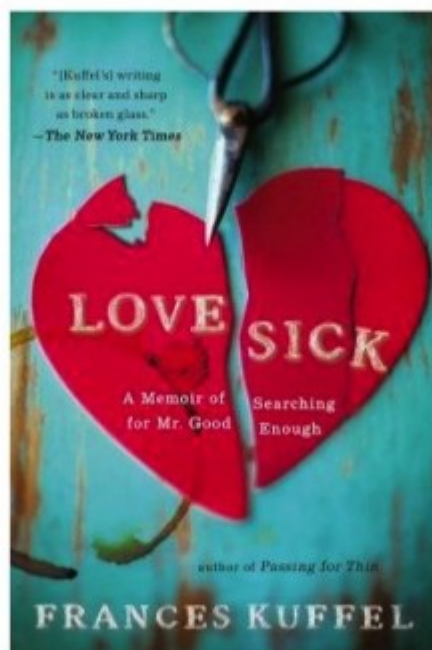


# 'Love Sick: A Memoir of Searching for Mr. Good Enough' Recalls the Humorous and Insightful Journey of Looking For Love



By Brittany

Stubbs and Laura Seaman

*Love Sick: A Memoir of Searching for Mr. Good Enough* is a sharp and irreverent memoir recalling Frances Kuffel's quest to replace her on-again, off-again lover with someone new and preferably less unstable. As Shakespeare said, the course of true love never did run smooth, but for Kuffel, it seemed like

one pothole after another. Fifty-three and never married, she opens her mind to all possibilities: She goes out with an Orthodox Jew, is almost the victim of a scammer, stays out all night with a man twenty years her junior, encounters food fixations and shoe fetishes, and generally reads a lot of strange emails. Brazenly honest and insightful, the author comes through the experience with a new understanding of love and, most importantly, herself.

**For starters, what inspired you to write this memoir?**

I fell in love with a younger man with whom I had a friends-with-benefits situation. He did not reciprocate my feelings, although he very much wanted to remain friends. The best way to get over a broken heart is to fall in love with someone else, and as a memoirist, I could see my challenge was ripe for writing about.

**Related Link:** ['He Texted' Authors Lisa Winning and Carrie Henderson McDermott, Discuss Dating in the Digital Age](#)

**Your determination to find love is inspiring. What kept you going through the rough patches? What would your advice be to other women who are having a difficult time and thinking of giving up?**

There were rough patches, and then, there were really rough patches. It took a while to go out on some decent dates, and it was my friends and their senses of humor that buoyed me through the tough times. I have always said you go out with other people, but you date your friends: It's friends you go to with the stories, and it's friends who laugh it off with you, psychoanalyze with you, tell you to get over yourself, or hand you tissues.

My advice to other women is to give yourself a certain amount of time for several days a week to read profiles and answer messages because people who are constantly logged in look a

little desperate. If you see your Saturday night coming up without a date, do something with friends or on your own that you keenly enjoy. Take a break if you have a great date that doesn't lead to a second one – respect your heart. And get out in the world! One problem with online dating is that it's solitary until you meet someone. Remain a citizen. And the big one? DON'T TAKE ANYTHING PERSONALLY.

**Your book mostly focuses on your search for love past age 53.**

**What are some of the differences you noticed between dating in your twenties as opposed to dating in your fifties?**

It's an entirely different activity. There was biological imperative in our twenties, pushing us to make babies. Looks mattered more then than now, to a certain extent. Dating in your fifties means forgiving weight, hair loss, hair color, etc. I did a lot of group activities in my twenties too – a gang of friends would go out for pizza and beers or to the movies or “just hang out.” We paired off within the gang. I don't have a gang like that any more, and what social circles I move in tend to be dinner parties or the occasional outing.

We had school and new careers in our twenties, but we could also stay up all night. Now, we have positions in our careers and less energy. Many people have children or grandchildren, which entail a whole other set of obligations. We're also more entrenched in habits and hobbies. If someone announces himself to be a golfer on his personal ad, he's saying, “This is what brands me; it's where my leisure hours go.” We were more amorphous in our twenties, more willing to try golfing or give it up, according to whom our partner was.

**Related Link:** [Find How Strong Women Find Love in “The Alpha Woman Meets Her Match”](#)

**As you wrote this book, I'm sure you learned a lot looking back at your dating experiences. If you had to pick the most valuable lesson learned about dating, what would it be?**

If I'm not comfortable dating myself, I'm not ready to date anyone else. If I can't treat myself with the same care, tenderness, romance, admiration, and surprise that I would expend on someone else, I'm going to get short-shrifted by a man. And when it's all over, I'll be empty and blaming myself for the failure.

**You've spoken a lot about weight loss in your books and in interviews. How has your journey with the loss and gain of weight impacted your search for love?**

When I lost weight, I gained the confidence to really try dating for the first time in my life. I kept enough of that confidence to keep dating as I regained weight. My weight has turned a few men off. It's turned a few men on too – and I tend to hear about that because not many guys are going to say, "You're too fat." They'll just fade out instead of risking rudeness.

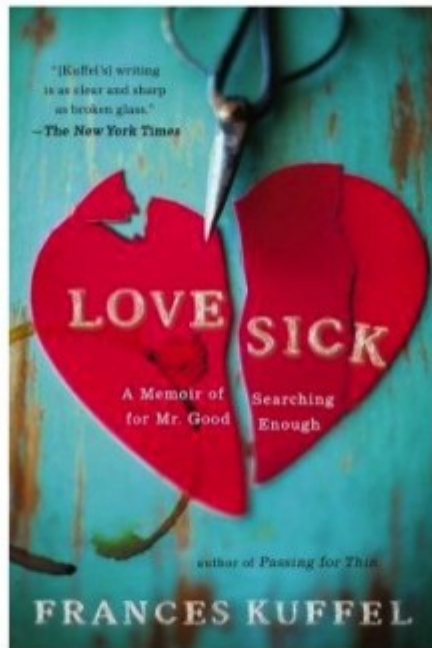
I say I kept "enough" confidence. I know I'd be a higher ticket item if I were a size 10 than a 22. But I've come to understand that weight is a journey – in my case, it has been one of a few journeys that define my life. If I don't accept where I am today, I'm not going to accept myself at size 8, which as it turned out, I didn't really.

*Learn more about Frances Kuffel in her new book, Love Sick: A Memoir of Searching for Mr. Good Enough.*

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## **Elisabetta Canalis Reveals**

# She Suffered a Miscarriage



By [Courtney](#)

[Omernick](#)

According to [UsMagazine.com](#), Elisabetta Canalis revealed via WhoSay on June 13 that she recently suffered a miscarriage. The actress spoke about her miscarriage to followers by composing an extensive message regarding the incident. The 35-year-old wrote, "Unfortunately, life gives you...a reality that you do not expect." A miscarriage is something a woman should never have to suffer through.

**How do you support your partner during pregnancy issues?**

## **Cupid's Advice**

When a couple is expecting a child, it can be one of the

happiest times in their lives. Unfortunately, as Elisabetta Canalis stated, life can give you a reality that you don't expect (such as a miscarriage), and there can be issues with the pregnancy. This can be a very trying time in a couple's relationship, so, Cupid has come up with a few suggestions on how to support your partner during pregnancy issues:

**1. Get informed:** If your partner is having complications, it's extremely important that you learn as much as you possibly can about the issues, symptoms, etc. This means, Google will become your best friend. Watch informational Youtube videos, listen to audiobooks, join chat groups and ask questions, but most importantly, do what you need in order to fully understand the situation.

**Related:** [5 Celebrity Couples Who've Adopted](#)

**2. Be by their side:** Be sure to go with your partner to prenatal visits, ultrasounds, and other doctor's appointments. This goes along with being informed. You'll be able to sympathize better because you know exactly what's going on and you can ask the medical staff questions if you don't.

