and chips. Before the party, send your guests a playlist in MP3 format and ask them to bring their music players with them. At the stroke of midnight, have everyone plug in their headphones and hit play for a "silent disco." You can dance under the stars without worrying about being too loud. Be sure to include a couple slow songs for a few romantic moments – especially if you have single friends who you want to set up.

Related Link: [Dating Advice: 10 Great Date Ideas Under \\$50](#)

3. Movie in the park: You can find park series from California to New York by checking online databases or your local paper. If the park's too far away, look for a local drive-in theater or make one of your own. Hang a large white blanket on the side of your house, rent a projector and pop in any of your favorite movies to have a private theater in your own backyard. When the date night is over, there's no need to go inside. Set up a couple of sleeping bags and a tent with a mesh skylight, and fall asleep in your partner's arms while you stare at the stars.

What's your favorite late-night date idea? Comment below and let us know.

Weekend Date Idea: Head Back In Time & Enjoy A Drive-In Movie



By [Sarah Batcheller](#). Updated by [Mary DeMaio](#)

We all want a relationship and love like we see in old films like *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, *Casablanca* – you get the picture. Why not plan a [date night](#) that reminds you of these movies?

Catch a film at a drive-in movie theater with your beau. Drive-in movies are the perfect balance of the big screen and the great outdoors. The two of you will have your seats all to yourselves, so you can snuggle as you please. Best of all, you'll have a classic, romantic [date night](#) that you'll never forget.

Date Idea: Head to the Drive-In Movie Theater

Drive-in theaters are easy because you never even have to stand up. So, if you and your boo are torn between hanging out on the couch or getting all dressed up to go out, you can have the best of both worlds. Netflix just doesn't compare to a night like this. [USA Today](#) has described some of the best drive-in theaters in the nation, and you can always search for local ones online as well. It pays to do your research before embarking on this date idea, as you'll find which theaters are older and have a more iconic feel and which are newer with more updated features, like high-resolution screens. You'll also want to look at the movie listings ahead of time so that you can choose a film you know you will both enjoy.

Related Link: [Date Idea: Throw a Classic Movie Night](#)

To go all out, rent or borrow a convertible so that the openness creates a relaxing atmosphere. Or if you're insect-adverse, go ahead and keep the roof up. Either way, fill the car with pillows and blankets and recline your seats. Another good thing about drive-in theaters is that you don't have to sneak in snacks in your purse. Bring something homemade to munch on. You can even bring a bottle of wine and two disposable wine glasses. That way, the coziness is at 100 percent. When the film is over, you can end the date night with a midnight drive around town or stop at a local diner to really achieve that 1950's feel.

Related Link: [Movie Pick-Up Lines That Will Score You a Date](#)

This date idea is perfect for the summertime, because it will make you feel like you're in a movie yourself. Now that you've found the relationship and love you've always dreamed of, it's time to have a date to make you feel like a star. With the summer sky twinkling above and the coolness of the night settling in, neither of you will be able to deny the romance in the air. Take this [dating advice](#) as it'll be a great way to spend quality time with your sweetheart and remind you that your love is timeless.

Have a fun drive-in movie experience? Let us know in the comments below!

Date Idea: Stroll Through the Farmer's Market





By Amanda Martin. Updated by [Mary DeMaio](#)

Enjoy the spring weather with this weekend [date idea](#) by visiting a farmer's market with your significant other. You'll find individual vendors – mostly farmers – who set up booths to sell locally grown products.

Great Date Idea for the Warm Weather

Stroll around, smell the flowers and try all of the food samples, from the aged Gouda to the warm loaves of sourdough bread. Be inspired by what's in season and grab the ripest, red apple to snack on while walking around with your honey. If you're in the mood for lunch, you can find all of the ingredients here to make your very own picnic for two.

Related Link: [10 Great Date Ideas Under \\$50](#)

For this date night, pair your meal with a regional wine, and head to the nearest park. Or, buy fresh vegetables to bring home and cook up with your partner using a recipe idea from

one of the vendors. Either way, you'll be trying something new and saving on the cost of the bill from an expensive restaurant.

Related Link: [Date Idea: Go Strawberry Picking](#)

No Farmer's Market visit is complete without a delicious tasting dessert. You can make a sweet treat out of the fruits you purchased or enjoy the fresh baked blueberry pies, apple tarts and lemon bars that are nicely packaged and ready to bring home and enjoy as a couple for this date idea.

Have you ever gone to a farmers market with your partner? Share your stories below!

Date Idea: Make Your Own Memorial





By Amanda Boyer. Updated by [Mary DeMaio](#)

Memorial Day weekend is the time of year when we recognize the heroic efforts of the men and women who have served our country. It also means that we have to say goodbye to spring and welcome the hot, humid weather. For this [weekend date idea](#), take the next two days to set a plan for the rest of your summer and decide what you want to accomplish during these months with your honey.

Celebrate Memorial Day Weekend With These Date Ideas

To kick off the long weekend, have a picnic in a park. Bring some little American flags, and wear red, white, and blue to show your patriotism. Our dating advice is to leave your phones behind and spread out a comfy blanket to sit on during lunch. Use this Memorial Day date idea to talk about what this holiday means to you and share some stories about the veterans in your family.

Related Link: [Tiger Woods and Lindsey Vonn Jet Ski with His Kids for Memorial Day Weekend](#)

Find a parade around town and be sure to get a good spot. You can cuddle up next to your partner as you enjoy the floats and entertainers. The parade will show the ins and outs of our culture. There may even be a fun run or 5K that you can participate in with your significant other. Grab some spirited workout gear and support your honey all the way across the finish line.

Now, in honor of the holiday, it's time to make your own memorial. Grab a carving knife and head outdoors with your love. As you enjoy a romantic walk, find a tree that is near a special spot in your relationship and love – maybe where you shared your first kiss or had a big talk about the future. Carefully carve your initials into the bark. To make it even more special, add the date with a heart around it. That'll help you remember when you ventured out of your comfort zone to make your mark as a couple. Once you're done, take a picture of it for safe keeping.

