

Celebrity News: 'Bachelorette' JoJo Fletcher Has Another Ben In Her Life



By [Cortney Moore](#)

If you aren't up to date on the latest dating show [celebrity news](#), ABC's season 12 of *The Bachelorette* will star JoJo Fletcher, the 25-year-old who had her heart broken in the season 20 finale of *The Bachelor* with Ben Higgins. Fletcher and her illustrious Texan family are no strangers to reality TV. Aside from appearing on *The Bachelor*, she is also sister to *Ready For Love* reality star Ben Patton, who we had the chance to interview twice at Cupid's Pulse! See [here](#) and [here](#).

This celebrity news has us realizing that reality TV stars JoJo Fletcher and her brother Ben Patton share more than bloodlines. Cupid discusses below.

Last time we spoke with Patton, he was set on pursuing a relationship with his final pick and former Miss Texas winner, Angela Zatopek. He even proposed to her in the final episode of *Ready For Love*. Side note: Zatopek wrote episode recaps for us at CupidsPulse.com (see [here](#)). Unfortunately, the magic didn't last for this [celebrity couple](#) and they separated shortly after the season finale. Zatopek, beauty queen and self-proclaimed virgin, opened her heart for Patton and all of America to see, going as far as to make the first move with a bold kiss in episode 4. "I've never done anything like that in my life," she told us. "As I watch it back on television, I realize it wasn't the smoothest move..but hey, I was a rookie."

Related Link: ['Ready for Love' Exclusive: Winner Angela Zatopek Shares Her Emotional Journey](#)

Patton may have hinted that his relationship with Zatopek was on the rocks when he told us, "I keep telling her that we shouldn't force the relationship for the sake of the show or to prove America wrong. If it's not working, then it's not working." Will this be the advice he gives to his sister? Surely his experience would be a great asset to her as she tries to weed out potential suitors that are interested in her for not so genuine reasons.

Related Link: [Ben Patton of 'Ready for Love' Says He's "Still Going Through It" With His Final Pick](#)

Is it a coincidence that Patton's younger sister has followed in her big brother's footsteps, or should it not be that much of a surprise since Fletcher had a role in helping her brother on *Ready For Love*? According to recent reporters, she's friends with other reality TV stars, like the infamous *Bachelor* Jake Pavelka. It looks like reality TV stars run in the same circles, and family is no exception.

Related Link: [NBC's 'Ready for Love' Contestant Ben Patton Says, "When You've Fallen in Love, You Can't Deny That It Exists"](#)

We all know that big brother Patton was extremely tough on Higgins when they met on the hometown dates, so we're sure that wasn't the last we'll see of him. If he's looking for more air-time, no doubt he'll be appearing on Fletcher's upcoming season of *The Bachelorette*. In fact, if Patton is still single, would ABC reconsider changing the format to a brother/sister season? Now, that's something we would all like to see!

Regardless of what happens or who ends up winning Fletcher's heart in this season of *The Bachelorette*, we cannot wait to see more of this sister/brother tag team. Maybe Patton and Fletcher can convince their brother Matt to join their pursuits next!

Are you excited for the next season of *The Bachelorette*? Share your thoughts below.

'Ready for Love' Exclusive:

Winner Angela Zatopek Shares Her Emotional Journey



By Angela Zatopek

Yesterday was quite an emotional day for me. As I watched the finale with loved ones, I relived the love I found last summer with Ben and the amazing moment we shared at the vineyard. Thinking back to the beginning, I realized that we came a long way given the circumstances of “group dating.” Now, I find myself in the final two.

Throughout the season I cannot help but question the way certain things were edited, leaving key parts out that were important steps to what took us to the vineyard on that day.

As I wrote in the last blog, I was so unsure if it was to be me or Allie, but no matter what the outcome I knew I had learned so many life lessons.

Related Link: [Ready for Love, Episode 8; Home in Houston](#)

After going to Dallas, I got to see his world and meet some of his friends to get a look at what life would be like together. It was so ironic, because he actually lives two miles from some of my best college girlfriends near Uptown Dallas. Going there I was so tempted to sneak away and see them because I had missed all of my friends so much after being away filming!

During the hometown date in Dallas, it was also my birthday so I was really excited to spend it there with him. We spent the day going around town, I met some of his friends and then we took a stroll by the lake. What I was shocked about was the skeet shooting scene?? That actually took place in Houston. It was something that I thought of for us to do...had to show him my true Texan side! Luckily, Ben and I were spot on that day and had so much fun. I realized in Dallas that I had fallen hard for him. After filming ended that day, we actually went out for my birthday. It was great going out on the town together while not being filmed. We got to be real. At this point, I felt pretty confident in our connection but I also knew Allie was going to be seeing him the next day.

Related Link: [Ready for Love, Episode 7: Meeting the Family](#)

A side note not many people know (don't be mad at me producers!!!)—but after I was dropped off at the Hotel I was definitely not ready to end my birthday celebration. After spending my summer cooped up in a house for 10 weeks, I got back to my room and thought “freedom!” The hotel was completely empty, I couldn't sleep and was in celebration mode for my birthday, so what did I do? I snuck down to the lobby and played pool with the security guard on the night shift named Randall until 3 am! HA HA! It was probably the most

hilarious and random birthday I have had so far, but I won't ever forget it.

On a more serious note, moving along to what everyone has been asking me about...The Finale. Not only is my birthday a cherished memory, but so is how Ben and I ended our journey filming 'Ready For Love.' I have never been so blunt to say "I love you" in an unsure situation but figured the time was right when I first saw him in the garden. When he took me away in the helicopter, I had no idea where we were going since I was blindfolded. I was completely shocked when we landed and I saw the vineyard, which we called "our spot." When Ben got on one knee, I was absolutely blown away with tears streaming down my face. I thought to myself "this is a crazy thing, but I don't care, there is no handbook on love!" He told me he had another surprise for me and turned me around where I saw both my family and his running at us. Words cannot describe the feeling I had at that moment...Happiness, joy, love, you name it, I was on cloud 9. I had all of the people I cared for most in the world all in one place, and I was loving how our families were so supportive of it.

Related Link: [Ready for Love, Episode 6: Finding Love in Paradise](#)

After the show wrapped it was as if we were thrown back into 'real' reality, but could not tell anyone. We had fake names for one another in our phones, just in case friends were next to us, I had crazy colored wigs (I will never have jet black hair by the way), and the list goes on with what we did to hide our romance. We were on such a high after the show, that to be back in reality with our old lives while completely living a new one at the same time was an interesting adjustment.

The first few months were bearable, however we needed to be together to really build a foundation. It wasn't something we could do with 11 other women in the picture. It was

frustrating that we couldn't really be in each other's lives like a normal couple. It saddens me, that he doesn't even know most of my friends or family, yet he was my fiancé at one point? We have been together most of the time since filming wrapped in August, but decided about halfway through the show airing that there were a lot of hardships being apart/in hiding for so long and that maybe it was best if we went separate ways.

I am not sure what the future holds, but I wouldn't take back the adventure I went on by putting my heart out on the line last summer. I learned so much about myself, love, what I want in life/a partner and also gained amazing friendships with cast and production. I see it as my "Ready For Love" family. I will forever cherish the memories I made cooped up in that house with all the girls, the fascinating people I got to know from all different backgrounds and most of all having a taste of what the love will feel like when I do finally find my "prince charming" as I said in the garden to Ben.

Related Link: [Ready for Love, Episode 5; Drama in Vegas](#)

I can't help but go back to my faith when it comes to hardship, which is exactly why I want to preserve my heart 100% completely for the day I walk down the aisle. Love is a magical thing we all strive to find, even if it doesn't last a lifetime like we all can hope for...it makes us better for when we do meet that special one. Reflecting back on this entire process, I cannot dismiss the impact this has had on me. I was so inspired on the show when a little girl ran up to me in the audience telling me how much she looked up to my message. I was absolutely humbled and thought "I am just a normal girl!", but then thought of how awesome it would be to create something that would be a legacy of my story and journey of where I am today.

