Celebrity Interview: Virtually In Love's Kansas Discusses Falling In Love Online





Interviewed and Written by <a>Cortney Moore.

Kansas met Natiece on Instagram, which many wouldn't think of as a reliable platform for dating, but they made it work and began a relationship. This story isn't too unusual in this day and age. However, their story is just one of the many relationships followed on Oxygen's newest reality TV show, Virtually in Love. This show that has been a hit with audiences since its debut because it takes online dating faceto-face. Couples on the show encounter their own series of

challenges, and Kansas and Natiece were no exception. With sneak peeks of their episode released by Oxygen, Kansas and Natiece have not been completely honest with each other. Will love prevail? Cupid had the pleasure of getting to know Kansas and heard her side of the story in our exclusive celebrity interview.

Virtually In Love's Kansas discusses online relationships & provides relationship advice in celebrity interview.

It would seem that specialized dating websites are no longer the only tool for making a connection online. In an unlikely series of events, the photo sharing app, Instagram, brought Kansas and Natiece together. "Well, when I saw her, she had posted something sad," Kansas said regarding their first online encounter. "When I see people post sad things I just let them know that if they need someone to talk to, they can talk to me. And she wanted to talk, so that's what happened." Their initial interactions were platonic. Kansas helped Natiece get through a break-up she was going through, and as time went on, the pair eventually found themselves in a relationship.

Related Link: Dating Advice Q&A: How Can You Know If Someone is Being Honest Online?

Kansas, who also happens to be a Kansas state native, wasn't worried about meeting the North Carolina basketball star. She admits that she was more concerned about whether or not she could fulfill Natiece's expectations. In regard to her first reality TV appearance, Kansas said, "It was fun in a sense." However, at the same time, she was there to meet Natiece and get to know her better. "We had stuff that we wanted to talk

about, and it kind of felt like we were talking to everybody." Despite the cameras following their journey, Kansas expresses gratitude at having an opportunity to share her story.

As seen in past episodes of *Virtually in Love*, the couples aren't only meeting each other for the first time, but are also facing their issues head on. Online video teasers released by Oxygen show that Kansas and Natiece have been keeping secrets from each other. For instance, Natiece refrains from telling Kansas that she was engaged before and still holds on to her ring. Also, Kansas doesn't tell Natiece that she had been seeing someone else for a time, while also keeping her relationship with Natiece a secret from her mother. To shed some light on her actions, Kansas explained, saying, "I didn't know what to expect, that's why I wasn't really ready to say anything." Pertaining to the situation that involved her mother, who doesn't approve of same-sex relationships, Kansas said, "I thought it'd be better to have [Natiece] there." Kansas went on to say that having Natiece present when she talked to her mother would force her to tell the truth about her sexuality.

When asked whether or not a long distance relationship impacted her views positively or negatively, Kansas said that her experience has been both. "I've had, with dating online, good experiences and bad experiences. I think it could be very similar to dating someone in real life, except they're not there." Additionally, Kansas expresses her sadness at the tragedy that unfolded in Orlando this past week at the Pulse nightclub. "It didn't just affect the victims and their families; I feel that it affected the whole United States." Kansas also went on to express that she believes the world needs to stop hating and start loving. "We just got to figure out where to start."

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: Virtually In Love's Iyanya</u>
Discusses His Online Relationship

When it comes to <u>relationship advice</u> and online dating tips, Kansas believes it's important to do research and stay true to oneself. "If you're going to do it, go in a hundred percent because you don't know what the other person is feeling for you," Kansas said. "You don't want to be confused in an online relationship." After her experience on the show, Kansas stresses honesty as the best policy, but of course online daters need to do their research to avoid instances like catfishing. "Be yourself," she advised. "If you start off being yourself there won't be any surprises."

Keep up with Kansas and Natiece's relationship on *Virtually in Love*, and find out if they stayed together or drifted apart.