Related Link: [Memorial Day Getaways for Lovers](#)

If tree carving isn't your thing, buy a few cans of spray paint and head to a deserted area of town. Proclaim your feelings for one another with a sweet mural that represents your relationship. You and your significant other will enjoy this chance to get your creative juices flowing. Plus, years down the road, you'll smile when you think back to this special Memorial Day weekend.

To end the night on a good note, find a drive-in movie theater nearby. Breathe in the fresh air and take a trip back in time as you watch the film. You can even sneak in some ice cream or a bottle of wine to enjoy as the on-screen story unfolds.

Know another Memorial Day date idea? Comment below!

Date Idea: Enjoy the Warm Weather



Updated by [Mary DeMaio](#)

Now that temperatures have turned, you may be searching for new [date ideas](#) to make the most of this season with your special someone. With May finally here, it's time to go outside and soak up that sunshine. Cupid has some suggestions.

Top Three Warm Weather Date Ideas

1. Heading to the shore: If you've been wearing layers and

getting cozy in front of the fireplace all winter, then heading to the beach with your significant other would be a great weekend date idea. While there, have a competition between you and your love. See who can build the best sand castle or who can throw the Frisbee the farthest.

Related Link: [Date Idea: Get Outdoors with Your Other Half](#)

2. Road trips: If you enjoy going traveling, take a trip with your partner. Better yet, visit attractions in your state that you haven't had the time to explore yet. Do you live in New York? The Empire State Building, Statue of Liberty, Staten Island Ferry and Central Park are a just a few amazing tourists areas.

Related Link: [Enjoy the Outdoors With This Challenging Date Idea!](#)

3. Park excursions: If you wish to relax this weekend, pack a picnic basket, grab a book and head to the park. Take this dating advice as it'll be a great way to spend quality time with your sweetheart.

Do you have any great May date ideas? Comment below!

Relationship Advice: Author A.R. Bernard Reveals 4 Things Women Want From Men





By [Mary DeMaio](#)

It can be difficult navigating the dating circuit and everyone runs into relationship problems. While women need to understand the characteristics they are looking for in a man, men need to learn how to deal with women. The new self-help book by the certified counselor, teacher, and preacher A.R. Bernard dives into the qualities that make for a happy and satisfying relationship. His book, *Four Things Women Want From A Man* gives readers [relationship advice](#) on how to identify and develop the traits of maturity, decisiveness, consistency, and strength, to help couples relate to each other and enrich their connection. In this exclusive author interview, Bernard talks about his observations and the secrets to developing closeness and honesty between a man and woman.

Author Shares Best Relationship Advice On What Women Want From Men

Can you tell us briefly, what are the four things women want from a man? Is any one of the four qualities you mention more

important than the other? Or are they equally significant?

I have been married to the same woman for 44 years. My wife is the one I give a lot of credit to for teaching me over the years. This book is really my journey coming to understand these four qualities and living them out. The four things begin with maturity. Maturity does not come with age; it begins with the acceptance of responsibilities. When a man is willing to accept responsibility for his words, thoughts, motives, actions, and attitudes is when that man begins to mature and depart from the insecurities that keep him adolescent. Maturity is the foundation to the next three things.

The next is decisiveness. Men need to be decisive. It is a women's prerogative to change her mind. He needs to be able to make decisions quickly and constantly. In order to do that, he has to have a set of values and principles to guide his thinking and decision-making process. In the book, I talk about what values are, what they mean and why they are so important. Women look for decisiveness in a man, they respect that.

Next is consistency. Doing the same thing continuously. Doing the right thing, as well as being consistent in actions and words. It is important to make sure that values and actions are in agreement and line up. This gives women stability and a sense of security and safety.

Strength is the last one. Quite often this is misunderstood. By strength, I don't mean this macho attitude, illustrated by the caveman dragging the women by her hair with the club over his shoulder. When a man is strong, it means he is secure in himself and has the courage to live out his convictions. His strength allows him to be gentle and kind. Scripture says a man's kindness is what makes him attractive.

These four qualities are an integrated system. You can't have

one without the other, but I will stress that maturity is the foundation upon which they are built. Maturity has to do with integrity. Integrity is the cornerstone of character. Honesty is the core of integrity and every relationship is built on trust.

Related Link: [Relationship Advice: Authors of 'Marriage Boot Camp' Reveal How To Build A Rock Solid Relationship and Love](#)

We know our readers will be curious, why didn't you develop the four qualities that men want in a woman? If you did, what would they be?

I have to start with the women first. Like I said, it is a book written to women for men. It is getting to the men indirectly. There will be a follow-up book that talks about what men want in women. When it comes to women, men have two critical concerns. Number one: They don't want to feel controlled by a woman. It is a woman's nature to be supportive and assist the man. The second thing is men are concerned about being inadequate or incompetent in any way in that relationship. If I am going to talk about what men look for in a woman it would be around those two concerns that men have in their relationship with a woman.

Our visitors are always looking for advice on how to make the most of their personal lives. What advice would you give to a woman who can't find someone with all of these four qualities?

Once she reads the book, it is more than just four words. It is really giving her an understanding not only about men but about herself. How she is wired as a woman and why she looks for the things that she looks for. I think in understanding herself it will empower her to better relate to a man.

Related Link: [Expert Dating Advice: The Help You Need to Find Love](#)

How would you guide someone who is having a difficult time

finding a partner? What is the best way to confirm compatibility?

I would say that there is hope presented in this book. There is no one size fits all in relationships, but these principles are universal, eternal and they work. Once she understands this relationship advice she can know how to apply them to the relationship that she chooses to get involved with. I don't talk about it in this book, but there is a process to relationships and we are in a world where we want instant gratification, microwave relationships, and microwave spirituality. True valuable things require a process and we must move through that process to protect ourselves and to strengthen what we are looking to build or establish.

Relationships begin with an introduction. That is where we are introduced, but then we must spend time getting acquainted. So it moves from introduction to acquaintanceship. During the acquaintanceship process, we get to know each other, our values, what's compatible with each other, what the differences are, what our views are on relationships, family and money and all the other things that come into play. The next step, if we choose to move forward with the relationship, is to build a friendship that is about trust, transparency, and vulnerability. This all has to happen before we even think about moving to the next level called intimacy. Process is critical and too often we want to move from introduction to intimacy and that is why relationships fail.