I am currently creating and soon launching OneLove Collection, a faith inspired jewelry line for women and men. OneLove

Collection will have a variety of necklaces, bracelets and rings, over time. I am not a jeweler by trade, but I feel very called to do this and also offer young trendy jewelry for people of faith! These pieces can have multifaceted meanings whether it be purity, commitment to your significant other, or a reminder of God's love. I also am finishing a book about my upbringing, dating experiences, 'Ready For Love', and what God can promise for a relationship when you put him as your first, "OneLove." I can't help but infuse my quirky humor and include a chapter of some hilarious dating stories I have to share.

I am so blessed and humbled by this entire experience and although my journey on 'Ready For Love' ended last night, my journey in life continues where I hope to make a positive difference in whatever God calls me to do. Thank you for reading this and stay tuned for more to come. ☐

Blessings,
Angela

To keep in touch please follow me on Twitter @AngelaZatopek and [facebook.com/Angela-Zatopek-359219517524621/?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/Angela-Zatopek-359219517524621/?fref=ts)

Ready for Love, Episode 8: Home in Houston





By [Angela Zatopek](#)

This week on *Ready For Love*, Ben came to Houston to finally meet my family! I was missing them like crazy and knew that, by meeting them, he would get a better look at who I was as a person.

Rather than a quiet date, I thought I'd show him another side of me and brought him to a skeet shooting range. I am so sad to see that our date didn't make the edit – it was so fun! You can tell that we were there because when they interviewed me for this episode, I have clear glasses on my head that we had to wear for protective reasons. Just wanted to clear up that I'm not usually sporting those lovely glasses!

My twin brothers also didn't make the cut during the episode, but everyone was there, and the date couldn't have gone better. First, we went skeet shooting, and to spice it up, we decided to make different bets based on who would shoot the targets. We had a blast, and it was a close call, but I think

Ben may have beaten me by a few shots. I couldn't totally school him!

After that, we headed to my parents' house where my hilarious stepfather John greeted us at the door. You can clearly see his Italian roots and his dry sense of humor. It's so funny to watch because I had no idea what took place in the study that day until now. Even though he comes off harsh, it definitely was his way of having fun with the process and being protective of me. It is a big step for me to introduce someone to my family in that way, and it definitely created a stronger bond between us.

Related Link: [Ready for Love, Episode 7: Meeting the Family](#)

My parents actually got Ben a few Texas-themed gifts that day to welcome him. One that I loved was a Texas Longhorn polo since my family are all Texas alums. Although Ben went to Penn, my mom said he was officially inaugurated into the "burnt orange cult" as we jokingly call it. My birthday was coming up, so my mom made my favorite, red velvet cake, to celebrate. The *real* celebration, though, was coming up that next week when I got to spend it with Ben in Dallas.

It was so nice to be out of California and back home in Texas. After having him come to Houston to meet my family, I was nervous but excited to head to Dallas to see what life could be like after *Ready for Love*. At this point in the process, you're so emotionally invested, but you've also come to realize you could be sent home. Being in the final two, I knew that him and Allie also had a strong connection, but I continued to open my heart to him.

Speaking of Allie, as I mentioned in my last blog, the two of us have been close since the first day of production. Now, we were at the end of this process, and ironically, I found myself competing against her. It was such a weird dynamic to be close friends but also have an invisible wall that

separated us at the end of the day, knowing one of us would go home eventually. Before we got to the end, we spoke about the scenario and how we would be happy for the other no matter what. It was important to me that we kept things positive.

During that last week, things were so different than the previous weeks. We moved out of the house and into a hotel where we all were completely separated from everyone. Allie had lent me a bag that needed to be returned, so I decided to write her a note and slipped it into the bag before production gave it back to her. At this point, I didn't know if I would see her again.

Related Link: [Ready for Love, Episode 6: Finding Love in Paradise](#)

I spent a lot of time writing that letter. We had shared all of our past relationship stories with one another, and knowing our love lives were about to change after the finale, I felt that it was the appropriate thing to do. Just like me, she'd been with boyfriends who weren't right for her. I told her if she was the final choice, I was happy she could be with someone like Ben. If I was the one in the end, I wrote for her to promise me to never settle and wait for God's best when it comes to love. I had no idea what to expect for the finale, but woman-to-woman, I genuinely meant what I wrote.

I was thankful for our friendship, and regardless of what happened in the end, I hoped that we could be friends later in life. Knowing that it'd be an awkward situation with us both "dating" the same guy all summer, we understood that we most likely wouldn't talk for a while after the show ended. After I put the note in her bag, I only saw her once more, which was the night of the finale.

Tune in for next week's finale to see what happens...!

Ready For Love, Episode 7: Meeting the Family



By [Angela Zatopek](#)

One of the biggest steps in a relationship is when you meet your partner's family for the first time. I believe there is truth to the saying "you not only marry the person but also into their family." This week on *Ready For Love*, Ben's family visited from Texas to meet all of us, and I couldn't have been more impressed with how sweet and genuine they were. Being the first girl to meet them, I'd be lying if I said I wasn't

nervous, but I felt like I would have a lot in common with them based on my conversations with Ben.

We spoke a lot about both of us being from Texas since that is a huge factor in having something real after this process. I joked saying Ben was “geographically desirable” since Houston and Dallas aren’t far apart. I immediately clicked with his sister JoJo and his mother Soroya; they reminded me a lot of my own mother and sister.

I’ve obviously shared my choice to wait until marriage for sex, and I feel it’s something primarily focused on during the show. I’ve never told someone’s family about my decision, but it was almost as if his mom was indirectly asking me about my beliefs. I thought it was important to be real with them, to show my intentions and how much I value an honest relationship. All things aside, though, there is so much more that defines me as a woman. That’s a choice I made, not a characteristic, and I definitely want to make that clear to viewers. In my real life, I barely even talk about it.

Another thing: Has anyone else noticed I seem pretty serious on stage nights? Editing certainly has a way of portraying me as a bit stiff, and all the girls on the cast, my family and my friends would definitely attest to that not being true. With so many different scenarios going on, I guess the more serious content is making the cut!

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Back to this week’s episode. Ben told me he was very close with his mother, and I too am extremely close with mine. My mom is from New York originally, and she’s a strong woman with a cut-to-the-chase attitude. Right away, I could tell that Ben’s mother had those same qualities. I knew it was important to convey to her and JoJo that I was there for the right reasons. Given that my own mother is so important to me, I had

a lot of respect for Soroya. I was definitely missing my family after this date, but as you'll see next week, I'm finally reunited with them in Houston.

At this point on *Ready for Love*, our huge mansion in the hills seemed even bigger since there were only four of us left. It was a tough week for me when the girls brought up Allie not being there for the right reasons. I was in between a rock and a hard place since Allie was one of my closest friends. She was the very first girl I talked to – before I even knew that she was there for Ben and we were competing against each other. In a weird way, we were each other's biggest support since we were away from our family and friends. Trust me, you need someone to talk to all day!

I tried to stay out of the drama, but feelings were also rising for Ben at the point, and as I previously said about Keri, I had to ask myself: Was I there to make best friends or see if I had something with Ben? When Giuliana asked me my opinion, I didn't want to lie and say I disagreed with Renae and Tarryn. I knew it was the matchmakers decision, so I wanted to leave it at that. Things clearly escalated, and that was probably one of the most awkward car rides back to the house after stage night. After that, I felt like the middle man because I got along great with both Tarryn and Allie.

Related Link: [Ready For Love, Episode 5: Angela Zatopek Discusses the Drama in Vegas](#)

Ready to get away from the drama, I was excited to finally go back to Texas and introduce Ben to my family. Here's a rundown of the gang you'll meet on next week's episode: My mom is an amazing mother to me and my siblings. I'm basically her clone, and she's more like my best friend than my mom. John is my Italian stepfather. He loves Roman history and has a collection of swords and shields – he isn't afraid to bring them out if someone messes with his daughters! My dad is a spiritual leader in my life; he's a great man of God who is

always so supportive. Still, he definitely had a hard time understanding why I was going through this process. Audrey is my younger sister who has artistic talents like you wouldn't believe. She taught herself how to play three instruments (guitar, mandolin and ukulele); she sings; she's fluent in Spanish – and she's only 21 years old! My identical twin brothers, Josh and Chris, are 20 years old and absolute studs. They're athletic and smart and have bright futures ahead of them. I should add that they're heartbreakers, but I get the final say on who gets by since I am the protective older sister.