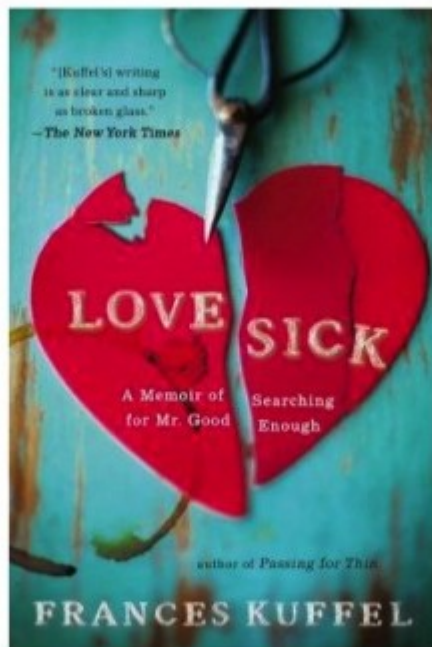
**Related:** [The Most Publicized Celebrity Pregnancies](#)

**3. Help your partner stay healthy:** This goes both ways: physically and emotionally. When complications arise and we're stressed, we can tend to revert back to old tendencies or pick up unhealthy habits. Make sure that you monitor your partner's stress levels, and how they're fueling their body. You can make it easier for them by joining their journey and participating in healthy eating and safe exercise habits.

**How have you supported your partner during pregnancy issues? Comment below!**

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# Are Your Dating Standards Too High?



By Liz Kim

There's nothing wrong with knowing what you want in a future boyfriend or girlfriend; in fact you *shouldn't* settle for just anybody. But there comes a point when unrealistic standards may actually be what's keeping you from finding Mr. or Mrs. Right. If you are turning down a potentially great relationship because he has a funny hairstyle or she has "man hands" a la *Jerry Seinfeld*, then it's time to reevaluate your priorities and loosen up a little instead of spending every Friday night alone in your room. Here are some signs that your

standards are too high when it comes to dating:

**1. You model relationships after what you see on the big screen:** “Love means never having to say you’re sorry.” “You complete me.” “I’ll never let go, Jack.” Although *Love Story*, *Jerry Maguire*, and *Titanic* are beautiful films that celebrate the power of the love, they’ve also done a pretty good job at shattering realistic expectations when it comes to dating and relationships. We all want a love like Jack and Rose, but even our idea of these people is false because Hollywood is scripted. With good editing and a staff of writers and makeup artists, any relationship can seem perfect. If you’re keeping track of your relationship by comparing it to what you see on the big screen, you are setting yourself up only for failure and heartbreak.

**Related:** [Ways To Help Single Friends Find a Partner](#)

**2. You have unrealistic physical standards:** We all have a “type” that we’re attracted to whether it be blue eyes or long brown curly hair. And while physical attraction does play an important role in dating, there comes a point when your standards just become ridiculous. “He’s tall, kind of muscular, kind hazel eyes, great with kids...*but* he has this tiny birthmark on his left cheek that’s too distracting. I can’t go out with somebody with a distracting birthmark.” Sound like you? Don’t let the little details get in the way of the big picture.

**3. You can’t remember the last date you went on:** You don’t realize this at first but after you’ve turned down date after date you eventually find yourself on the couch (again), on Saturday night (again), wrist deep into a pint of Ben and Jerry’s (again), re-watching all 7 seasons of *The Golden Girls* (again). If you don’t want this to happen to you, then it’s time to reevaluate what you’re looking for. If you refuse to budge on your standards, be prepared for many many nights



alone.

**4. You've been told (repeatedly!) that you're too picky:** If one or two people say you're picky, then it's worth nothing but you probably don't have to be too concerned about it. If you're hearing again and again from most of your friends and family that you are way too strict with your standards, then you might have a problem. Sometimes we forget to look at ourselves from an outsider's perspective and don't realize how we're behaving.

**Related:** [10 Blind Date Etiquette Rules](#)

**5. You are a stubborn repeat offender:** If Chad is the eighth guy you've gone out with surfs and has sandy blonde hair and a penchant for guitar playing, and it hasn't worked out, break out of your mold. Clearly you don't fit with the "type" you date and now it's time to branch out and maybe go out with Jamie, the kind of nerdy barista from the corner coffee shop who always give you extra caramel drizzle and who may not have blonde hair and clearly can't surf but has a great smile. You've taken a chance with 8 Chads already so taking one more chance with somebody new can't hurt.

**6. The problem isn't you, it's him/her:** This one plays off of #5. If you're consistently dating the same type of person over and over again and it's always a nightmare, we hate to break it to you but it's probably you. If you are one for order and routine but your dream date is someone who is always spontaneous (and kind of unreliable), in theory this sounds like an opposites attract type of situation but more often than not you'll walk away unhappy and unsatisfied.

**7. You've more than once regretted dumping somebody:** Well now you've done it. You turned down Jamie because he was into comic books and a few months later you see him walking down the street with his new girlfriend. They're holding hands and can't take their eyes off of each other. Was he always so

cute? You instantly regret turning him down because now he's happy and in love and you're still along and sulking.

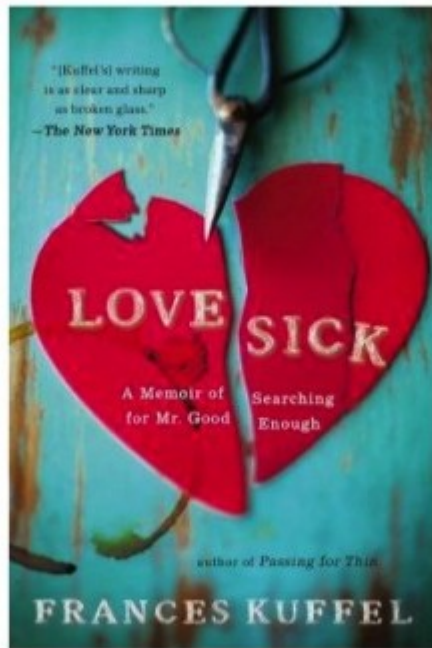
Imagine going to a buffet with tables and tables of food you've never tried before but sticking only to french fries. You know you like french fries but all the salt makes you bloat and they're not too good cold. Maybe it's time to try another dish? The beauty of dating is that if it doesn't work out, you never have to see the person again. Instead of boxing yourself in with strict dating standards, maybe it's time to take a chance and date outside of your comfort zone. Who knows? Maybe he or she will bring out a side of you you didn't you had.

**Do you think your dating standards are too high? Tell us in the comments below.**

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## **Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Your Ideal Man**





By Shannon

Seibert

Women are constantly consumed by the search for the elusive Ideal Man. But who is he, really? For some, he's tall, dark, and handsome. For others, he's a sensitive blonde who is passionate about nature. But how far will these characteristics really take your relationship? We've pulled these five articles from our partners to reveal what qualities your dream man should possess, no matter what:

**1. He's someone worth bragging about:** Okay, so your mother isn't exactly impressed by your latest prospects. Chances are, if they aren't measuring up to Mom's standards, they aren't worth your time. The Ideal Man is someone who you'll be proud to bring home and show off to your friends and family. For example, Kendra Wilkinson-Baskett brags about her man Hank Baskett and his amazing parenting skills for their two children. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

**2. He'll leave the past in the past:** Jealousy is a monster that we all wish to keep at bay. The Ideal Man will not talk poorly of his past, nor of yours, but use it as a learning

experience. Not speaking ill of an ex reflects wonderfully on his personality and character. He will be comfortable in his own skin and will reassure you that his past will not become his present. (YourTango.com)

**3. He'll make you feel comfortably uncomfortable:** You'll not only feel right, but you'll feel protected. The Ideal Man will allow you to be fully yourself, and he'll also push you into uncharted territories. He won't be afraid to challenge you or disagree with you. After all, in a strong relationship, you need that type of mental stimulation. (GalTime.com)

**4. He'll be the most intoxicating drug:** Passionate, all-consuming love is something that every woman wants. And if you look hard enough, it's not a lofty goal. The Ideal Man should not only be compatible with you physically but emotionally as well. Don't underestimate the power of love and what it can do to a person, for your perfect love is like your own brand of heroin. (GalTime.com)