Four Things Women Want From A Man is available now on [Amazon](#). For more on A.R. Bernard visit his [website](#) and check out his twitter [@ARBernard](#).

Celebrity Interview: 'RHOD' Star Stephanie Hollman Says Her Life Is All About Her Family



By [Mary DeMaio](#)

In the latest celebrity news, *The Real Housewives* franchise has extended to Dallas, Texas to follow the elite and extravagant social scene. In the premiere season, the women are all very open and honest with the struggles they encounter every day. In our exclusive [celebrity interview](#), Stephanie Hollman shares her secrets of being a stay at home mom, how she balances and brings harmony to her marriage, and reveals her best relationship advice.

Stephanie Hollman Reveals Best Relationship Advice

In order to stay connected and create closeness, Hollman, and her husband go to therapy once a week. They talk and pray about anything that is bothering them. They also have date nights every Friday to catch up with each other and have some alone time. "Our kids are respectful of that, you have to make your marriage important," she says. Children can sense when everything is not okay, so it is imperative to set a good example. "Harmony in the household makes a difference in the child's life," Hollman says.

At the end of the day, it all comes down to her children and husband, which are her utmost priority. Hollman and her husband are on the board of the domestic violence agency and they really hope that their children will follow in their footsteps. "I want my sons to treat women respectfully, be chivalrous, and open doors," she says. "I feel like that is lost now. People should make phone calls, not texts." She wants her sons' wives to look at her one day and say thank you for raising such great men. "My life is my children and my family, and as boring as it sounds, it's what makes me happy."

Related Link: [Celebrity Interview: Katherine Heigl Says "Family Comes First"](#)

Reality TV Star Talks About Authenticity In Celebrity Interview

New to the reality TV scene, Hollman wants viewers to walk away understanding that no one is perfect. She is a stay at home mom with a six-year-old and a four-year-old and she works hard to juggle their lives with the expectations of her husband, Travis Hollman. "I have little breakdowns, my husband

and I argue. People need to see we aren't all perfect," she says. Giving up her career as a social worker to have babies, Hollman wouldn't change a thing. "I have always been the girl who never tried to do anything out of my comfort zone," she revealed in our celebrity interview.

She was approached out of the blue to do 'RHOD' and wasn't looking for it. "I wanted to see what I was made of because if I didn't do it, I would have always wondered, what if," she adds. Her friend Amanda Ward had suggested her and Brandi Redmond to the producers, saying she had two girlfriends that are really goofy and always making people laugh. Within six weeks they were cast. Hollman and Redmond had been friends 10 years prior to the show. "I don't feel like I have to try. Sometimes it takes so much effort to have a conversation. It's not like that with Brandi," she adds. In their friendship, they are dedicated to talking everything out before it leads to a fight. "Our relationship is better than other people's marriages," Hollman says. The reality TV star hopes that it stays that way because she would never want to damage their friendship over a show. In terms of where she sees her career going next, the celebrity mom says that she just wants to live the journey God has for her. "If something comes out 'RHOD' career wise, that would be amazing," she says. Hollman hopes to use this experience to learn more about herself.

Related Link: [Celebrity Interview: 'RHOD' Star Cary Deuber Says Co-Star LeeAnne is "Loud and Obnoxious"](#)

Philanthropically, giving back has always been in her heart and she wants to be able to make a difference in the world. "I was born in a small town in Oklahoma and wasn't raised with the luxuries I have now," she shares. At times, her family members would struggle, but people reached out and supplied them with food when they needed it most. "I am now able to give back in a different light. I have the resources to financially make a difference for these charities," she says. Hollman leads the charitable contribution efforts for her

husband's company, Hollman Inc., but she doesn't work directly under him. "Bravo is very colorful. I appreciate that they have to be," she says. Her husband is obsessed with to-do lists and when he goes out of town he writes down what needs to be done. "He is such a great provider. He doesn't care what I spend. I think they were trying to make it like I had an allowance, but it's not like that at all," she says.

The Real Housewives of Dallas airs Mondays on Bravo at 10 p.m. EST.

You can keep up with Stephanie Hollman on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) @stephhollman.

Pregnant Megan Fox Is Rethinking Celebrity Divorce from Brian Austin Green, Says Source





[By Mary DeMaio](#)

No relationship is all sunshine, but two people can share one umbrella and weather the storm together. According to [UsMagazine.com](#), Megan Fox is contemplating the idea of getting back together with Brian Austin Green after their celebrity vacation in Hawaii. This [celebrity couple](#) is expecting their third child after almost six years of marriage. They tied the knot in June of 2010 and Fox filed for a [celebrity divorce](#) last August, having been separated six months prior to her filing. In latest [celebrity news](#), Green has done everything to try to convince her to stay together, even planning this trip back to Hualalai where they made their vows, sources said.

This celebrity divorce may not be happening after all! What are some ways to give your failing relationship one last shot?

Cupid's Advice:

It's never easy saying goodbye. Watching the moments become faint memories, slowly fading into oblivion. Just because things may be getting more difficult, doesn't mean you have to give up the life you starting building with someone. Cupid is here to share some ways with you:

1. Go on a private getaway together: Remove the stressful demands of everyday life and go to a place where you can just focus on each other. Taking time out of a busy schedule is often the best medicine.

Related Link: [Famous Couple Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie Enjoy A Weekend Celebrity Getaway Without Kids](#)

2. Find common goals: The aim is for both of you to share what you want your life to be about, where you want to end up and what these things mean to you. Look for anything that's common between the two of you and talk about ways to work toward that aspiration together.

Related Link: [What Can We Learn From Celebrity Divorces?](#)

3. Communicate problems and differences: Bring any issues to the surface to see if they can be fixed before walking away. Suppressing your feelings can be detrimental, not only to the relationship, but your internal disposition. Communication is key.

How do you know if you should stay in a weak relationship? Share your experience below.

Celebrity

Interview:

Hollywood Triple Threat Sugith Varughese Discusses New Role In 'The Girlfriend Experience'



Interview by [Lori Bizzoco](#). Written by [Mary DeMaio](#).