Hope everyone can tune in to see my amazing family! Until then...

Ready for Love, Episode 6: Finding Love in Paradise





By Angela Zatopek

This week on *Ready for Love*, we went to one of my absolute favorite places, Hawaii. My two best friends from childhood went to University of Hawaii at Manoa, so I have been to Oahu a few times, but this was my first time in Kona.

A really funny thing that viewers didn't see is that we literally had to go straight from the plane to our date. The flight attendants kept asking what we were doing and what show we were on. We were cracking up because, obviously, we couldn't tell them anything. It was quite apparent that something was up when we're trying to do our hair and makeup in our seats and the small restrooms. Have you ever tried to get ready for a date in an airplane bathroom? It was a bit stressful for all of us, especially knowing that it's going to be televised for the whole world to see.

Related Link: [Ready for Love, Episode 5: Drama in Vegas](#)

At the airport, security questioned our purpose for the trip,

and I joked with the guard and said, “Yeah, our boyfriend surprised us all with a trip to Hawaii.” He gave me a crazy stare, but I figured we might as well make light of dating the same guy!

Whatever stress we felt immediately went away the second we hit the beach. We boarded the catamaran where we all got to enjoy each other’s company and the beautiful scenery.

You only saw three dates that took place with Ben: Beth, Renae and Tarryn. Ben and I had a really great date too! I was his last date, and we spent the evening soaking in a hot tub with a waterfall surrounding it. It was gorgeous, and we got to sit and talk more in depth. I really started to connect with him when we discussed our families and our similar upbringings. Our parents both divorced when we were the same age, and we’re both very close to our moms, who came from big families.

I also talked to him about what I was looking for in a potential husband. This process can be especially difficult since the girl is pursuing the guy in an unconventional manner, so it was important to me that Ben knew that I had qualities that I wanted in a man. A big must-have is that my guy not only has knowledge but also wisdom and discernment when making choices. Trust, honesty and integrity are key for a solid foundation with anyone, whether it be a romantic partner or a friend.

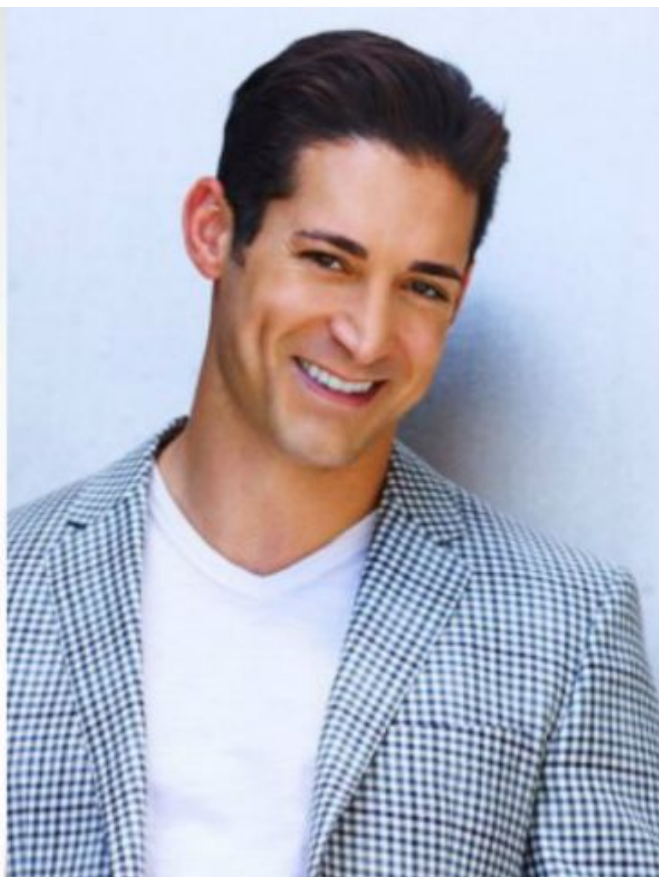
We ended the night with a champagne toast, and I slipped Ben a little note that I wrote on the plane telling him my thoughts about the experience so far.

Related Link: [Ready for Love, Episode 4: Angela Zatopek Recaps Her First Kiss with Ben Patton](#)

Our house wasn’t so “kumbaya” after we got back to Los Angeles. There were only a few of us left, and we were all becoming more private about our dates.

I am a huge family person – I believe it is one of the most important things in life. So I'm definitely excited to meet Ben's family on next week's episode. You'll have to tune in on Tuesday to see what happens!

Ready for Love, Episode 5: Angela Zatopek Discusses the Drama in Vegas



By [Angela Zatopek](#)

On this week's episode of *Ready for Love*, Ben surprised us and told us we were going to Las Vegas. I have absolutely no complaints about the amazing house we got to live in for the show – in fact, Rihanna reportedly just bought it! – but being cooped up for so long made it feel like a prison. Plus, the tensions were really high that week, so the timing couldn't have been more perfect.

Related Link: [Ready for Love, Episode 4: Angela Zatopek Recaps Her First Kiss with Ben Patton](#)

When people think of Vegas, most people picture getting all jazzed up for shows, hitting the casinos and enjoying many delicious meals. Instead, we had quite a unique experience that didn't include any of those things. The date started with us arriving at the MGM Grand, where some of the world's greatest fighters have stood. It was incredible to think about the history as we entered the arena, but we soon realized that we'd be fighting one another. I'm very into health and fitness, and I have done a lot of kickboxing in the past, so I was looking forward to showing off my skills. My excitement, however, was quickly overshadowed when Tarryn Franco and Kari Krakowski hit the ring. Unfortunately, the fun ended early once it got too heated.

After boxing, we headed to the lounge where the blowout fight between Kari and Allie Wagner took place. It's important to understand that there were so many factors leading up to this argument. We're all there competing for Ben, but we can see a clear connection between him and Kari. He saved her from elimination already, so the door was obviously still open. Our feelings weren't coming from a place of crazy or jealousy but more from frustration. We're thinking, "It's great if they get back together, but don't drag the rest of us through this process."

Personally, I was in a really awkward position with "The Kari

Situation,” which has definitely been a hot topic. Kari and I are both from Texas, so we have a ton of mutual friends. Plus, we were roommates in the house and ironically were in the same sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma (I went to University of Texas at Austin, and she attended University of Oklahoma). We actually got along great, but it was still a weird dynamic since we both wanted to be with the same guy. I finally put my foot down and asked myself, “Am I here for Ben or to make best friends?” I tried to stay out of the argument and just calm Allie down, but emotions were running high since we had flown to Vegas, only to have such an awesome date cut short.

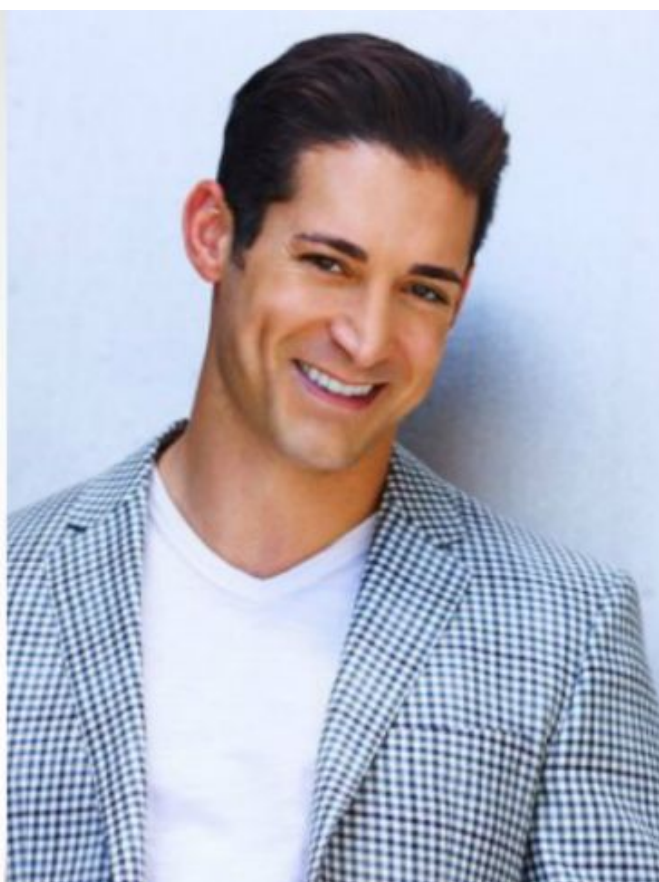
Related Link: [Ben Patton Is Still Dating His Final Pick](#)