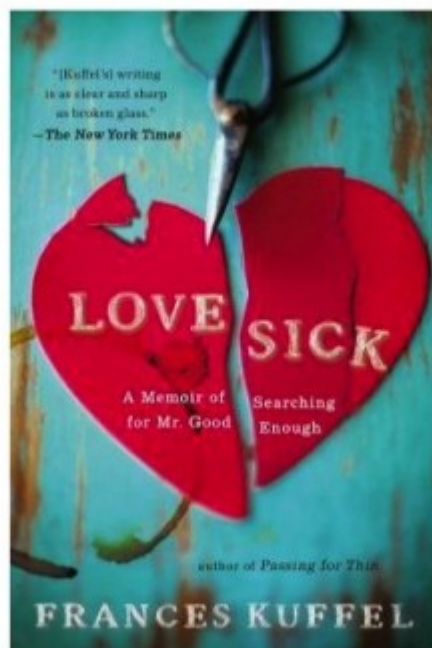
**5. He'll affirm why it didn't work out with anyone else:** Past heartbreaks may have hurt, but they also served as guidance to get you where you are today. The Ideal Man will have the arms that will feel like home. He'll be the answer to any question you ever had, and you'll be the solution to all of his problems. It will click, just like that. (YourTango.com)

**What is your Ideal Man like? Tell us in the comments below!**

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## **What Are Some Superstitions**

# You Fear? Try Them Out for Date Night!



By Leslie Chavez

Friday the thirteenth doesn't have to be unlucky when it comes to love. In fact, you can turn the unlucky into a few unique date ideas. What are some superstitions you fear? Face your fears and spend the day together seeing how many superstitions you can prove wrong.

Admit it: Being a little scared is kind of fun! Plus, it gives you an excuse to hold on to your man just a little bit tighter. According to LiveScience.com, "Many superstitions stem from the same human trait that causes us to believe in monsters and ghosts: When our brains can't explain something,

we make stuff up.” The rush of knowing that you’re doing something that’s considered unlucky will give you a little rush of hormones and a heart-racing thrill that also produces a sensation of pleasure. Push the superstitious limits and have a silly time challenging the infamous day.

**Related Link:** [Take a Risk and Be Daring](#)

Trying out superstitions is your excuse to be bad, so think of everything you’re not supposed to do today and *do it!* Open up an umbrella inside and dance around together, challenging the rain of misfortune to come down. If you’re feeling really brave, take a small mirror and crack it – but be careful not to cut yourself! There is a belief that mirrors don’t just reflect your image; they hold parts of your soul. This is why breaking mirrors is believed to be such bad luck, but look at it as a way to free yourself of unwanted vanity.

If you see a ladder, take a walk underneath it. One theory holds that walking under a ladder has to do with its resemblance to medieval gallows and is therefore something you should avoid. However, the thrill is harmless, and you can add it to the list of rules you broke today. Spot a black cat? Let it cross your path; heck, call it over and pet it a bit! It can’t hurt you, right?

When you’re at dinner that night, spill a little salt on the table while seasoning your veggies. Can’t you just see him grin mischievously at you from across the table, thinking of what bad things you can do next? Doing these little reckless things together will make you feel brave and bring some spice into your relationship.

**Related Link:** [Freaky Friday](#)

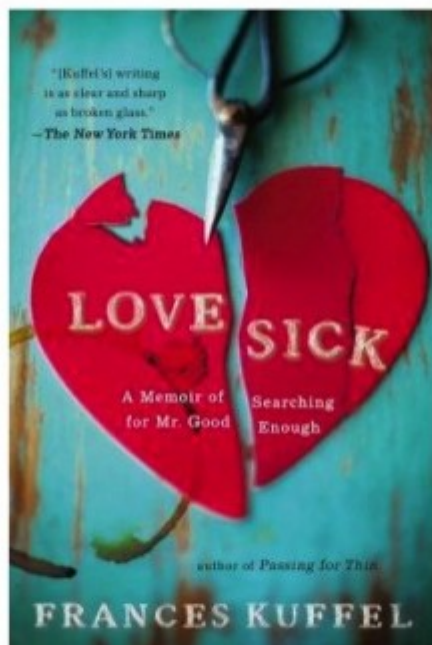
Sometimes, doing something wrong can feel so right, and developing unique date ideas so that you are spending the day breaking these ridiculous superstitions will make you feel fun, foolish, and carefree. Remember that the misfortune that

comes with Friday the Thirteenth is all superstition, so you should make it through the day with all of your original luck intact. Fingers crossed!

**Cupid wants to know: How will you celebrate Friday the Thirteenth?**

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## Rumor: Jake Gyllenhaal Dating Rachel McAdams



By Laura Seaman

Rumor has it that **Jake Gyllenhaal** dating **Rachel McAdams**. They

have been spotted together once again as they left the Miguel Cotto vs. Sergio Martinez fight on June 9. Rumors have been flying about whether or not these outings means that they are actually dating, but sources tell [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com) that the two are just friends, and that the reason they're spending so much time together is to prepare for their upcoming movie *Southpaw*. Not only that, but McAdams is still with Patrick Sambrook, the couple showing some PDA back in May.

## **How do you know if you should risk your friendship for love?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

It's a situation that has plagued almost everyone at some point, like Jake Gyllenhaal : Should you turn your friendship into a relationship? This often leads to people being 'friend-zoned' and told that the risk isn't worth it, or that they can't be anything more than a friend because the person "just doesn't see them that way". With all of this in mind, sometimes it's worth the risk of asking your friend to be more than your friend.

**1. Figure out your feelings.** Make sure that you truly want to start dating this person, not because you just got out of a breakup or you suddenly find them attractive, but because you truly care about them more than the normal friend would. If you're risking your friendship, you need to be sure that it's for something you really want.

**Related:** [Five Ways To Get His Undivided Attention](#)

**2. Read the signs.** As strong as your feelings might be, they won't get you very far if your friend doesn't return them. Look for phrases such as "you're like a brother/sister to me," or conversations about other people they're interested in. If your friend comes to you on dating advice about other men/women, they probably haven't considered dating you.



**Related:** [How to Prevent Yourself from Rushing into a Relationship](#)

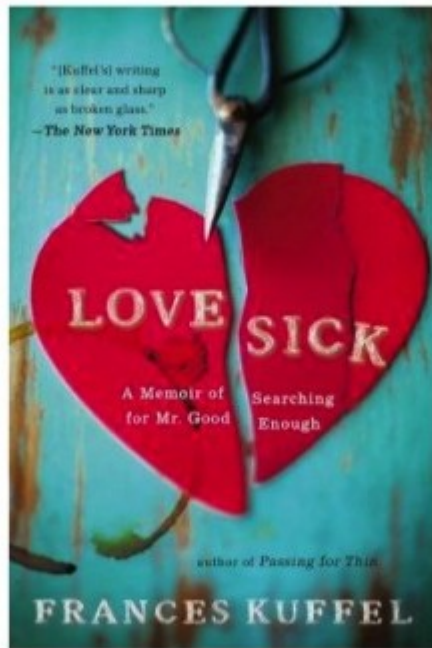
**3. Make sure they're ready for a relationship.** Timing is important, and as a friend you should know better than anyone how they're feeling about love. If your friend just got dumped, or is in a stage of their life where they're just enjoying being single, it's probably not the best time to confess your feelings. You need to be there as a friend, so don't be selfish! Wait until they're ready.

**Have you ever dated a friend? How did it work out? Let us know in the comments!**

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## Taking Your Partner on a Family Vacation





By Lori Zaslow

and Jennifer Zucher for [Project Soulmate](#)

Summer has finally arrived, and we are diving right into the month of June! This season brings with it lots of sunscreen, bikini bods, and the exciting – albeit sometimes dreaded – family vacation. Let's say that you've finally met someone special, and you are contemplating whether or not to bring them to your family's beach house. If you do take the plunge and invite your partner along, here are a few simple rules to consider:

First, if you are a guest in someone else's home, make sure you let them know you are bringing a plus-one. This way, they can decide the sleeping arrangements. Your host may think that separate beds isn't a big deal, but if it is to you, then speak up! If you're pitching in and paying for this vacation, then you should have a say in what room you get and whether or not your significant other can stay in it with you.