In the latest celebrity news, the famous Steven Soderbergh film turned television series, *The Girlfriend Experience*, premiered on Starz last night, April 10th. Fortunately, we had the chance to interview Indian-born Canadian actor Sugith Varughese, who plays Tariq Barr, the managing partner of the law firm where Christine works. For those who don't know the plot, Christine (played by Riley Keogh, daughter of Lisa Marie Presley) is a legal intern by day and a high-end escort

“girlfriend” at night.

In our exclusive [celebrity interview](#), Varughese opens up about the show, the casting of his character, and his long-term relationship off-screen.

Celebrity Interview: Sugith Varughese Talks Acting Experience

Being in the business for more than 20 years as a scriptwriter, actor, and director, Varughese thought he’d seen it all. However, one of the biggest surprises came about after his audition for *The Girlfriend Experience*. “I went in for a three-line part as an East Indian businessman who’s on the phone with his wife in Bombay just before he’s about to hire one of these escorts,” he explains. “I used an Indian accent for that part.” His agent called soon after and said that he “didn’t get that role.” Instead, they cast him for a major role in the series, one intended, he says, for a strong white male character. “The producers had a new vision and even changed my character’s name to reflect my background,” he adds.

Related Link: [Celebrity Interview: ‘Flesh and Bone’ Star Karell Williams Talks Relationship Advice, Saying, “Be True, Be Real, Be Vulnerable”](#)

For Varughese, it was important that Barr has tremendous confidence, power and status. “Here is a guy who is Indian-American and a managing partner of the biggest patent law office in Chicago,” he says. “He didn’t get that job because his dad owned the firm. He’s going to be somebody who had to be twice as good as everyone else to get where he got.”

Even the way his character dressed was significant to the actor, who noted that he spoke with the costume designer and tried to make Barr’s suit more distinctive. “It was a great

opportunity to bring a lot to the performance because the part wasn't already laid out like a regular television show," he says. In fact, he didn't even know what was going to happen to his character until the week of shooting. "We didn't get the scripts in advance," he shares.

Given the most recent controversy with the Oscars and the trending hashtag #OscarsSoWhite, there is clearly a problem in terms of recognizing diverse film-making and acting talent. Varughese believes that many of the nominees who should have been on the Oscars stage weren't there. "I think that the industry itself is changing, but I don't know if the recognition side of the industry has caught up," he says in our celebrity interview. "It is important that the people who are doing it and being successful at it are acknowledged as much as anyone else."

Actor Reveals His Best Relationship Advice

In terms of celebrity relationships, it's no surprise that dating an actor can be tough. Jealously, competition, and conflicting work schedules aren't easy to handle. Depending on the person, finding that balance can be a bit of a struggle. Luckily for Varughese, his long-term partner doesn't work in show business. "The balance is all on my part, and it is up and down," he says. "She is able to keep things on a more even keel."

Staying true to yourself, he says, is the most important relationship advice he can give. "The world is divided between us and them," he explains. "It's important to emphasize the values that you want in your life in order to make sure that your partner measures up and is consistent with your principles or convictions." Varughese shares that he and his significant other couldn't be more different in terms of personality, career, and background. However, the one – and

most important – thing they have in common is their core values, including family and love. As a result, they don't have many conflicts. "If you have the same values, you have a shot at making a relationship work," he says. "If you don't have the same values, but you're both actors, I don't know if it will work out."

Related Link: [Relationship Advice: Understand What You Don't Want](#)

As for what's next, Varughese recently finished shooting a pilot in Vancouver – and it was another part that was originally cast for someone completely different. "It's an exciting time for actors of diverse backgrounds," he says. "There is now a chance to come into your own and not be judged by ethnicity but by your abilities."

You can keep up with Varughese on Twitter [@SugithVarughese](#). Tune in for The Girlfriend Experience on Starz!

Product Review: Make Life Easier for You and Your Family with BubbleBum, Poli, and Booginhead





This post is sponsored by BubbleBum, Poli, and Booginhead.

By [Mary DeMaio](#)

When you're a parent and constantly on-the-go, your life can be stressful and overwhelming. You're always moving the booster seat in and out of the car. Your little ones spill milk or juice on the floor everyday. And then, there's dinner time! It can sometimes take an hour just to get little Johnny to eat his chicken nuggets. Believe it or not, there are a few products on the market that make parenting a little bit easier. In our [product review](#) below, check out some great items that both you and your baby are sure to love.

Use This Product Review to Make Life Easier

First, the [BubbleBum](#) is an inflatable car booster seat that guarantees your child's safety and makes travel a lot smoother. It is portable, lightweight and for children between the ages of 4 and 11. This must-have product easily inflates

and deflates, which makes it effortless to take along on vacations, beach days, or trips to Grandma's house.

The next product that will make your life simpler is the Poli Sippy Cup. The [Poli Sippy Cup](#) is easy to clean and is BPA-, phosphates-, and lead-free. It has an easy flow of liquids so your child doesn't have any tummy discomfort and also has a soft-chew resistant spout for babies that are teething. There are nursery rhymes featured on every cup, which promote early reading skills.

Finally, thanks to [Booginhead](#), dinner time will never be stressful again. This cool line of Super Power themed tableware and accessories will definitely keep your child entertained throughout the meal. The days of chasing them around the kitchen table with a spoon are behind you. These products have an interesting way of captivating children's attention with their branded plate colors and bold words that pop. From cups and utensils to plates, these dinner sets are perfect for mixing and matching.

The three items in this product review are sure to make the days much less complicated and chaotic for the entire family. You and your partner will be happy that you have restored order back into your lives (at least for a little while).

For more information about the products mentioned above, check out [BubbleBum](#), [USA Poli](#), and [BooginHead](#).

Baby Fever: Dress and Wrap

Your Child in Celebrity Style with These Comfortable & Cozy Products



This post is sponsored by The Feltman Brothers and The Ollie World.

By [Mary DeMaio](#)

[The Feltman Brothers](#) and [The Ollie World](#) bring you the softest, most comfortable and stylish fashion and swaddles for your baby. The Feltman Brothers offer a number of options, from durable newborn pieces to cost-conscious toddler outfits. Your baby will have celebrity style in no time. You and your partner will love dressing your little sweetheart and may even cause you to catch [baby fever](#) (again). The new line is eco-

friendly and is made from cotton from Peru. The Ollie World offers a chic designed swaddle line, The Nature Collection, in which lovely pastel colors are sleep inducing and calming for your little one. Both products are a celebrity style must-have this season!