Okay, back to Ben. After we had our first kiss at the vineyard, I knew our one-on-one time would be even better when I saw him again. I blocked the fight (which he didn't know about) from my mind and refused to let it affect my night. The view was incredible, and during our chat, we really started to dig below the surface. There's so much to cover in such little time – and you have so many things running through your mind related to the tips from the matchmakers. I thought it was best to tell him about my upbringing first: Being the oldest of four siblings, I had a lot of responsibility at a young age. I am a very focused, task-oriented and driven person, which makes me seem stiff or guarded sometimes. I'm actually a very outgoing and fun-loving person, but it's not my personality to not be an open book so fast, which can play against you in a process like this one.

I had no idea what to expect for this week's elimination. As the elevator rose and I saw Allie instead of Kari, it made me realize that Ben was looking towards the future and truly trying to embrace this experience. It's not that we were happy to see Kari gone – it was nothing personal against her, but it was more of a relief that we hadn't wasted our time on the show.

Since Vegas wasn't really a success, we're even more excited to head to Hawaii next week. Until then...aloha!

Angela Zatopek Talks 'Ready For Love,' Saving Herself for Marriage and OneLove



By [Rachael Moore](#) and [Lori Bizzoco](#)

Angela Zatopek, the youngest contestant vying for the heart of

Ben Patton on NBC's cancelled dating competition show *Ready for Love*, has always been open about her love life, even before she joined the reality television world. What really sets her apart from other young women are her Christian values, particularly the fact that she has decided to "save herself" for marriage.

Related Link: [Ready for Love, Episode 4: Angela Zatopek Recaps Her First Kiss with Ben Patton](#)

The Texas native feels strongly about breaking the stereotypes that come along with being abstinent. "People think that when you're a virgin, it's a very conservative belief. But I'm not this Amish girl walking around with a bonnet on my head or a person who sits at home and knits sweaters," she explains. "You can still be sexy and fun and have a romantic, passionate relationship even if you're waiting to have sex until marriage. It makes it that much better when you find the right person and don't rush the physical stuff."

Being abstinent was an important choice Zatopek made from a very young age, and surprisingly, she says many guys from her past have been accepting of her decision. "Before the show, I didn't have a problem finding a date. Being a virgin would never be the first thing I said to a guy, but I did let them know within the first couple of dates who I am and what I'm about."

When it comes to sharing her views regarding the show's cancellation, the blonde beauty says that she was very confused when it went off the air. "It was such an exciting thing in my mind, and then hearing that it was cancelled was very hard. But you have to look on the bright side. It's on NBC.com, Hulu and On Demand, and there's a lot of fans who still watch the show and send me supportive messages."

Zatopek also reveals some secrets about Patton and his ex-girlfriend, Kari Krakowski, who makes a surprise appearance on

the series. Of course, she had her doubts at first. "We look completely different. She is a brunette with dark eyes, while I'm blonde with blue eyes. So I wondered if I was his type." Still, she says she really likes Krakowski. "It was hard, though, because we were roommates. She would confide in me every night and pour her heart out. I was learning all of this girl's secrets, but then we were competing against each other."

Though she claims that she tried to stay away from the drama, she did get frustrated when Krakowski had her one-on-one time with Patton on last week's episode. "He came back from his date with glitter on his face, and I saw that her lip gloss had glitter in it, so I knew they had kissed. I thought, I'm not going to be here and put my heart on the line if they're going to work it out. He shouldn't make all of us go through this show if they're going to get back together. It's a very mentally taxing process."

Throughout their conversations, Zatopek learned that they had a few things in common. She is from Houston, and Krakowski is from Dallas; the Texas social scene can be a small world. "We have a ton of mutual friends. I learned that Ben and I even have mutual friends outside the show, which is so crazy. I felt like it boosted my confidence because it gave me a connection to Ben since we have similar interests from the people we hang out with."

Even so, the 24-year-old questioned her relationship potential with Patton because of their age difference. She reveals something that was edited out of the first episode: "Before Ben chose me, he asked, 'What makes you ready to be in a relationship? It worries me because we are at different points of our lives.' And I told him that I feel like maturity is not defined by your age but by your life experiences. I'm the oldest of four kids, and my mom was a single mom. I know I'm young on paper, but I grew up quick."

Related Link: [Ben Patton from 'Ready for Love' Is Still Dating His Final Pick](#)

Before her *Ready for Love* journey, Zatopek was in two serious relationships. Her first boyfriend was a long-distance relationship that lasted for a year, and her second relationship was with her college sweetheart, who she dated for three years. The pageant girl says that both guys respected her morals, but she is ready to meet the person she'll be with for the rest of her life. "I want to get to know a guy first and then make those steps towards the altar. I also want to have a huge family."

While she can't reveal how far she got on the show, she's staying busy until the finale airs. She's currently teaming up with Lisa and Brittny Gastineau to form a jewelry line called OneLove. "I want to make cute, trendy purity rings to represent loving yourself first and not needing someone else to complete you. When you're doing your own thing, and respecting yourself first. That's when you're most attractive."

For more information about Zatopek, Ready for Love and OneLove, you can follow her on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) or visit [angelazatopek.com](#). Be sure to watch the remainder of the show on [NBC.com](#)!

Ben Patton of 'Ready for Love' Says He's "Still Going

Through It” With His Final Pick



By [Lori Bizzoco](#) and [Whitney Baker Johnson](#)

If you've been watching NBC's dating reality competition show [Ready for Love](#), you may have been disappointed to hear that it was cancelled by the network after only two low-rated episodes. Many viewers felt like the new series presented a false reality when it came to dating and relationships, reinforcing the belief that you have to be perfect to find real love.

For those of you who are fans of the show, don't fret! NBC.com is airing the remaining episodes, so you'll still be able to

follow the journey of Ernesto Arguello, Tim Lopez and Ben Patton as they search for their soul mates. Filming wrapped last August, so we can't imagine what it's been like for the bachelors to keep their final picks a secret – something that they must continue to do until the finale airs on Tuesday, June 4th. To tide us over, we caught up with Patton, who we interviewed prior to the premiere, and chatted about his current relationship, his take on the other two bachelors and his past love with one of the contestants.

Related Link: [Ben Patton Tells Us Why He's 'Ready for Love'](#)

Since the show is still officially airing on NBC.com, the Texas businessman can't reveal his final choice. However, he did mention that it's been a pretty challenging time since the show finished filming, particularly given the constraints that the new couple has faced (they haven't been allowed to be seen together in public for almost nine months). Even so, he says that he's "still going through it" with his significant other. "After the finale airs, that's when we can see if it's the real thing. Right now, we can't even go through the real experience of dating."

Given their busy schedules, the twosome's time together varies. Sometimes, they see each other every two weeks, but other times, they're apart for over a month. They last saw each other about three weeks ago, and Patton says their relationship has become "more stress than fun. She's really stressed. I'm really stressed. I'm not going to lie, it's very hard." For now, they're learning to balance their individual lives and trying to make it work.

As for the future, the hospital CEO says he can't leave Dallas and hopes that his pick will relocate. However, he does admit that he's a rationale person when it comes to love. "I keep telling her that we shouldn't force the relationship for the sake of the show or to prove America wrong. If it's not

working, then it's not working. At the end of the day, we need to think in terms of what's best for us."

He adds, "These challenges make it kind of impossible for people to be happy in a relationship. But that doesn't mean we won't be happy when we can be together."