**Related Link:** [A Summer of Love](#)

It's probably best that your family isn't meeting your beau for the first time on this vacation. This step will ensure that your love feels somewhat comfortable with your relatives so you don't have to worry about them having a good time. If you have the chance, introduce them to family members they may not know yet to avoid any awkward moments or embarrassing small talk.

Remember to help out and be neat around the house – and encourage your partner to do the same. You don't have to cook a five-course meal every night or do your brother's laundry, but helping with the dishes after dinner, hanging up the beach towels, or making a trip to the grocery store are all small acts that will not go unnoticed by your loved ones.

Take some alone time if you need it. Your sweetheart should feel comfortable enough to say no to cards with the guys or the annual family volleyball tournament. Just don't turn down every offer; you don't know what great traditions you could be missing out on! If you are really serious about this person, it's good to immerse yourself in these customs since they might be a part of the family one day.

Always be on time for arrivals and departures as well as any pre-planned excursions. When things go wrong during traveling, as they often do, try and keep your cool. You won't remember that night spent without your luggage or getting attacked by mosquitos on a morning bike ride, but your family will always remember that first vacation with your significant other.

**Related Link:** [10 End-of-Summer Date Ideas](#)

Be respectful that this is vacation time and leave your work at home. If you or your boo have to check email regularly or do a few hours of work each day, talk with your family and let them know. Then, unplug and enjoy yourself for a while! This simple act shows your relatives that your significant other is committed to learning about them and can really unwind and

relax.

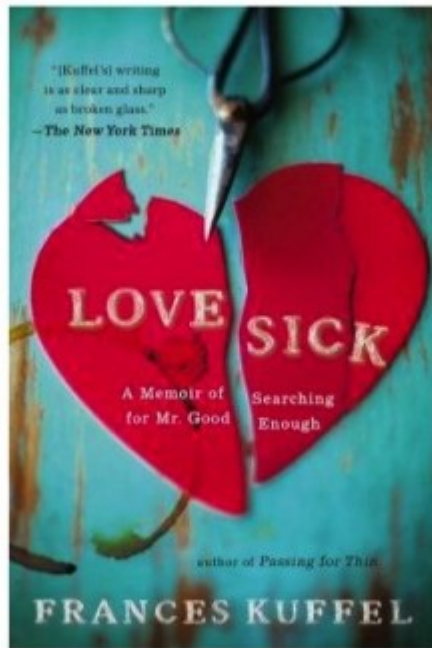
Finally, remember to be yourself. Show your family who you and your partner are as a couple. Following these tips while on vacation will ensure that you have a great time with your sweetheart and that they create long-lasting bonds with your family!

**How did you prep for bringing your partner on a family vacation? Share in the comments below!**

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**Single in Stilettos Show:  
It's Your Fault You're  
Single!**





On this week's [Single in Stilettos](#) show, founder Suzanne Oshima talks to dating coach Mr. Locario about the reasons you may still be single. There are five things you should do if you're ready to find love: You need to take responsibility for your love life; you need to stop being too picky; you need to give him a second chance; you need to be careful about interpreting his actions and words; and you need to take initiative to meet the right man.

**Related Link:** [Mr. Locario on What Attracts a Man](#)

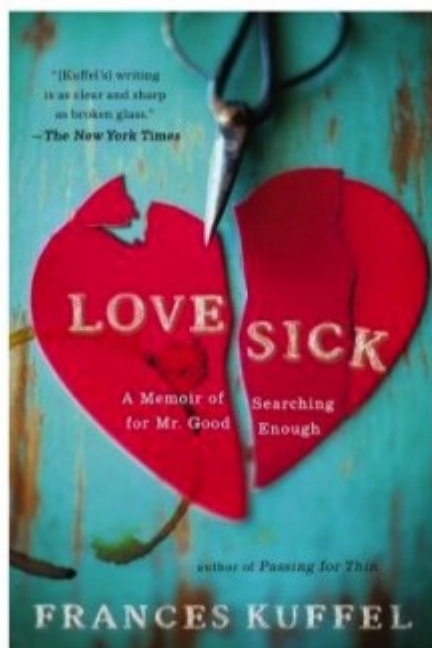
For more information about Single in Stilettos shows, click [here](#).

*For more videos from CupidsPulse.com, check out our [YouTube channel](#).*

What's the first step you take when you're ready to find a partner? Tell us in the comments below!

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# Screwing the Rules Video Dating Tips: George Clooney is Engaged! Why He Chose Her



By [E!'s Famously Single Dating Coach, Laurel House](#)

## Dating Advice from E!'s *Famously Single* Laurel House on Amal and

# George

With this sexy actor's recent engagement, we all can't help but wonder: What did Amal Alamuddin do to capture George Clooney's heart? In this week's [dating advice](#) video, dating expert and E!'s *Famously Single* dating coach, [Laurel House](#) reveals the truth: "Her attitude was, 'You're just a guy.'" She wasn't hypnotized by his looks or money or fame or the fact that he's considered to be one of the most eligible bachelors in the world." With this thought in mind, learn how to snag your own dream man!

**Related Link:** [Find the Love of Your Life](#)

*For more information about our dating mentor, click [here](#).*

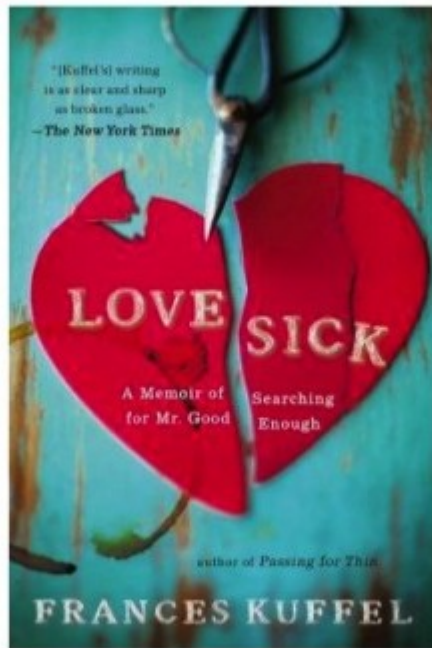
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What is your best move for snagging an ultimate bachelor? Tell us in the comments below!

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## Single in Stilettos Show: How to Have the "Exclusive Relationship" Talk with Him





On this week's [Single in Stilettos](#) show, founder Suzanne Oshima talks to writer, speaker, and romance artist Zan Perrion about having the “exclusive relationship” talk with your guy. His best tips include: keep it light; be curious about your relationship; make sure your tone isn't demanding; and never say “we need to talk.” The most important thing to remember, though, is that it's not only about what you want; it's about what you *both* want for your future.

**Related Link:** [Thomas Edwards Jr. on How to Tell If He Likes You](#)

For more information about Single in Stilettos shows, click [here](#).

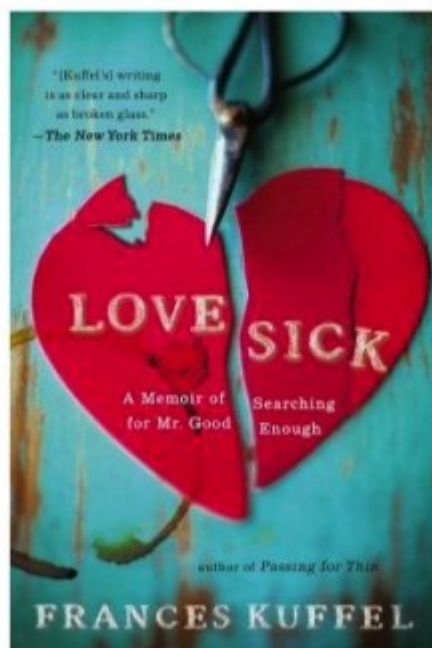
*For more videos from CupidsPulse.com, check out our [YouTube channel](#).*

**How do you bring up the dating-to-relationship conversation? Tell us in the comments below!**



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# Kim and Kanye Will Treat Guests to Private Versailles Tour



By Louisa Gonzales

Kim Kardashian and Kanye West plan to make their wedding extra special and educational. According to [People](#), Kardashian and West will let guests experience the wonders of Château of Versailles during a private surprise tour on Friday, May 23, on the verve of their wedding. The couple made this decision

together in hopes their quest will grasp a better understanding of the exceptional heritage of the castle of Versailles, which is a World Heritage site. The gorgeous duo first checked out the place in January, which was rumored to be where the wedding itself would take place, but palace official denied the rumors.