Celebrity Style: Keep your baby trendy and comfortable in these new collections.

With the new collections from The Feltman Brothers and The Ollie World, the perfect baby essentials are right at your fingertips. In the Pima Cotton Collection from the Feltman Brothers, your child will have everything from blankets, to hats and rompers. With this collection, the Peruvian cotton is made to last over multiple wearings and washings.

“Feltman’s provides the world with authentic and timeless fashion for babies in classic tradition,” states the website. “This reputation is the result of a strong commitment to quality, incomparable fabrics, exclusive designs, and attention to detail.”

Related Link: [Celebrity Babies Ride In Style With The Diono Pacifica Car Seat](#)

As for The Ollie World, their new Nature Collection is sure to help comfort your baby to sleep. Not only because of the softness of their fabrics, but because of the lavender, sky, nest, and stone colors.

They offer a variety of swaddle options featuring the “Ollie Swaddle,” which keeps your baby tightly bundled while regulating their temperature. Using Ollie swaddles help babies stay comfortable and cool, and reduces the risk of overheating. It also allows for quick access to diaper changes

and is made to grow with your baby through important transitional stages, while supporting them as they hit significant developmental milestones. If baby fever strikes again, you will be all set with the Ollie Swaddle.

Related Link: [Olivia Wilde Discusses the Pros and Cons of Parenthood](#)

Both of these unique lines will have your child dressed in fashionable celebrity style from head to toe, and kept comfortably cozy during nighttime and naps. The only issue you will have is deciding which colors to choose from!

For more information, check out [The Feltman Brother's](#) and [The Ollie World's](#) websites.

Relationship Advice: Author Dave Kerpen Talks 11 People Skills and Dating Tips





[By Mary DeMaio](#)

Being able to build strong relationships and treat people with respect will establish understanding and trust, some of the most substantial components in any relationship. The way we communicate and the connections we develop, set the foundation for creating more meaningful relationships. Dave Kerpen's new self-help book offers 53 simple tips to help master the 11 people skills that will get you more of what you wish for at work, at home, and in life. His book, *The Art of People: 11 Simple People Skills That Will Get You Everything You Want* discusses what it takes to win success and influence in today's competitive world. In this exclusive author interview, Kerpen shares his best [relationship advice](#) revealing some dating tips to improve your romantic life.

Author Opens Up on Best Relationship Advice to Incorporate

People Skills

To start, we are so excited for your book to come out! Can you give us some background on what inspired you to write this book?

The inspiration for *The Art of People* was, well, people. All of the amazing people I have been fortunate enough to meet along the way have had a huge impact on me – most of all, my wife Carrie. In fact, my mother-in-law called the book “a giant love letter.” Plus, as I wrote and talked about my first 2 books, *Likeable Social Media* and *Likeable Business*, I realized that the people skills I was writing about didn’t just apply to social media or business- they applied to all relationships, in and out of work.

Related Link: [5 Top People Tools for Relationships and Love](#)

If romantic relationships are based on trust and sincerity, how can you apply the 11 people skills you discuss to your romantic life?

There are countless ways to apply the 11 people skills and 53 strategies I wrote about to your romantic life. It’s about sincerely listening and seeking to understand, mirroring and validating your partner, following the conflict resolution process I discuss when things go wrong, and remaining authentic and grateful.

Which skills do you feel can be applied to both a romantic and professional relationship? How are they used in the same way?

All of the skills presented can be applied to any kind of relationship. If you have any relationship problems, a few that stand out as being particularly applicable to both professional and romantic relationships are understanding others, reading others, and being able to resolve conflict. Being able to effectively understand and read others on a deep

level is crucial whether you share a house with someone or just a meeting room.

Our visitors are always looking for advice on how to make the most of their personal lives, what people skills do you feel are most important in a romantic relationship?

My relationship advice is to listen, listen, and then listen some more. Try to get out of your own perspective for a little while and try to truly listen and understand your significant other. The key to a successful relationship is the platinum rule: Instead of doing unto others as you'd like done to yourself, understand your partner well enough to do unto him as you know he would like done!

Related Link: [How to Campaign for a Better Relationship](#)

How can these 11 people skills sustain a relationship over a long period of time?

The best way to answer this question is to look at a relationship as an extended series of small day-to-day interactions. If you don't make a conscious effort to improve your people skills today, you likely won't notice any immediate difference. However, making numerous small improvements now will have a big impact on your relationship down the road. And when it doubt, remember the basics: listening, understanding, and gratitude. One more, that my wife has taught me well: It's better to be happy than right.

What is the most important message readers should walk away with after reading this book?

I want readers to know that people skills are something that can be learned! I truly believe that it's possible to create more meaningful relationships in life by trying to better understand yourself and the people around you, listen better, help them get what they want, and guide them to help you get what you want.

The Art of People: 11 Simple People Skills That Will Get You Everything You Want can be ordered now on [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com). For more Dave Kerpen visit <http://davekerpen.ceo/> and <http://www.likeablelocal.com/>.

Celebrity Couple News: Gwen Stefani Wears Sheer Dress with Blake Shelton at Oscars After-Party



[By Mary DeMaio](#)

In those high heels with that scarlet dress, Blake Shelton's eyes haven't seen anything quite like Gwen Stefani. According to UsMagazine.com, Stefani stepped out in a sheer Yanina Couture dress at the *Vanity Fair* party that followed the Oscars. It has been a busy couple of days for these two sweethearts in a [celebrity relationship](#). In latest [celebrity news](#), Stefani flew into Kansas City to watch the country star in concert. The next day, the [celebrity couple](#) attended a wedding in Nashville and were inseparable, holding hands and putting their arms around each other during the nuptials.

This celebrity couple news proves that Gwen and Blake are still basking in the glow of their new relationship! What are some things to look forward to at the beginning of a new relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

There is nothing like crossing paths with someone and instantly connecting. Some souls just understand each other long before they ever meet. So much excitement comes about with a new relationship. Cupid is here to share some of those special things to anticipate:

1. The first kiss: You know you like each other, but you want to get a taste for that chemistry. Once your lips touch, you will be able to see if those sparks really fly. It is a huge stepping stone in your relationship.