Virtually in Love airs on Tuesdays at 9 p.m. ET/PT on Oxygen Media.

Celebrity Interview: Lifestyle Coach Laura Baron Talks Relationship Advice





By Mackenzie Scibetta

If you're looking for guidance or direction in your life then listening to the unapologetic and uncompromising lifestyle coach Laura Baron may be just what you need. With a background in television, Baron has appeared on countless reality TV shows such as Bad Girls Club and You're Cut Off, giving contestants a taste of her own philosophy regarding career tips, relationship advice and family affairs. Baron is returning to the small screen as a relationship expert on Oxygen's new show Fix My Mom, which premieres tonight at 9/8 c, where she will tackle the issue of complicated mother-daughter duos who need serious help mending their bond. In our exclusive celebrity interview, Laura Baron offers her professional take on reality TV, dating and divorce.

Timeless Relationship Advice from Reality TV Life Coach

In your experience, where have you found that women are most in need of a life coach? And, at what age do you feel this is

most common?

My private clients range from late twenties to late forties. They're usually at a transitional point whether it be in a relationship and love, a job, or getting back to who they really are. A woman reminding herself of her true value is often the underlying theme. But any age and any time is the right time, as long as she's ready to do the work!

Related Link: Relationship Advice on Financial Infidelity

One of the mother-daughter groups faces a problem because the mother is dating younger men. What advice do you have for mother's who are on the dating scene and don't want to upset their children?

This shouldn't be about upsetting the children, this should be about setting expectations that EVERY member of the family deserves happiness. I don't subscribe to the idea that mother's should put their lives on hold to satisfy their kids. It's strengthening for kids to see that mom is also a woman and there is life outside of the family. They will grow up with less guilt that their mom sacrificed everything and less obligation to be her sole support. In the process, moms can have open discourse to assure their kids understand she's not looking to replace them or their father, but merely looking to add more love and support into their lives.

When is it the right time for a parent to start dating again after a divorce or tough break-up? And, how do they ease back into it if they have been out of the dating game for a long time?

The time is right when that parent feels ready. It's not about the action of going out to date, it's about the communication at home to make sure the kids feel safe and loved. They can ease back in by starting to have more social times with their same sex friends. Establishing a social life outside of the home is often the first hurdle parents have to get over. Then,

get open and say hello.

We see it time and time again, women settle for second best and end up in unhealthy relationships. What is the one piece of advice you would give to someone to help them avoid or break this pattern?

To avoid getting in a toxic relationship, before you date others, date yourself. People who get into sub-standard relationships are looking to fill a need. Get honest with what you're working with, so you can both better take care of yourself and also look out for where you're letting someone in for the wrong reasons.

Related Link: Exclusive Celebrity Interview: Former 'Bachelor' Chris Soules Says His Dating Life is "Relatively Non-Exsistent"

What are three red flags (not obvious ones) that a woman can look for to know whether or not she is in a toxic relationship from the very beginning?

- 1. Pattern of control. Unhealthy partners want to control you and it usually starts small. You deserve authority over all decisions you make.
- 2. Rude behavior. How people treat others who cannot ultimately 'benefit them' (i.e. waitstaff) is who they ultimately are. Someone who is comfortable belittling or being rude to another human regardless of their perceived status is going to eventually treat you the same way.
- 3. Woman power. There are men who love women and men who do not. You can tell by how he talks about women, treats the women in his life, and ultimately how he treats you. Choose a man who loves women, that simple.

What is the best lesson viewers can take away from watching Fix My Mom?

Change is not limited to these women. Yes, they worked their tails off. Please allow that dedication to inspire you, that

ANY RELATIONSHIP CAN HEAL, as long as both people are committed. And as long as women support each other ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE!

If you want to read more about Laura Baron or receive more advice then check out her website, www.asklaurabaron.com/ or follow her on Twitter @asklaurabaron and www.facebook.com/asklaurabaron. Don't forget to tune into Fix My Mom tonight on Oxygen at 9/8 c.