## **What are some ways to spice up your wedding rehearsal?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Weddings rehearsals can be much the same. You go through the steps of the wedding and then eat some dinner with family/friends. Cupid has some ways to spice it up a little:

**1. Make it themed:** A fun idea would to be make your wedding rehearsals themed. Have everyone dress up in the same style or era and make the festivities match what you want. You could make it themed by year such 50's style or 60's or you can do something else like make it western style, or mexican style or Italian it doesn't matter just pick something you both love.

**Related:** [Kim Kardashian and Kanye West Set a Wedding Date in Paris](#)

**2. Go some place fun:** Have your wedding rehearsal at a cool spot, that's fun, unique and interesting. You can rent a movie theater or have a movie screening and make it a film themed bash. Another thing you can do is travel to a destination, if it's exotic have the rehearsal on the beach or if it's a romantic place have it in a historical place or museum. There are many possibilities of wonderous place you can go, just make sure it's some place you both and your quests will enjoy. Celebrity Couples, Engagements, Kanye West, Kim Kardashian, Love, Marriage, Relationship Advice, Slider

**Related:** [Kim Kardashian and Kanye West Visit Paris: Wedding Plans?](#)

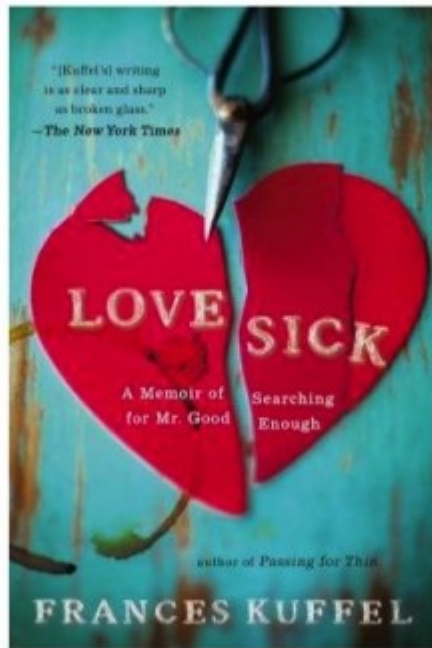
**3. Have some games:** Make your wedding rehearsals really fun by having and creating some fun games for guests to play. To make it even better for the guests get cool prizes for them to win, noting makes games more exciting than adding the chance of winning awesome prizes. Playing fun games doesn't have to be strictly raffle or guessing games, you can also have a paintball fight or a sports game, just make whatever you do fun for all.

**What do you think are good ways to spice up your wedding rehearsal? Share you tips below.**

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## **Date Idea: Live Out Your Fairytale**





By Leslie Chavez

Once upon a time, in a land far away, there was a place where chivalry prevailed, where it was acceptable for fair ladies to wear flower garlands, and where a princess could always count on being rescued by her Prince Charming. But fear not, dear maidens, for this enchanted image need not remain only fantasy. This weekend, let whimsical romance take over and live a few days in make-believe.

**Related Link:** [Dress Up](#)

Head to the nearest medieval fair and see the world of knights and queens come to life! After picking up a sword for your man and a piece of handcrafted jewelry for you, take a leisurely walk through the marketplace on your way to the big joust. You'll be on the edge of your seat watching the lance-armed knights battle it out for her majesty. To settle your nerves after all that excitement, grab two mugs of ale before experiencing the festive music and entertaining jesters of the town. However, be aware of the peasants, pirates, and wenches that also roam the streets – although there's no doubt that

your gallant knight will surely come to your rescue if need be.

If the realm of poetry and plays is of more interest to you, check out a summer Shakespeare festival and immerse yourself in his beautiful prose, filled with star-crossed lovers and noble cavaliers. Spend the day in the grass, listening to the expressive words of one of the world's greatest poets. Many festivals also include talks, readings, and classes that allow you to gain more insight into the romantic, chivalrous world portrayed on the stage. Submerge yourself in the imaginary love stories and embody the intense passion of Shakespeare's knights and maidens.

For a more intimate experience, create a magical evening at home. Together, prepare a small Middle Ages feast of roast chicken, honey cakes, and mead, fit for the king and queen that you are. While you're at it, listen to some instrumental tunes worthy of a royal ballroom waltz.

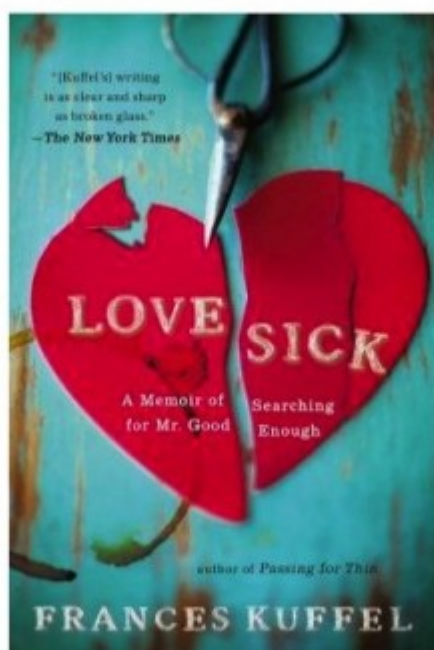
**Related Link:** [Expand Your Tastes](#)

After dinner, you can relax with the remainder of your mead and a fantasy TV marathon, be it *Game of Thrones* or the romantic tales of Disney's finest: Charming, Phillip, Eric, and the Beast. Either way, get ready for a night so jam-packed with true love's kisses and acts of bravery and charisma, it will definitely inspire your prince to follow suit. You'll both be so enamored by the romantic storylines of these old-fashioned and courtly characters from another time that it'll bring meaning and magic back to the words, "And they lived happily ever after."

**What is your fairytale date? Share with us in the comments below!**

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# Jason Aldean Walks First Red Carpet With Former Mistress Brittany Kerr



By Sanetra

Richards

A new couple has made their debut! That's right, Jason Aldean and Brittany Kerr are out of hiding and ready to show off their relationship. According to [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com), after filing for divorce from his wife, Jessica Ussery, over year ago, the country star walked the CMT Music Awards red carpet with his

new girlfriend Brittany Kerr on June 4<sup>th</sup>. After admitting to inappropriate behavior with Kerr in September 2012, Aldean called it quits on his 12-year marriage and later filed for divorce in April 2013. It was confirmed him and his former mistress were officially dating in March 2014. The couple was also spotted meeting up for dinner after April's ACM Awards.

## **How do you know when to go public with your new relationship?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

You and your new partner have been in hiding so long, and now you are ready to take it to the next step and go public. Unfortunately, you are concerned about the timing and possible reactions. Cupid has some advice to make the decision a little bit easier for you and your latest love:

**1. Everything is going smoothly:** When you cannot deny the feelings and there is nothing to complain about, you should probably begin to brace yourself for making the big announcement. You are more than satisfied and secure in the new relationship, so why hide it any longer? However, be sure you are absolutely comfortable and willing to inform everyone.

**Related:** [Jason Aldean Is Dating Mistress Brittany Kerr Post-Divorce](#)

**2. It is a mutual decision:** Both parties should agree on whom, when, and where to tell. If your partner has not quite warmed up to the idea just yet, give him/her some time and maybe ask for their reasoning. You want to confirm that they have the same vision of the relationship as you do.

**Related:** [New Couple: Zoe Kravitz and Noah Becker Stroll Hand-in-Hand](#)

**3. Longevity:** Have the both of you discussed a future life together? Is it a fling or forever? These are questions to ask

and keep in mind when making the decision to announce your relationship. If there is any doubt of being together later down the line, be cautious of informing family and friends. You want to be able to share the news, and your loved ones can count on this person to be around months (even years) down the line.