Related Link: [5 Tips for Awesome Lips Your First Kiss](#)

2. Your next date night: You can never get enough of each

other. The minutes apart slowly tick by, but it's worth it because every time you get together, your heart can't help but race with excitement. You don't need to be doing anything special; having them right by your side is enough.

Related Link: [Relationship Advice: 10 Emotional Stages of Being in a New Relationship](#)

3. The first "I Love You": When you know it's the right person and are ready to admit how much you truly care, confessing your feelings as you gaze up into a smile that makes it seem there is no place on earth they'd rather be, is something that the two of you will always remember.

What are some things you can't wait for in a new relationship? Share in the comments below.

Relationship Advice: Author Kira Asatryan Talks Loneliness and Relationship Problems





Interview by [Emma Malefakis](#). Written by [Mary DeMaio](#)

Everyone experiences loneliness at some point in their life. Loneliness isn't just something that happens when we are physically separated, but can also arise in the presence of others when we fail to build strong connections. The new self-help book by certified relationship coach Kira Asatryan, gives readers [relationship advice](#) on how to create closeness to fulfill human interaction. Her book, *Stop Being Lonely: Three Simple Steps to Developing Close Friendships and Deep Relationships* suggests many helpful approaches for satisfying long-term relationships, as well as casual companionship's through knowing and caring for others. In this exclusive author interview, Asatryan talks about how closeness is established on a deeper level to understand people from their own perspective.

Author Opens Up On Best Relationship Advice When Feeling

Lonely

To start, we love the premise of *Stop Being Lonely*. Can you give us some background on what inspired you to write this book?

I have been interested in the topic of loneliness for years because I have experienced a lot of it myself over the course of my life. I found it really frustrating and confusing mainly because I have always had relationships with people and always had people in my life, so I didn't quite understand why that wasn't enough to make me not feel lonely all the time. That is why I wanted to explore the distinction between having people in your life and having a certain quality in one's relationship.

Related Link: [Kate Gosselin Reveals She's Lonely on Dr. Drew](#)

What do you feel the primary cause of loneliness is in our culture?

There are a number of things that have made it so that people are becoming lonelier. The trends say that the amount of people feeling lonely is increasing. It is up 30 percent over the last couple of years. One thing that is sort of crazy to me is that we have more and more access to each other than we ever had before through technology specifically. It is an interesting counter-intuitive thing that we have more access to people and yet loneliness is increasing.

How would you say online dating impacts loneliness in a relationship? Can you explain if it sets a precedent for communicating only via email/text?

Online dating is starting to be studied in depth both how people use it and how it is affecting people. At this point, the results are that online dating is just really complicated. Both men and women are struggling with how to interact with

each other over these mediums. I think you are right, it does set a precedent of leading these relationships through text, email and messaging. One thing we do know is that you cannot get very close to somebody unless you interact with them in person.

Related Link: [Relationship Author Daisy Buchanan Shares Her Dating Advice For 'Meeting Your Match' Online](#)

You mention that the cure to loneliness is closeness. Can you explain how closeness would cure loneliness in a romantic relationship?

In the social science world, people tend to typically say intimacy when they are talking about romantic relationships. To me, intimacy encompasses what I define as closeness and also the sexual component. I talk mostly about the closeness component because it applies to more relationships than just your sexual relationship. Closeness, as I define it, is direct access to another person's inner world. I say that it is the antidote to loneliness because the kind of loneliness that we are experiencing these days is not really a lack of people, it is a lack of feeling like we can really understand each other and that we are really valued by the people in our lives. So closeness kind of minimizes that internal distance that we are feeling, which creates the feeling of loneliness.

What advice would you give to a couple who has relationship problems and is struggling with loneliness?

Loneliness in romantic couples is challenging because if you are already in a committed relationship, say a marriage, you have to start at a different place than you would if this was a new person that you just met. In general, I say people should create closeness by knowing and caring. Knowing means getting to know the person on a deeper level and understanding them from their own perspective. Caring means showing them that you are interested and that you matter to them. For

couples who are already married or in a committed relationship, I would start with the caring part because the couple that has been married for 10 years would typically say we know everything about each other. Whether or not that is actually true, that is what they believe. Caring and showing the other person that you appreciate them or support them can really diminish quickly in a marriage, so bolstering that side of it up can make a huge difference.

What dating advice would you give to someone who is holding out and not dating because they haven't met anyone who has all the criteria on their checklist?

I would say that there is value to taking that step to meet someone in person if you are at all interested in them. Don't go into a date prepared that the other person might be totally terrible and you might regret doing it. My relationship advice is to view it as an opportunity to get to know the person, especially if this is an online situation. It is basically impossible to know if someone is a good fit for you on deeper level through the online stuff. So as painful as it can be, if you can get yourself out there to meet them, I think that is the right thing to do.

Stop Being Lonely: Three Simple Steps to Developing Close Friendships and Deep Relationships *is available now on [Amazon](#). For more on Kira Asatryan visit the [Stop Being Lonely website](#) and check out Kira's twitter at <https://twitter.com/kiraasatryan>.*

Flash Your Own Red Carpet

Bling On Your Next Date Night



This post is sponsored by Cate & Chloe.

[By Mary DeMaio](#)

Awards season has come and gone and the celebs have left us dreaming of the hottest jewelry trends. How we wish we could afford their jewelry selections! [Cate & Chloe Jewelry](#) makes it possible to take a piece of Hollywood with you this season with their red carpet inspired jewelry. They add glamour into your everyday life with high quality designs, from the office to the red carpet. If you're looking for something special your next [date night](#) that your sweetheart will remember, these stylish rings are sure to do the trick.

Wear Cate & Chole Jewelry Your Next Date Night

1. [The Elizabeth "Faithful" 18K Gold Swarovski Ring](#) (\$169.00). This ring is dressed in crystal stones with a touch of 18K yellow gold that shimmers from the lighting in any room. It is easy to see why ladies admire them: they make a statement.
2. [The Demi "Divine" Ring](#) (\$59.00). This ring features a delicate twist design finished with two tiny CZ stones on each end. It's a unique yet timeless piece to add to your gold collection.
3. [The Carmen "Lively" Cage Ring](#) (\$55.00) –Without a doubt, this ring is a head spinner. It is an attention grabbing piece which definitely adds some edge to your style, lining your finger with four gold rings crafted into one.