So did the other men find love? "Yeah, I know that they did. All of us found love, and at the end of filming, we were very happy. We came off the show saying what an amazing experience it was." As for their favorite matchmaker, Patton explains that the guys bonded most with Matthew Hussey. "He knew what was going on in our heads. We could really relate to the advice that he gave the women."

Until the winners are disclosed, there's one woman who's stealing the spotlight on the show, something that Patton calls "The Kari Situation." He first dated contestant Kari Krakowski in 2006 and describes their relationship as "on-again, off-again for about two years." Of their past, he shares, "When I date someone, it's monogamous. Kari, though, was still emotionally involved with her ex and not quite over him. To be fair, when I wasn't available to hang out because I was busy working, she assumed I wasn't into her. There was just a lot of miscommunication." Patton admits that he really cared about her and was hurt.

Related Link: [Cancelled: Why NBC's 'Ready for Love' Fueled America's Hatred](#)

Although they tried to rekindle things when he returned to the states after spending time in Dubai, they eventually called things off for good. Viewers saw how shocked he was to see Krakowski on the *Ready for Love* stage. On the most recent episode, the pair spent some one-on-one time together and gave fans a glimpse of their chemistry. "I was smitten with her. I remember all of the good parts of being with her, and it's really hard to let go. Plus, it's a lot easier to kiss someone

you were once romantically involved with than it is to kiss strangers. There's more history."

Another lady who has captured our attention is Angela Zatopek, who is writing a weekly column for CupidsPulse.com about her experience on *Ready for Love*. Patton describes her as "an amazing girl." The bachelor shares that he never makes the first move, so it was fitting that Zatopek went in for their first kiss on their vineyard date. Only time will tell if that kiss leads to more!

It's no surprise that the most difficult part of the experience for Patton was sending the girls home in *The Garden*. Since these women were emotionally-invested in him from the start, he felt like he was really letting them down. "They watched videos of me, built this idea in their minds and thought I was 'the one' before the show even started filming. It was really hard to let them go."

Be sure to watch 'Ready for Love' on NBC.com. For more information about Ben follow him on Twitter [@Ben_Patton](#).

Ready for Love, Episode 4: Angela Zatopek Recaps Her First Kiss with Ben Patton





By Angela Zatopek

Last week on *Ready For Love* was the first time I actually felt present in this whole experience. Obviously, none of us on this crazy journey had ever been in a situation like this one, but it took me a few weeks to really get into this process, to completely open up my heart and be ready to fall in love. After being in the bottom three with Ben saving me, I realized this method isn't "traditional" – but is there a handbook on how love goes?

I absolutely loved that our first date was at a vineyard. You couldn't find a more romantic place for a first kiss! A part of our conversation that wasn't shown was how special it was to be there with Ben on my grandmother's 101st birthday – she grew up on our family vineyards in Netuno, Italy.

Related Link: [Ben Patton Tells Us Why He's 'Ready for Love'](#)

Each week, the relationship experts gave us tips to use on our date with Ben. I must say, most of these tips were completely

out of our comfort zones, but we knew we had to do them to show we were accepting of their strategy as our matchmaker. My tip for the week was to do a bold move.

I thought so hard about how I could do a bold move at the vineyard and came up with only one conclusion. Even though Ben was already labeled a “lip slut,” Kari Krakowski and I were the only girls in the house that had yet to kiss him. I figured I had to go in for the kill. I’ve never done anything like that in my life! As I watch it back on television, I realize it wasn’t the smoothest move..but hey! I was a rookie. Although I was one of the last girls to get one-on-one time with Ben, it was worth the wait. The vineyard date was perfect.

Feelings definitely heightened this week for all of us, and you will see the result of that on tomorrow night’s episode in Vegas. Let’s just say...what happens in Vegas doesn’t stay in Vegas. It’s about to get ugly.

Watch tomorrow’s episode of ‘Ready for Love’ on NBC.com, and check back later this week’s for Angela’s recap!

‘Ready for Love’ Stars Ernesto Arguello and Ben Patton Discuss Reality Dating





By Andrea Surujnauth

These reality dating shows are not as simple as they look. According to Ernesto Arguello and Ben Patton from [Ready for Love](#), it actually entails a lot more heartache than television networks let on. “It is more stressful going to that garden than anything else,” Arguello tells [People](#). Both him and Patton agree that letting women go is a difficult experience. “The garden is unreal,” says Patton. “You’re essentially breaking up with someone. You’re not just saying, ‘Hey, here’s a rose for you. And you guys didn’t get a rose,’ and walk off.” They also have to deal with the challenges of the kissing scenes. “It’s like hearing your own voice on voicemail,” says Patton.

What are some non-traditional ways to find love?

Cupid’s Advice:

It’s not easy to find love. Going out and meeting people is getting more and more difficult to do. What are some other

ways that we can find love? Cupid has some suggestions for you:

1. Online: Some people don't have time to go out and meet people, and others may be too shy. Online dating sites are a great resource and sigles are starting to use them much more often. There are so many types of dating sites to choose from that you are bound to find someone who meets your criteria.

2. Social Media: While Facebook and social media sites are a great way to keep in contact with friends, some use it as a way to meet people and start new relationships. Technology has become such a big part in our everyday lives that meeting your future spouse on Facebook is as casual as meeting them in a coffee shop.

3. Speed dating: By attending a speed dating session, you are able to meet different people in a matter of minutes to see if they are worth going out with on a (second) date. This is helpful if you are normally too busy to be able to go out and meet people.

What are some non-traditional ways that you found love? Comment below and let us know.

Cancelled: Why NBC's "Ready For Love" Fueled America's Hatred





By Marni Battista, Founder of Dating with Dignity

Let's face it: while Disney, RomCom's and The Bachelor have consistently fueled American women's desire to be swept off their feet by the dashing, handsome, successful, and sensitive man, they are, simply put, not stupid.

As a dignity dating and relationship expert who works with thousands and thousands of single women around the globe, I can tell you that women are, in fact, ready for love. However, just as NBC has promptly cancelled its newest reality dating show Friday, with the same title, women are taking a stand for their dignity and what they really want to experience when it comes to finding love.

Related Link: [Guiliana and Bill Rancic Talk About Marriage, Parenthood and Hosting NBC's New Dating Reality Show 'Ready for Love'](#)

My clients (who posted hundreds of comments in a private Facebook group on Wednesday morning, the day after *Ready for*

Love's second episode aired) became disheartened by the message the show was sending to single women just like them, reinforcing the beliefs they are desperately trying to shake.

Amy posts...

...after watching last night, there was a part of me that feels as though the show reinforced some of my limiting beliefs that in order to find love you have to be America's version of perfect (two of the women were runners-up in the Miss Universe pageant).

Luckily, Amy has the benefit of being in a community of women who have drawn a line in the sand and are beginning to understand how important it is to, in Amy's words, "really know and believe in oneself to combat subtle messages the media relentlessly broadcasts that impact my thoughts."

So, does NBC's cancellation of the show as result of dismal ratings mean that they are ready to finally admit that American women no longer want to watch flawless looking women with low self-esteem throw themselves at men they don't know?

And, while having the matchmakers on the show was brilliant in that it pointed out that pretty women actually do not necessarily have any sort of advantage when it comes to surviving in the dating jungle (FACT: when gorgeous blondes talk about farting on a first date or share that they have a list of 50 characteristics a man has to have in order to be her partner, looks become insignificant), it quite frankly isn't enough.

Related Link: [Matthew Hussey Helps Women "Get the Guy" as One of Three Coaches on NBC's 'Ready for Love'](#)

If television executives want to produce dating shows, perhaps they ought to create programming that real women want. They want advice. They want direction. They want tips and strategies they can apply now, in real life. They want to know

how to love themselves even when Disney, RomCom's and *The Bachelor* say that pretty girls always finish first and that love doesn't last. They want hope. And they want inspiration.

Perhaps, it's time for something akin to *The Biggest Loser* meets *The Bachelor*, except that there aren't three men himbos whining about wanting to find their "best friend," and the women have, in fact transformed, realizing that THEY have the power to choose their partner, and that getting "rejected" means it wasn't the right match, and that they are still valuable, loving and love-able humans with or without a man in their life.