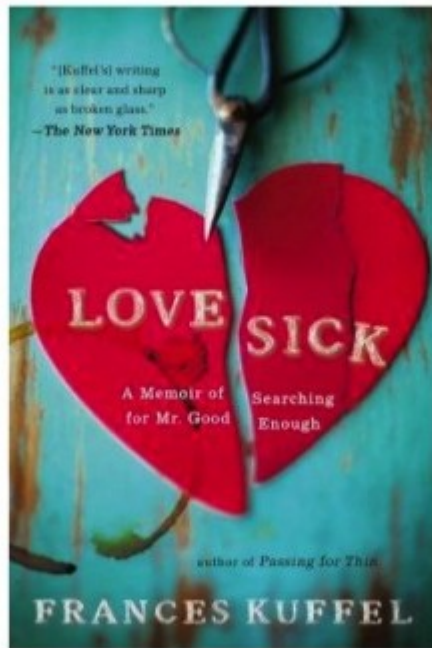
**What are some ways to know if you should go public with your new relationship? Share your thoughts below.**

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## **Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Being Your Own Person in a Couple**







By Shannon

Seibert

A growing misconception about relationships is that the partnership defines who you are as a person. First and foremost, you have to do what is best for *you* and be your own person. This doesn't mean you love your sweetheart any less; it just means that you know who you are individually. It takes two strong halves to equal a united whole, so we have pulled together these five articles from our partners to make your relationship stronger than ever:

**1. Don't marry your self-esteem to your man:** Basing your happiness off of the circumstances of your relationship is just a ticking time bomb heading for the inevitable explosion. If you're in a foul mood the entire day because you and your man are disagreeing over where to put the new couch, there may be a deeper problem. A woman who creates her own happiness is beautiful, and a woman who shares her happiness with someone she loves is even more beautiful. (YourTango.com)

**2. Establish your independence:** Much like our favorite independent woman Kourtney Kardashian, you can be in a strong,

loving relationship while holding your own. Kardashian is a spokesperson, model, and partner in numerous businesses apart from her man, but she still has the utmost love and respect for him. They are even expecting baby number three! (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

**3. Focus on yourself:** Sure, we all know that inner beauty is just as important as outer beauty...but sometimes, we just want to feel pretty. Take some time to focus on your skincare and haircare rituals with these beauty tips from actress Amanda Seyfried. (GalTime.com)

**4. Have outside interests:** What is the point in coming home to tell your honey about your day when you spent the entire day doing everything together? Having separate interests is actually liberating in a relationship. It gives you an outlet to be your own person without having to take someone else's opinions into consideration. So embrace your passion! (YourTango.com)

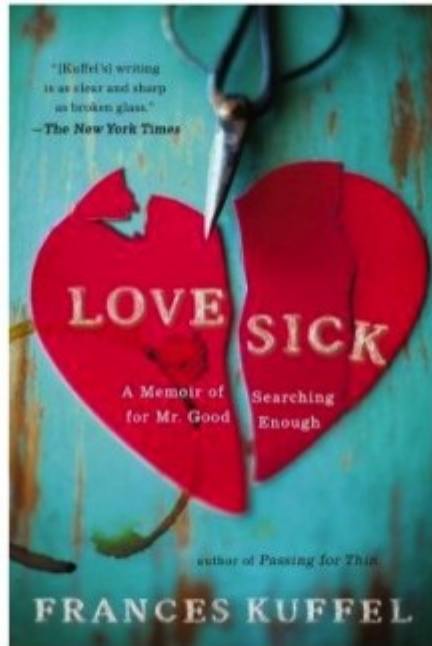
**5. Don't wait on the approval from your loved ones:** Your friends and family are important to the decisions you make, but you can't give them the reigns and just ride their opinion wave. If you're happy in your relationship, don't let your pals and relatives make you feel otherwise. Be confident in your feelings and learn to trust yourself. (GalTime.com)

**How do you stay true to yourself when you're in a relationship? Share with us in the comments below.**

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## **So You're Dating a Mama's**

# Boy !



By [David Wygant](#)

Congratulations! You're now in a relationship with a mama's boy. Mama's boys are tough to date. Mommy took such good care of them over the years, and while she's still in their lives, you might always play second fiddle to her.

I know all about mama's boys because my dad was one. I remember when we used to go out to the Hampton's during the summer. My dad would have his own special blueberries and sugar on top. His mom, my grandmother, would always reserve the coffee ice cream for him, her king. She catered *everything* to him. He'd call her at least three or four times a day. It was like he couldn't stand not having contact with her for even a couple of hours.

When you're dating a mama's boy, you're going to be under such a powerful microscope, and you can never win because nothing will ever be good enough for her "sweet little boy." Moms sometimes cradle and pander to their boys, no matter how old they are. Not just that, but they give them their full backing and support, even when they've done something wrong.

**Related Link:** [Five Ways To Get His Undivided Attention](#)

It's almost too much. He's used to being catered to, and he's used to having everything done for them. I've even known grown men who still take their laundry home for their moms to do. Some let mom come over to their place and tidy it up for them too!

I've heard many nightmare stories about girlfriends moving into their boyfriend's house and buying some new furniture and decor, only to come home one day and find out it's all been moved. Mom came over, decided she didn't like what you chose, and replaced it with all her own stuff.

Don't get me wrong though! Mama's boys have some great qualities too. They're gentle, they're sweet, and they're respectful.

The big problem is you may be used to dating a man-boy, someone who has struggled to leave the nest. He's a boy at heart who can't bear to leave his mom's side. It's hard when you're dating a mama's boy because you're going to find he'll increasingly want you to take over her duties.

**Related Link:** [4 Ways to Know You're Dating a 'Man-Boy,' Not a Man](#)

Now, you can try to break the boy out of mama's cradle, but that's not going to be easy. He's lived his entire life this way. He enjoys it, and he expects any woman he dates to treat him the same as his mom does. Are you ready to be in a relationship where you have to mother your partner and his mom

knows all your business? If you're ready for a relationship where your mother-in-law is going to know everything, and you can handle it, then go for it. If you can't, then you need to think again.

I remember I once dated a daddy's girl. Nothing I did ever compared to her father. She'd say it all the time too: "Dad did this for me, and Dad did that for me." I felt like I was competing with her dad, and it drove me crazy. If I ever did anything wrong, her daddy would get a phone call right away.

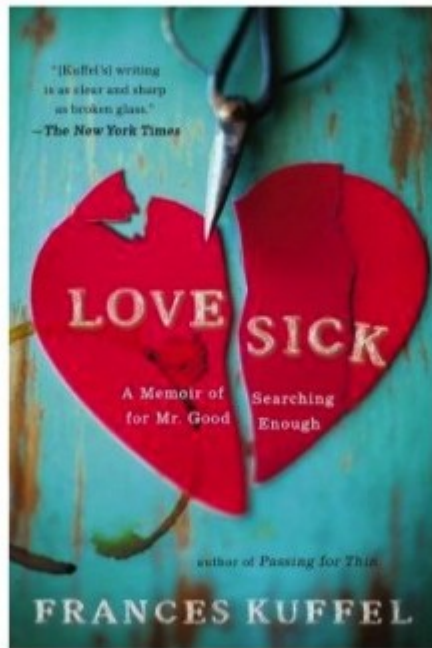
You want to be the woman in a man's life, not his caretaker. You don't want to compete with his mom, and you don't want to be second best. The next time you meet an amazing guy that happens to be a mama's boy, you need to ask yourself whether you can put up with this kind of behavior. If not, it's time to send him on his way and send him back to his mother. She'll welcome him with open arms!

*For more information on David Wygant, click [here](#).*

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## **What Singles Can Learn From Weddings in 'Save the Date: The Occasional Mortifications of a Serial Wedding Guest'**





By Liz Kim and

Brittany Stubbs

Weddings come in as many varieties as there are brides and grooms, and with them come some great receptions and some equally terrible ones. With each ceremony, you play a different role, and at a time where people are getting married later in life, weddings give us a little peek at what we want and don't want in our relationships. And when you've gone to as many weddings as author Jen Doll, you get a pretty good handle on wedding guest culture. In her memoir *Save the Date: The Occasional Mortifications of a Serial Wedding Guest*, she recounts many of the different weddings she's been to in her life (which is nearly 30 at this point!) and what they have taught her about herself and love.