Exclusive Celebrity
Interview: 'Player Gets
Played' Stars Discuss Moving
On After Infidelity





By Rebecca White

Moving on is never an easy thing to do, but when the relationship and love ends due to infidelity, it's even harder. In a new Oxygen Media reality TV series titled *Player Gets Played*, each week, one woman with a lurking suspicion uncovers the heartbreaking reality that she is not the only love in her boyfriend's life. Once these ladies discover the truth, they join together to teach their "player" boyfriend a lesson. In our exclusive celebrity interview, four of the stars of the show open up about being cheated on and building trust with a new partner.

Reality TV Stars Open Up About Dating After Infidelity in Exclusive Celebrity Interview

Brittany, Meghan, Nyira, and Jessica all have one thing in common: Their boyfriends cheated on them, and now, they have to open themselves up to love again. "After being cheated on, it took me awhile to finally move on and give someone a chance to even walk up and talk to me," Brittany shares. "I am still not in the right 'place' to get back into a relationship."

Related Link: You've Cheated, So Now What?

While Brittany wanted to take some time before entering a new relationship and love, Nyira was ready to jump right back in. "It took me about a month to move on," she says. "I couldn't allow myself to dwell in that hurt. I just prayed, forgave, and let it go."

Once you move on, though, there's still a long way to go. Meghan and Jessica both understand that trusting a new partner isn't as easy as it used to be. "I've moved on, but I don't let down my walls, and I've become more difficult to penetrate mentally, physically, and emotionally," Jessica shares in our exclusive celebrity interview. "I find that, with a new partner, he has to love me more. I know how to love and be faithful in a relationship, so if he loves me more, then I feel like we're equal. I don't think he'll cheat because he appreciates me more than just in a physical sense."

Meghan also learned that she no longer trusts as easily. "I actually don't let my walls down so quickly," she explains. "I always trusted any guy, but now, I don't trust someone until it is earned."

While trusting a new partner after infidelity isn't easy, it's important not to judge every relationship based on previous ones. "If I go into another relationship expecting to be cheated on, then it's going to happen!" Jessica says. "Our thoughts create action. The thing is, you can never tell. You just need to give every person their own blank piece of paper and let them have a fresh, untainted start."

Related Link: <u>Can Cheaters Ever Change?</u>

Brittany also believes that you need a clean slate in order to

build a new flame. "Once you start dating, you have to let your guard down a little, or you will never know if there is a connection between you and the other person," she shares.

No matter what, you have to keep taking chances. When asked about their best love advice, these reality TV stars encourage you to be patient. "You can't go your entire life being scared to love," Nyira says. "Yes, you may get hurt, but you will grow stronger from it. Then one day, that special man that you have been dreaming about will come and sweep you off your feet. Those walls will slowly come down until there is a heart full of love, ready to meet another. Once those two hearts meet, a beautiful love will blossom."

For more information about Player Gets Played, check out their website, www.oxygen.com/player-gets-played! Be sure to watch the show on Oxygen on Wednesdays at 9:30/8:30c.

'Bad Girls All-Star Battle' Host Ray J Says a Bad Girl Is "Confident, Sassy and Independent"





By <u>Sarah Ribeiro</u>

He may be notorious for being a bad boy, but now, Ray J is hanging out with a bunch of bad girls. The singer, actor and reality television star will be hosting Oxygen's *Bad Girls All-Star Battle*, which takes 14 of the most popular ladies from *Bad Girls Club* and pits them against each other, competing for 100,000 dollars and the title of "Baddest Bad Girl of All Time."

After appearing on his own show For the Love of Ray J, he is once again surrounded by girls — but this time, he says it's all professional. "Being on a dating show with all these girls trying to be with you is a whole different concept from being on a show with the baddest bad girls on the planet," he says. "So I looked at it as a new challenge. It's a step up to me from anything I've done so far."