I believe it is time for a new era in the television dating arena. Perhaps my mission to help women love themselves so that they can then find someone to love is actually taking hold.

Bravo to the viewers who said "no," and thank you to NBC for listening.

As the founder of **Dating with Dignity** and with more than 25 years of personal relationship and dating experience, Marni Battista dated, was married for 17 years and divorced, and then successfully dated again in the 21st century. She has undergone professional training in dating and relationship coaching as well as training in the Core Energy Coaching Process from the Institute of Professional Excellence in Coaching (IPEC). Marni also has extensive training as a Facilitator with the Hoffman Institute, one of the world's foremost organizations in personal development. More importantly, as a divorcee for more than five years, Marni truly understands what it feels like to be lonely and sick of wasting time on dates with men that go nowhere. A woman who is not your mother, best friend, or therapist, Marni is the professional relationship and dating expert who will stand behind you to provide love, compassion, support and honest guidance as you embark on one of the most important,

fulfilling adventures in your life.

'Ready for Love' Matchmaker Matthew Hussey Tells Us How to 'Get the Guy'



By [Lori Bizzoco](#) and [Rachael Moore](#)

Although he began his career as a life coaching at the age of 17, Matthew Hussey soon became an expert in the field of love

and dating. His popularity with male clients grew in the United Kingdom, but it wasn't long before he made the transition to helping women in the UK, eventually crossing the pond to the United States. Hussey has built a platform to help women find, attract and keep their ideal match through his organization, *Get The Guy*. Over six million single women tune in online for his motivational seminars, and around 50,000 females attend his live events. With all of Hussey's success, including his role on the upcoming NBC dating reality show, [Ready for Love](#), writing a book to share his eye-opening advice seemed to be the logical next step. In his debut book, *Get The Guy: Learn Secrets of the Male Mind to Find the Man You Want and the Love You Deserve*, out today, Hussey gives women the confidence they need to find – and keep – their soulmate.

What are some of the things you talk about in your book that help women find the right guy?

I teach them to look for a man who already has balance and is playing on their level. I let them know if they want a guy who doesn't play games, they shouldn't play games either. Also, it's important to be true to yourself. If they want a guy who is confident enough to walk up to a woman and make something happen, then they need to be confident too. Like any area of life, if you don't go out and get what you want, it won't happen for you.

Related Link: [Matthew Hussey Talks NBC's 'Ready for Love,' 'Get the Guy' and Being a Life Coach](#)

You've had a lot of success coaching men. Was there a pattern that you observed with the men who came to you for relationship help? What was their biggest challenge?

Their biggest challenge was that they weren't being men. I realized that guys have a lot of misconceptions about girls and that men have different stages they go through

when dating. The first stage is to be really nice. When they were young, that's what their mother's taught them. But they soon figure out that women don't want a people pleaser; they want the guy who has an edge and might break their heart. Guys learn quickly that being nice doesn't work.

The second stage occurs when they think they need to become a jerk or a bad guy. Women also think they want this type of guy, but what women really want is a man who is a leader, who is confident in his decision and who carries himself well. A lot of guys find it difficult to strike that balance between being nice and being a jerk.

What was it like transitioning from coaching men to coaching women?

The truth is I was terrified. I know men; I didn't know women. Then it hit me: that was exactly how I could help them. I didn't need to tell them about themselves; I needed to tell women about men and why they do the things that frustrate them. I worked with guys for so long, and working with the other side was so rewarding for me. It was great to see women get happier and figure things out about themselves through my coaching.

Related Link: [The Most Powerful Tool to Help You Find Your Soulmate: Intuition](#)

With the world of technology being used to find love – online dating, texting and even Facebook – women are more overwhelmed than ever. What is your number one piece of advice when it comes to technology and relationships?

People have too many options available, and relationships end up lacking depth. The problem is that as soon as we meet someone, we're already confused about that next step. Do I text, call, Facebook or e-mail them?

Ultimately, you have to boil things down to simple truths.

Wherever you engage with someone, you have to be building a connection. Everything text or typing-related is the lowest form of communication. One step above texting or typing is talking on the phone. Regardless of your initial form of communication, the goal should always be to progress to a phone call as quickly as you can.

And finally, should women initiate it if the guy doesn't ask for her number?

Some guys won't initiate anything. They don't want to seem overly desperate or needy, so they try to play it cool. But then, everyone plays it cool, and you end up in this limbo of no one doing anything. Remember that *someone* has to make a move. You can do this by texting, "Hey, I'm free tonight – give me a call." That way, the ball's in his court.

To order a copy of Hussey's new book Get the Guy: Learn Secrets of the Male Mind to Find the Man You Want and the Love You Deserve, click [here](#). For more information about the life coach, check out his sites, [Get the Guy](#) and [Matthew Hussey](#). You can also follow him on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Don't miss him on the premiere of Ready for Love tonight on NBC at 9/8c!

NBC's 'Ready for Love' Contestant Ben Patton Says, "When You've Fallen in Love, You Can't Deny That It

Exists”



By [Whitney Baker Johnson](#)

It's no secret that dating-based reality shows like [The Bachelor](#) and [The Bachelorette](#) are a huge hit among fans – even if they very rarely end with a match made in heaven (or on some Caribbean island, as is often the case). In twenty-four seasons of the ABC shows, only two couples, both from [The Bachelorette](#), have made it to the altar: Trista Rehn and Ryan Sutter and Ashley Hebert and J.P. Rosenbaum. For those of us who can't give up the hope that someone *can* find their soul mate on television, NBC introduces [Ready for Love](#), a show that enlists three talented matchmakers to help three eligible men find the one thing missing in their lives: true love. Adding credibility to the show, which premieres tonight, are three

big names: Eva Longoria is an executive producer, while Bill and Giuliana Rancic are the hosts.

One of those lucky bachelors is Ben Patton, a 30-year-old international financier from Dallas. Patton moved back to Texas from Dubai in 2011 because, even though business was great overseas, he was missing balance in his life. “I didn’t have a personal life that was really growing, and I wanted to move back to the states so that I could establish my roots a little more,” he shares. “Truth be told, I wanted to start dating again and hopefully meet someone special.”

Related Link: [‘Ready for Love’ Host Giuliana Rancic Says, “Having a Strong Marriage is the Greatest Example You Can Set for Your Child”](#)

As for why *now* was the time to look for love, Patton says it was mostly social awareness. Attending wedding after wedding without a date – “I’ve attended more weddings as a single guy than anyone else I know!” – he realized that a part of his life was missing. “Everyone I know is getting married, and all of the sudden, it started moving up on my priority list. Everything was great, but I wanted to fill that gap – and really, that gap, at the end of the day, is the most important thing.”

Of course, even fans of similar shows would be skeptical of actually finding love on television. And Patton was no different. As he explains, “I wasn’t home but eight months before I got a call from NBC. Eva got on the phone, and she’s pretty good at selling you on an idea. She convinced me that the format was completely different than other dating shows.”

Unlike *The Bachelor*, *Ready for Love* shows the process of picking the girls who will be the best fit for the three guys. Matchmakers Amber Kelleher-Andrews, Tracy McMillan and Matthew Hussey each select four compatible girls to introduce to each bachelor. “It’s not about finding a bunch of cute, little

girls who are going to be dramatic for the cameras,” Patton says. “It’s about introducing you to the other guys first; then, when women apply for the show and the matchmakers see real compatibility, that’s when they decide who they want to put on the show.”

He adds, “If there’s any sort of competition, it’s among the matchmakers to prove that they know what it takes to find a match for us – not among the guys or the girls.”

During the first week, the guys talk to their twelve matches and get to know each of the ladies without ever meeting them face-to-face. Based on the chemistry that they feel, they eliminate three girls and then start the dating process with the nine remaining contestants.

Related Link: [Tracy McMillan Says ‘Ready for Love’ Will Change the Way America Dates](#)

Like many people, Patton had never worked with a matchmaker prior to the show. In fact, he never felt like he needed help from a professional when it came to his love life. He describes *Ready for Love* as a “learning experience” and says it definitely changed his mind. “I started to realize that it’s really okay to go to someone for help and admit that you’re obviously doing something wrong. At the end of the day, 90 percent of what matchmakers tell people is pretty much common sense, but it’s easier to hear it from a professional than to hear it from your best friend, your girlfriend or your parents.”