All these pieces are sure to give you an extra bit of sparkle your next date night out! The glamour simply cannot be ignored. Not only will he admire your sense of style, he'll get a crystal clear, glistening idea of what you like and what kind of girl you are: one that's blingin' it!

Cate and Chloe Jewelry started with a simple idea – stylish, affordable jewelry for women. Life in the working world allows little time for each individual's inner creativity and fashion sense to shine. The company takes pride in finding elegant, versatile and timeless pieces to complement every woman's desires. View the latest items at

Sign up for the Cate & Chloe VIP subscription box to receive special pieces every month! Choose from three pieces like a necklace and earring set or keep it simple with one new item. Or you can be surprised with a handpicked item from one of Cate & Chloe's expert stylists. Extra perks like discounts and

first release designs are also included.

For more details or to sign up for the Cate & Chloe VIP subscription box, check out the [website](#).

Celebrity Couple Peter Facinelli & Jaimie Alexander End Engagement



[By Mary DeMaio](#)

The invitations were never sent for the union of Peter Facinelli and Jaimie Alexander. According to [UsMagazine.com](#),

this [celebrity couple](#) ended their engagement due to conflicting family and work commitments on opposite coasts. They got engaged last March and had been in a long-distance relationship while Jaimie filmed *Blind Spot* in NYC and Peter stayed in L.A. In latest [celebrity news](#), they have chosen to remain good friends with cordial communication.

This celebrity couple can't make it work because of the distance. What are some ways to make distance tolerable in a relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

It's important to remember that even when you're apart from that special person who makes your heart race, no matter where you both may be, you'll still be looking up at the same sky. Some relationships are worth weathering the storm. Cupid is here to share some ways to handle the separation:

1. Constant communication: With the technological advancements nowadays, texting, video chatting, and phone calls can make the mile radius dramatically decrease. Keep your partner in the loop with everything going on in your life, however mundane it may seem.

Related Link: [Love Advice For Making Your Long-Distance Relationship Work](#)

2. Set time aside for special visits: Make advanced plans to see each other in person to rekindle that spark in your relationship after all the yearning and absence. Don't make the other person feel like they don't fit into your life anymore.

Related Link: [Celebrity News: Bindi Irwin Makes First Red](#)

[Carpet Appearance with Boyfriend Chandler Powell](#)

3. Plan things to look forward to: To ease the pain of being apart, use your common interests to schedule trips or concerts to help the time pass quicker. Think positively about the future.

What are your ideas to making a long distance relationship last? Share below!

Date Idea: Have an Oscar Nominated Movie Date Night



This post is sponsored by On Demand.

[By Mary DeMaio](#)

With the Oscar's right around the corner, what better way to get in the spirit than curling up on the couch next to that special someone and catching up on the most popular nominated movies. Movies On Demand is the perfect [date idea](#) and visitors can find the timeliest titles and take part in an [Oscars Pool](#) right now. It's like a March Madness bracket for movies! Just go to the interactive site and pick your Oscar win predictions up until the start of the show on Sunday, February 28. Users can create their own pools or participate in others.

Check out some of the nominated movies available for a great date idea On Demand now!

What Oscar-nominated movies are available to you? You'll find *The Martian*, *Inside Out*, *Shaun the Sheep Movie*, *Straight Outta Compton*, *Bridge of Spies*, *Spectre*, *Trumbo*, and *Steve Jobs* to name a few. New titles will continue to premiere On Demand during the lead up to the Oscars. These brand new movie titles won't be released to the Netflix library for a very long time!

This movie date idea will help get you in the Oscar spirit before the weekend comes. And if you are into trivia, here are some fun facts that you could use on your friends:

Movie Fun Facts:

Straight Outta Compton: The actors re-recorded NWA's entire Straight Outta Compton album to help them get into character.

Martian: The Martian is based on a book which was initially self-published for free on a blog.

Bonus Fun Fact: Matt Damon is the only Best Actor nominee for this year's Oscars who is nominated for playing a fictional

character. All the other Best Actor nominees were nominated for playing historical figures.

Tune in this Sunday, February 28th to watch the 88th Academy Awards on ABC. Exclusive red carpet coverage begins at 7:00 p.m. EST/ 4:00 p.m. PST, immediately followed by the awards ceremony at 8:30 p.m. EST / 5:30 p.m. PST. Tune-in to ABC on your television or live stream the Oscars at ABC.com or the [WATCH ABC app](#).*

Celebrity Relationships: Kate Hudson Says 'I Am Dating'



[By Mary DeMaio](#)

There are plenty of fish in the sea, so why not go for a few different swims? That's exactly what [Kate Hudson](#) is up to at the moment. In latest [celebrity news](#), this [single celebrity](#) is making the most of her free time by hitting up the dating circuit. According to [UsMagazine.com](#), she has been hooking up on and off with [Nick Jonas](#). They have a great connection with one another, but it remains to be seen if there will be a [celebrity relationship](#) in the future!

Kate Hudson may or may not be in a celebrity relationship, but she's definitely dating around. What are some benefits to playing the field?

Cupid's Advice:

Finding that special someone isn't always easy. Sometimes you have to kiss a few frogs before you can get your prince, but that doesn't mean you can't enjoy the process. Cupid is here to share some benefits to dating around:

1. Pinpoint the qualities you are looking for: Use your dates to learn about what you need in a partner, and compare those attributes between the people you are seeing.

Related Link: [Justin Bieber Say's He's a Single Celebrity and 'Ready to Mingle'](#)

2. Be in control: Fun dates with many people keeps you in the driver's seat. You won't waste time getting emotionally invested with people who do not have your best interest at heart.

Related Link: [Jake Gyllenhaal Spends Time With Three Eligible](#)

3. Expand your options: Getting to know someone intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually takes time. While you are still technically single, you should really try to get acquainted before making that commitment.

What are some other advantages of casually dating? Share your comments below.