Of course, it's no secret that Ray J knows all about bad girls. His history with Kim Kardashian — and their sex tape — is still a big identifier for the singer. His newest single "I Hit It First" is a definite shout-out to Kardashian and her

new beau Kanye West.

Related Link: <u>Kim Kardashian Wears Floral Dress at Punk-Themed</u> Met Gala with Kanye West

One thing has changed though: Ray J can now tell who's a bad girl and who isn't. According to the musician, a bad girl is "a girl who never gives up, who is confident in herself, who has been through things. Maybe she's been knocked down and got right back up. She keeps fighting and keeps moving forward. And a true bad girl has been through some tough things but is still a winner and continues to go on with her life as a champion."

His new gig on Bad Girls All-Star Battle has even shown him that every bad girl has a good side too. "Some of these girls are coming on this show to win this money for real positive reasons. There is a single mom trying to win the money to help her daughter have a better life. Another bad girl is trying to help her brother get out of foster care. It's a great show with challenges, but there's also some real substance."

It's this substance, he says, that helped him become a good host: "You want to know certain things about somebody that you trust and care about. For the show, I had to go deep with the questions. I had to really get inside of the girls' minds and understand their angle, their plan, their emotions."

Ray J has also grown on a personal level and adds, "It has helped me become more honest with the people around me, so as far as control and authority, I stepped up my game a thousand percent."

Related Link: The Pros and Cons of Taming a Bad Boy

Because of this new truth, he has a lot of respect for his "bad girls." He believes it takes strength to be bad and that being bad doesn't mean, well, being bad. "I think a bad girl comes from within," the host explains. "I don't think a bad

girl is a bad thing. I think it's just a girl that's confident, sassy and independent. If you're a good girl or even a great girl, you can still be strong. You can still believe in yourself and stand up for what you believe in."

Oxygen's Bad Girls All-Star Battle premieres on Tuesday, May 21st at 9/8c. You can keep up with Ray J on <u>Twitter</u> and his personal site www.rayj.com.

Giveaway: Win a 'Find Me My Man' Prize Pack!





This post was sponsored by Oxygen.

This week, we have a very exciting giveaway for you! To celebrate the new season of Oxygen's television matchmaking series, Find Me My Man, one lucky winner will win a Miami Mixology Love Kit, courtesy of Oxygen, including the following items:

\$100 American Express gift card

\$50 Restaurant.com gift card

\$49 iPod Shuffle

\$50 iTunes gift card

\$30 Mixology Drink Kit

2 Bad Girls Club Heart Tumblers

As you can see, this prize package is valued at over \$250! Before you can enter, you need to watch *Find Me My Man* on Tuesday, April 23rd at 9 p.m. ET/PT and keep these trivia questions in mind and when you are done, check out the giveaway details below:

What does Aja's (Natalie's first client) sash read?

What President is Aja modeling her man after?

What shot does Princess call a "panty-dropper" on her mole date with Jon?

True or False: Princess Says she was very confident and good-looking as a child.

True or False: Aja finds out that the final date Natalie sets her up with has a child.

To get ready for this week's episode, titled "The Princess and the Queen," check out the sneak peek below.

GIVEAWAY ALERT: We're going to make you work for this prize!

After the show is over, pick one of the trivia questions and tweet us your answer along with the following message:
@cupidspulse http://ow.ly/kgEyO #cpgiveaway #findmemyman

Then, e-mail us at cupid@cupidspulse.com with your full name, date of birth, mailing address, phone number and a direct link to your tweet. You must include "Find Me My Man Giveaway" in the e-mail subject. To double your chances of winning, like us on Facebook and let us know that you did so in your e-mail. The deadline to enter is Monday, May 6th at 5 p.m. ET.

Congratulations to Geraldine Rodriguez!

Enjoy the show, and good luck!