Even with professional help, Patton still had to believe that true love exists. It’s easy to become jaded after a few failed relationships, but this bachelor didn’t let a broken heart deter him. “When you’ve fallen in love – and I’ve been in love before – you can’t deny that it’s there, that it exists,” he says with conviction. “When you are really, absolutely in love with someone, everything takes a sideline to that

relationship. You just want to make sure that person is okay because she means so much to you.”

So did Patton find that all-consuming, lasts-for-a-lifetime love? While he can't reveal too much about the show's ending, he does say that he's very happy. Of course, it's been a struggle to keep his relationship under wraps for so many months. “We're always having to see each other in secret,” he shares. “It's like, ‘Hey, I'll meet you in Arkansas for the weekend.’ We're going to towns where people won't recognize us so that we can go out to dinner together.”

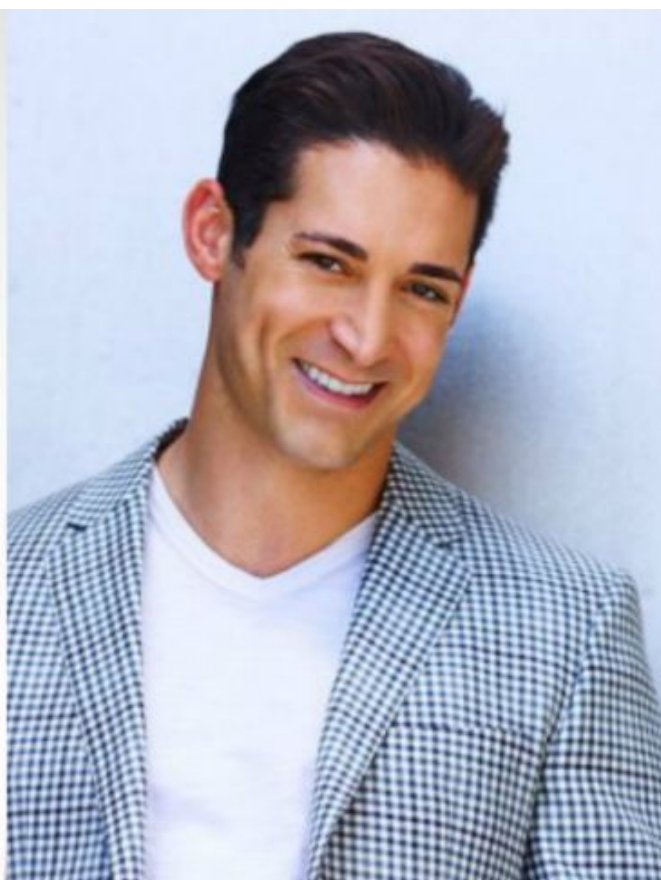
Filming the show last summer, he's had a lot of time to reflect on his journey, and given the outcome, he encourages people to never give up. “It's really easy to get frustrated in relationships and just throw in the towel. For a long time, that's what I did,” he explains. “But you should just hang on because there's somebody out there who probably feels the same way. You guys will run into each other one day and be like, ‘Where the hell have you been my whole life?’”

In other words, always be *Ready for Love*.

Don't miss the two-hour series premiere of [‘Ready for Love’](#) on Tuesday, April 9th at 9/8c NBC. For more information about Ben, follow him on Twitter @Ben_Patton.

**‘Ready for Love’ Host
Giuliana Rancic Says, “Having**

a Strong Marriage is the Greatest Example You Can Set for Your Child”



By [Whitney Baker Johnson](#)

Giuliana and Bill Rancic have a relationship that many of us admire, so it only makes sense that the couple was tapped to host NBC's upcoming dating competition show *Ready for Love*. They've opened up their personal life to fans on their own reality show *Giuliana and Bill* on the Style Network, and now, they'll be taking on a new role in front of the camera. "We absolutely love working together," Giuliana says of the experience. "We banter back and forth quite a bit, but it's

all in fun.”

She adds that deciding to host the show was a no brainer. “We’re always traveling and working apart, so it was the perfect opportunity for us to not only be a part of such a great show with amazing people but to spend some time together while doing it.”

The premise of *Ready for Love* is different than other dating shows. The three bachelors – Ben Patton, Tim Lopez and Ernesto Arguello – were each paired with twelve ladies by three matchmakers, Amber Kelleher-Andrews, Tracy McMillan and Matt Hussey. Giuliana knows firsthand that *Ready for Love* is the real deal. “By using relationship experts, the compatibility between the bachelors and each girl is really tested,” she explains. “This is, by far, the most realistic dating reality show I’ve ever seen.”

So did the Rancic’s share any of their wisdom and experiences as a madly-in-love couple with the single men? “Well, the matchmakers are experts, and they don’t necessarily need help from us, but we did throw in little pieces of advice to the guys here and there. You’ll have to tune in to find out!”

That’s not to say that the couple didn’t get to know the bachelors both on and off the set – Ben and Ernesto even came to their baby shower! “We really bonded with each of them and truly rooted for them while they searched for love,” the host says. “They are all such great guys.”

If the men had asked for their advice, the twosome believes that communication is most important for a successful relationship. When they’re in different cities for work, they’re “always checking in and trying to put each other first – that’s what keeps us strong.”

Related Link: [Ready for Love: Three Extraordinary Men](#)

Of course, they have a new member of the family who they have to make a priority too: their seven-month-old son, Edward Duke. Even so, becoming parents hasn't changed their relationship. "If anything, it's just brought us closer. We're both so happy and grateful."

"Baby Duke is so adorable, and we're loving every minute of parenthood" the first-time mom adds. "Every 'first' he has is the greatest moment in the world."

For new parents who are struggling to fit romance into their lives, the television personalities say spending one-on-one time together is a must. "It's so important to stay connected to your spouse as a new parent," Giuliana shares. "Having a strong marriage is the greatest example you can set for your child."

Be sure to check back next Monday, April 8 for our interview with Ben Patton and Tuesday, April 9 with Matthew Hussey! Catch the premiere of Ready for Love on Tuesday, April 9th at 9/8c on NBC. For more information about Giuliana, you can follow her on [Twitter](#) and watch her on E! News.

Relationship Expert Tracy McMillan Says 'Ready for Love' Will Change the Way America Dates



By [Whitney Baker Johnson](#)

Unlike both Matthew Hussey and Amber Kelleher-Andrews " her fellow matchmakers on NBC's upcoming reality show, [Ready for Love](#) " Tracy McMillan considers herself to be a best friend matchmaker. "I come from the loving perspective of a friend who's going to tell you the things that your real friends are afraid to say because you might get mad."

Related Link: [Matchmaker Amber Kelleher-Andrews Chats About Being 'Ready for Love'](#)

She further explains, "My philosophy isn't about getting the guy. It's about opening your heart wide enough that the guy can walk into you're life and that you're ready for him."

With that said, in today's world, there's not a "one size fits

all” approach to dating. “It used to be that you’d date in your early 20s, settle down in your mid-20s and be married for the rest of your life,” McMillan explains. “Now, there’s a lot of confusion because people don’t understand that you don’t date the same as you do when you’re 25 and 38.”

Still, the author of *Why You’re Not Married Yet: The Straight Talk You Need to Get The Relationship You Deserve* believes that it’s “not necessarily harder to date.” There’s just more circumstances to consider when looking for love ” which is where she can help.