**What inspired you to write *Save the Date: The Occasional Mortifications of a Serial Wedding Guest*?**

From the time we are very young, wedding culture surrounds us in so many ways. I grew up seeing pictures of my parents' wedding, watching televised weddings of celebrities and fictionalized wedding stories, and, of course, perusing photos

of myself at weddings as a child. As a kid, I thought about my own future wedding; I considered it something that was just inevitable. You grow up, you fall in love, and you get married. But as I got older, I realized it's not always that simple – and just because it's not simple doesn't mean it's not good.

I was inspired to look at my own wedding-going life because I think we've all been there in some way or another; while the specific stories may be different, the things we face at weddings – in the external situations or with our interior selves – are in many ways universal. The feelings we bring to these events play into our experience, just as those weddings also shape us and our feelings. I wanted to write about it so we could start to talk about it. Wedding guests have their own stories too.

**Related Link:** ['Never Have I Ever' Author Katie Heaney Says Love Should Be "a Supplement to a Full Life"](#)

**What would you like readers to learn from reading *Save the Date*? Do you have one message you're hoping they take to heart?**

I'd like people to come away with a sense of openness and possibility, to be relieved of some of the anxiety we tend to bring to weddings, and to feel that there is a community of wedding guests who have all been there too. I'd like for people to feel like they can tell their own wedding guest stories. We can have each other's backs! I'd also like people to feel that they don't have to judge themselves so harshly for failing to live up to old expectations. We should all just be the real selves that we are, acknowledge our inherent complications and occasional mortifications, and try to be good to ourselves and each other as we learn and grow and have as much joy as we can in life.

**Since you've been to your fair share of weddings, can you give**

**our readers a few of your dos and don'ts when attending a pal's nuptials?**

If you have concerns about the person your friend is marrying or about the marriage, do not get drunk and decide it's the right time to talk to her about it. I would recommend, if it's possible, addressing your concerns beforehand. She has her feelings, and you have yours. You are not the same people, and all that is reasonable and fair. But if you are good friends who love each other and want to stay close, you have to tell each other how you feel.

As for drinking in general, it's so easy to overindulge at a wedding. Waiters are constantly refilling your glass, sometimes without even asking! So just be careful. Sometimes, in the festive atmosphere, things turn a bad corner without you noticing, and then it's too late to get a handle on it.

And oh yeah, if you hate the bouquet toss (I hate the bouquet toss), leave the room!

**You reference the single woman's perspective in your book. What have you found to be the most difficult part about being a single woman at weddings? Do you usually bring a date or go solo?**

I have gone to weddings in each and every way it is possible to go to weddings as an unmarried person. I think the most difficult part of going to a wedding as a "single woman" (and probably guys feel this too) is just about going to anything alone. It's nerve-racking to show up by yourself, and you can feel awkward. But this also means that going as a single person to a wedding can be really expanding. You learn to be on your own and feel the power and freedom that comes with that. You can move seamlessly between conversations; you don't have to worry that your date isn't having a good time. You are just you. That's kind of awesome.

**Related Link:** ['The Bridesmaid's Manual': A Guide to Wedding](#)



## [Planning And Friendship](#)

**Any advice for other singles attending a wedding or two this summer?**

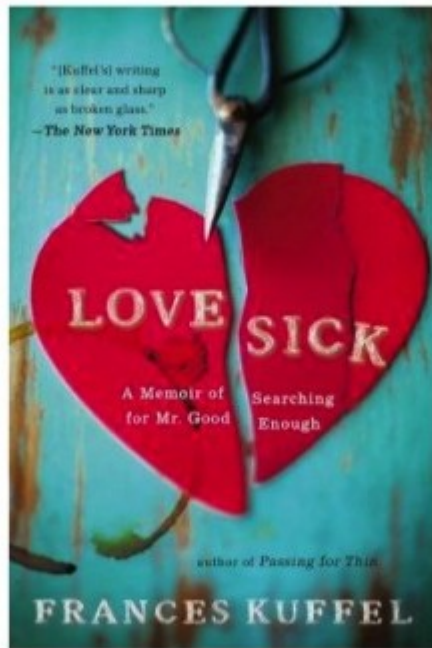
It can be really fun to go to a wedding on your own! If you are going by yourself to a wedding, I recommend really owning it. If it's in a nice destination, stay for a few more days before or after. Treat yourself to a massage, a new dress, a great haircut. Admit how you're feeling to yourself – because with repressed feelings come disaster, at least in my experience. Even if you are feeling a whole lot of confusing or complicated emotions, admitting that fact frees you up a bit. You can say, "Yes, that's there. I feel that, but I don't have to let it determine how I'll behave or prevent me from having fun in this moment."

*You can get your hands on 'Save the Date: The Occasional Mortifications of a Serial Wedding Guest' on Amazon. Keep up with Doll on Twitter @thisisjendoll.*

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## **How to Make Out with a Girl**





By Todd Valentine

Kissing was once the bane of my dating life. Like many of you, I was shy and worried about offending girls or making them feel uncomfortable. It took nine months of dating before I had my first kiss. Watch any romantic movie, and you'll notice that there is so much emphasis on the kiss. The kiss is the catalyst for getting physical. But, **kissing is just one step in physical escalation**, and it probably shouldn't be the first. A kiss can happen spontaneously—like on a dance floor—but typically you need to get physical in other ways first. One way is to make a move that doesn't involve kissing. If it's well received, continue. If not, back off and try again. When a woman says, "no," sometimes this really means, "not yet." Girls can be reluctant to make a move for fear of being labeled slutty, so it's your responsibility to make the interaction physical. Okay, so *how* do you actually make out with a girl? Below are four techniques that work for me:

## 1. Triangular Gazing

Look from her eyes, to lips, to eyes, to lips, and so on. This should be done slowly, and ideally, in silence. It conveys that you want to kiss, and it won't get you in trouble. If she goes silent too, or leans in, kiss her. If not? Try another technique.

**Related:** [5 Ways to Have a Stress-Free First Date](#)

## **2. Eskimo Kiss or Neck Bite**

The Eskimo Kiss is another move that builds arousal. Rub your nose against hers and say, "Come here—but no lips!" If she's into it, kiss her, but I would suggest pulling away. You can kiss next time. With the **Neck Bite**, you're getting physical, but the girl isn't technically a participant, so she won't feel slutty. Plus, a bite often arouses a girl *more* than a kiss. Lead with, "I need to tell you a secret," then go for a nibble.

**Related:** [Five Tips for Falling in Love in 2014](#)

## **3. Eyes-Closed Kiss**

"Close your eyes. I want to show you something." She closes her eyes, you kiss her. Again, this releases the girl from feeling "slutty." Use this technique if other signals are there but she keeps shying away from kissing. The girl usually knows what you're up to but will often be glad you relieved her of the responsibility.

## **4. The Gangster**

This is one of my favorites, but it requires courage. It works when you're not close enough to a girl to kiss her (maybe there's a table between you). Say, "sh," go silent, put down your drink, walk around the table, set down *her* drink, and kiss her. The move itself is so ballsy, and it will be less awkward to go for the kiss than to stop in the middle.

My overall advice is: **Go for it.** Girls want you to take

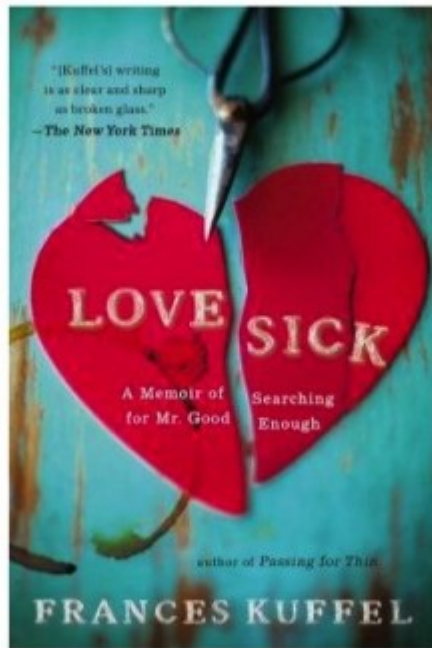
charge. Get into a sexual vibe so she does too. Slow down, look into her eyes, think sexual thoughts, and use **these four techniques**. If she responds well, great. If she doesn't, try again. Even if she doesn't kiss you, I promise she'll respect you for the attempt.