Dating Advice: Authors of 'The Marriage Test' Reveal How To Confirm Compatibility Before Vows





[By Mary DeMaio](#)

Perhaps one of the most important decisions you can make is deciding who that special someone should be waiting at the end of the aisle. In the new self-help book by Jill Andres and Brook Silva-Braga, the couple shares their best [dating advice](#) on the issues that can strengthen or terminate a relationship and love prior to their union. Their book, *The Marriage Test: Our 40 Dates Before 'I Do,'* is designed to test the depth and durability of the relationship to see if their love can survive real life scenarios through 40 simulating challenges. This book is sure to give you a few interesting date ideas! In this exclusive author interview, the duo talks about their dating advice to confirm compatibility before proclaiming any VOWS.

Relationship Authors Open Up On Best Dating Advice Before Saying 'I

Do '

To start, we are so excited for your new book! Can you give us some background on what made you decide to open up about your dating experiences?

Jill: After dating for several years, we reached a point that a lot of couples face: You really love each other, but it's hard to know if you should get married when the things that cause problems – sharing finances, raising a family – you don't typically face when you're dating. So we came up with activities to test ourselves and our relationship before making that big decision. We learned so much going through this test that we thought other couples could benefit from hearing our story!

Related Link: [Relationship Advice: Authors of 'The Marriage Boot Camp' Reveal How to Build A Rock Solid Relationship and Love](#)

What made you choose forty dating challenges, not more or less? And how did you decide what obstacles you should do together?

Brook: It could have been more or less but 40 gave us a chance to try lots of different things in a lot of different categories. We started by thinking of ways to simulate some of the problems married people face—*Oh we could swap credit cards*—and then when we started telling people about the idea they all had their own suggestions for dates to try.

In what ways do these dating challenges prove that you are compatible with someone? Can you explain which one is the most beneficial in strengthening a relationship?

Jill: More than anything, they show your willingness to work through hard things because the activities are designed to cause tension. We cut our budget in half for a month and it

really stressed our relationship more than we thought it would. But it also helped prove that we could get past that tension and still want to be together.

Related Link: [Four Dates and a Wedding](#)

I'm sure you have some interesting stories from trying out all of these dates! Can you each describe a funny or unusual situation that you found yourself in on these dates?

Brook: We did a date where we went out with each other's exes and both those afternoons were memorable. First, we went out with Jill's ex-boyfriend and he spent the whole lunch talking about how he'd never met anyone as good as Jill—I was afraid he might try to take her back. Then, we went out with my ex-girlfriend and she spent an hour and a half explaining why her husband is better than me. I was glad when that date was over.

Jill: We spent a week trying to simulate having a newborn and not letting ourselves sleep for more than three hours at a time. Then we'd have to finish a chore like doing laundry or cleaning our bathroom. By the end of the week I was a walking zombie, barely able to get through the day. It wasn't so funny at the time but it's funny to think back on.

After going on these 40 dates, we have to ask...How do you both feel these marriage tests prepared you for your own marriage?

Brook: I really think they prepared us well. They forced us to discuss some awkward stuff that otherwise we would have avoided as long as we could. Instead, by the time we got married, we had worked through lots of hard stuff—like what religion we'd raise our kids and how we would change our last names—it made our first year of marriage pretty worry-free.

Our visitors are always looking for advice on how to make the most of their personal lives. So what advice would you give to couples who are struggling to keep the spark alive in their

relationship?

Jill: In a word: communication—do more of it. As for the sexual spark, we did a couple fun activities people can try. For a week we dared ourselves to have a different kind of sex every day—it was a good way to get out of old bedroom habits. We also did a date called “Sex Seen,” where we agreed to re-create every love scene we saw in TV and the movies.

On the other hand, what message do you have for readers who are struggling to break up with their partner, even though they know it’s the right thing to do?

Jill: Be brave. Ending up with someone who isn’t the right fit isn’t good for either partner. It’s better for both of you to break up sooner rather than later and start moving on. Plus, imagine how painful it would feel to your partner if they found out you’d been considering breaking up with them for a while.

What is the most important message readers should walk away with after reading this book?

Brook: It’s hard to be honest with yourself and your partner about the shortcomings in a relationship. Especially for a couple who are serious enough to be considering marriage. Your lives are so intertwined that the possibility of breaking up is really scary. But our love advice is that we think it’s much better to honestly confront those things now than pushing them off or wishing them away.

Lastly, do you have any other upcoming projects or anything else you’d like to share with our readers?

Jill: We’re inviting other couples to try some of the dates and tell us how it goes—their stories are being published on our blog. You can go to themarriagetestbook.com/quiz to get some date suggestions.

The Marriage Test: Our 40 Dates Before 'I Do' is available now on [Amazon](#). For more on Jill Andres and Brook Silva-Braga visit The Marriage Test [website](#) and check out Jill's Twitter at <https://twitter.com/jillyjill7>.

Celebrity Divorce: Hilary Duff & Mike Comrie Finalize Divorce 2 Years After Split



By [Mary DeMaio](#)

The final chapter has come to an end for [Hilary Duff](#) and Mike

Comrie as husband and wife. According to [UsMagazine.com](https://www.usmagazine.com), the former [celebrity couple](#) finalized their [celebrity divorce](#) on January 28, after initially splitting up in January of 2014. These celebrity exes had been married for three years prior to their split and will have joint custody in efforts to create an environment that is healthy for their son Luca.

This celebrity divorce is official. What are some ways to determine whether divorce is the answer?

Cupid's Advice:

It can be hard to hold on, but sometimes even more difficult to let go of the life you built with someone. You shouldn't always assume the grass is greener. Cupid is here to share some ways with you:

1. Go back to what brought you together: Travel to that place in time of when and how you first fell in love. Try to resurrect that special spark in your relationship and see if the feelings are still there.

Related Link: [What Can We Learn From Celebrity Divorces?](#)

2. Don't harbor anger: Constant fighting isn't going to improve the situation. Look below the surface to understand what the root of the problem is and if it can be fixed.

Related Link: [Celebrity Divorce: Yolanda Foster & David Foster Announce Split](#)

3. Seek professional advice: Sometimes speaking in front of a third party may help you and your partner figure out ways to cope with the issues, providing an objective standpoint to see if anything else can be done.

How do know if it is time to end your marriage? Share your experience below.