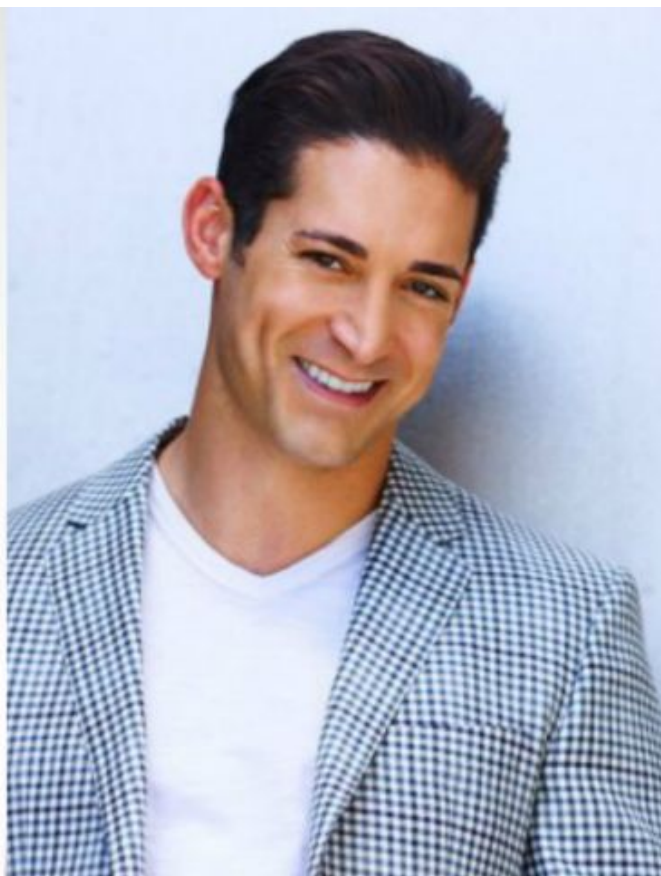
Related Link: [Matthew Hussey Talks NBC’s ‘Ready for Love,’ ‘Get the Guy’ and Being a Life Coach](#)

The matchmaker believes that *Ready for Love* is going to change the way America dates. “I don’t think anybody’s ever seen a show get into the process of meeting someone, dating and falling in love. There’s something very riveting about it. You’ll laugh; you’ll cry; and you’ll say, “No, she didn’t! ” McMillan shares. “It’s just not like anything else on television.”

Be sure to watch McMillan on “[Ready for Love](#),” which premieres on NBC on Tuesday, April 9th at 9/8c after “The Voice.” To purchase her book “*Why You’re Not Married”Yet*,” click [here](#). For more information about the matchmaker, check out her site tracymcmillan.com or follow her on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

Relationship Matchmaker Amber

Kelleher-Andrews Chats 'Ready for Love'



By [Whitney Baker Johnson](#)

If you're anything like us, then you're anxiously awaiting for the premiere of NBC's new dating reality series, *Ready for Love*. Not only will we have a front row seat as three very eligible bachelors search for love, but we'll also be privy to the advice they receive from three renowned matchmakers, one of whom is Amber Kelleher-Andrews.

Related Link: [Matthew Hussey Talks NBC's 'Ready for Love,' 'Get the Guy' and Being a Life Coach](#)

Kelleher-Andrews comes from a family business of matchmaking. "I like to say that I'm the fly on the wall on over 40,000 dates," says the CEO of Kelleher-International. Kelleher-Andrews' mother founded the "extremely personalized professional matchmaking firm" about 27 years ago, and the *Ready for Love* star has been working there for almost two decades now.

Separating her from other matchmakers, she engages with both the man and the woman involved in each match. She listens to the criteria and perspective of both parties and goes into every detail of every date. "I learn the do's and don'ts of dating from every age range in most of the major cities of the United States as well as overseas. I find major patterns in dating based on gender, based on age and based on different communities."

Of course, different generations must consider that there are different ways to navigate the troubled waters of dating. But regardless of background, it ultimately boils down to one question: where do you find your person? That's where matchmakers can help. "When you're truly ready for love and approach an expert for guidance, you get to skip that problem because we already have your potential matches in our files."

"You're attracted to people based on your personality and what you want in life," the matchmaker adds. "I compare it to college. Like-minded people go to Harvard, and those people are very different from the students at MIT or UCLA."

Related Link: [Ready for Love: Three Extraordinary Men](#)

Adding a huge amount of credibility to *Ready for Love*, Kelleher-Andrews and her fellow matchmakers had the final say in the female contestants vying for the men's hearts. "We chose these women because we felt that they were very similar to the bachelors. Do we know who they pick in the end? Of course not," she explains. "But we can at least bring a group

of women to the stage that we feel are very compatible with them.”

As for the men on *Ready for Love*, Kelleher-Andrews believes that “they already have the charm and charisma and success. They just need their person.” Given the expertise of the three matchmakers, it sounds like picking out “the one” might not be so easy!

Don't miss the two-hour series premiere of '[Ready for Love](#)' on Tuesday, April 9th at 9/8c on NBC! For more information about Kelleher-Andrews, click [here](#). You can also follow her on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Matthew Hussey Talks NBC's 'Ready for Love,' 'Get the Guy' and Being a Life Coach





By Rachael Moore and [Lori Bizzoco](#)

It's spring time now, and love is in the air. So much so, that NBC's new dating competition show, *Ready For Love*, premiering Tuesday, April 9th, is already getting tons of buzz. The innovative series, with Executive Producer Eva Longoria and hosts Giuliana and Bill Rancic, follows three eligible men looking to find their soulmates. With twelve women vying for each man's heart, three matchmakers provide their expertise and advice to guide them in their search for love.

Matthew Hussey, a life coach, speaker and new author, is the only male matchmaker on the show and admits that he has a more direct approach than his female colleagues on the show, Amber Kelleher-Andrews and Tracy McMillan. "We all come from different places," he says. 'Amber is a matchmaker; Tracy is a writer; and I am a life coach.'

Related Link: [Ready for Love: Three Extraordinary Men](#)

Hussey grew up in England and claims that he was never good

with the girls, so he started observing people to try to understand them better. He learned some techniques to help people with their confidence, and at age 17, he realized that he wanted to be a life coach. He knew it would be hard for people to take him seriously given his young age, so he started out small, coaching three people per week before moving up to five and then ten.

Originally, he set out to help men better understand general life lessons, but it wasn't long before they started asking for advice on their love lives. 'I knew coaching a room full of guys wouldn't be practical. They needed to get out there and talk to women. When doing so, some men got rejected, but others got wins.'

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He became very popular in the United Kingdom, coaching 10,000 guys in the span of two years and doing seminars with 300 men in attendance. With his reputation growing, Hussey was approached by many women wanting to know his secrets. 'I was terrified,' he shares. 'I knew how to work with men, but I didn't understand women. Then, it hit me: that was exactly how I could help them. I didn't need to tell women about themselves. I needed to tell women about men and why they do the things that frustrate them.'

When it comes to guiding the three bachelors on *Ready for Love*, Hussey explains that Kelleher-Andrews and McMillan use a different method. 'I was more direct because I believe in giving people tools so they aren't dependent on anyone. I'm not prepping them for dates; I'm prepping them for life," he says. 'I don't care if the women in my group end up with the guy. I care about them gaining an understanding of who they are and what they want and having the strategies they need in the real world.'

Related Link: [Why Amazing Confident Women Remain Single](#)

When speaking about the difference between his coaching techniques in his seminars and on the show, he shares, 'In my seminars, I can't watch what happens after the women leave. For the first time, I was able to see every change that was made in this nine-week period.'

When the show airs on April 9th, not only will Hussey make his debut as a reality star, but he will also add published author to his list of credits. His new book, *Get The Guy: Learn Secrets of the Male Mind to Find the Man You Want and the Love You Deserve*, will be released from HarperCollins that same day. The book focuses on three main ideas: find the guy, attract the guy and keep the guy. With his intelligence and eye-opening words of wisdom, there's no doubt that women will quickly realize that Hussey's process truly works.

Hussey's advice boils down to the idea that 'attraction is only a snapshot of any moment of time. It's not a black-and-white thing. Just because a guy isn't attracted to you now doesn't mean he never will be. So, just like they say...timing is everything.

*Don't miss the two-hour series premiere of [Ready for Love](#) on Tuesday, April 9th at 9/8c NBC. To order a copy of Hussey's new book *Get the Guy: Learn Secrets of the Male Mind to Find the Man You Want and the Love You Deserve*, click [here](#). For more information about the life coach, check out one of his sites, [Get the Guy](#) and [Matthew Hussey](#). You can also follow him on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).*