*Todd Valentine is a global authority on attraction and seduction. For more insights on kissing and dating, check out his blog [valentinelife.com](http://valentinelife.com) and his channel [youtube.com/rsdtodd](https://youtube.com/rsdtodd).*

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## 5 Reasons to Move In with your Mate





By Laura Seaman

Moving in with your partner is a big step. Sure, maybe you've spent the night at each other's apartments before, or gone on a trip where you shared a hotel room or lake house, but this is something else entirely. Living together means more than just sharing a house (which is a big responsibility on its own), it means sharing bills, personal space, and secrets that may have been hidden before. Despite the intimidation that comes with this decision, there are a few good reasons to take the plunge and move in with your mate:

### Share the Cost

Living together gives you half the rent and none of the transportation costs that came with two separate living spaces and the drive it took to visit one another. That's one utility bill, one water bill, and one gas bill. You'll also only be using one set of furniture. Just be sure that splitting these costs doesn't lead to conflict. Establish

ahead of time who will pay which bills and how much each of you will pay. With another living companion, paying the bills might be a bit more complicated, but they will be much less expensive.

### **See Their Habits (and Vice Versa)**

There are plenty of habits you may not get to see while you're dating someone. People tend to hide their bad habits when they're trying to impress, so you might have a pet peeve they haven't revealed. When someone is at home, they're much more comfortable with themselves and they can't help but show their little quirks. It may be something as little as biting their nails, or something difficult to ignore, such as counting having to walk through a doorway three times. It's important to see these habits before taking your relationship too much further, because there might be one habit that pushes you over the edge, and the sooner you find this out the better.

**Related:** [What You Need to Know Before You Move In Together](#)

### **Seeing the Ugly Side**

When you're dating, situations rarely arise that will bring out a person's temper. While living together, you have the chance to see their tempers flare. This may not seem like a pro, but you will be thankful for it in the future. Moving in with your partner is taking your relationship to the next step and seeing a side of them that they wouldn't normally show you. This step may not be pleasant, but it's very important and cannot be overlooked if you hope to maintain a stable relationship.

### **Learning to Share**

With one place to live, one set of furniture, and maybe even a pet, sharing is essential to staying in a happy relationship. It may be something we learned as children, but it seems to get harder as we get older. It's difficult to share a home;

that's why so many people argue with their families growing up. Once you learn to share more of your home with your partner, you can then learn to unwind and share more of yourself. It will be the most open and honest that you've ever been with each-other, and that is something you might not get when being apart.

**Related:** [QuickieChick's Video Dating Tips: Moving In with your Man](#)

### **Long-Term Decisions Come Up**

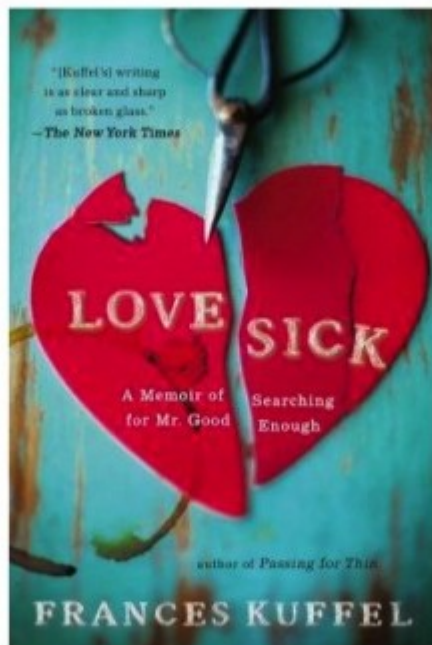
Living together is a big step in a relationship. For many, it means further commitment; it's a trial-run before marriage. However, what if not everyone involved feels that way? When going on a date, the subject of children and marriage isn't likely to come up. But when you're living together, you and your partner are bound to talk more, and these serious subjects will likely come up. This is the perfect way to find out if your mate made the move to become something more, or if maybe you both have something more to talk about.

Living together can be tough, and many people advise against it. However, it's these hardships that truly make it worth the risk. If your relationship can't make it through the step of living together, how can it make it through marriage? The pros might not be as happy or pleasant as expected, but as with all learning experiences, it is necessary.

**Do you think it's a good idea to move in with your mate? What's your experience? Let us know in the comments!**

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# Giuliana and Bill Rancic Support Each Other Through Surrogate Miscarriage



By Shannon Seibert

In devastating news, *E!* stars Bill and Giuliana Rancic face a surrogate miscarriage. The couple has been struggling to have another child, who would be a sibling to their son Duke, born by surrogate in August of 2012. The Rancics have a loving, supportive relationship with their surrogate, Delphine, who had an unexpected miscarriage at about nine weeks along. Giuliana herself had undergone a miscarriage years before, which only aided the heartbreak of the circumstances,



according to [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com).

## How do you support your partner through pregnancy troubles?

### Cupid's Advice:

**1. Don't ask questions you already know the answer to:** Questions such as "Are you okay?" may seem supportive, but in reality are just plain aggravating. Asking is just trivial, especially when the circumstances are clearly not okay. Listening goes hand in hand with this idea, meaning that you have to look for the meaning underneath the words and tune into what they may not be saying. Something as simple as holding your love's hand at the right moment can make all of the difference.

**Related:** [New Celebrity Couple Alert: Bethenny Frankel Is Dating Marcus Lemonis](#)

**2. Support with more than just words:** Saying you'll be there for your partner, and actually being there for your partner are two different animals. Being at doctors appointments, making crazy food runs, and supplying the foot rubs will go miles beyond any words you speak. What people forget is pregnancy does involve two parties, although only one of them carries the child. Pregnancy still takes an emotional toll on both partners, which is why it takes a strong partnership to maintain a foundation of support.

**Related:** [Hayden Panettiere and Wladimir Klitschko Prepare Relationship for Kid](#)

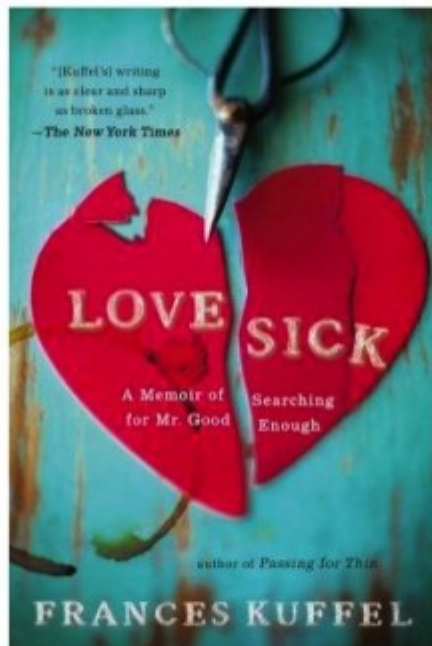
**3. Therapy is not just for the crazies:** Point blank, we all need someone to talk to, and therapy is a great place to get an impartial third party opinion. Couples' therapy has proven beneficial over recent years, allowing a safe place for the couple to open up and talk about issues at home. Even if there is just an aura of stress going around, therapy is a great place to dive into the root of the problem, and fix it under a

united front.

How have you gone about pregnancy struggles with your partner?  
Share with us in the comments below!

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# Jason Kennedy Announces Engagement to Lauren Scruggs



By Sanetra Richards

Another proposal, another love story! According to [\*People\*](#), Jason Kennedy has asked for his girlfriend's, Lauren Scruggs,

hand in marriage. The *E!* News correspondent professed his love for the fashion blogger and *Still LoLo* author about eight months ago and still has no shame in letting the world know. "She's amazing," Kennedy told PEOPLE. "It's a blur but I can't stop smiling," the host tells *E!* "She told me I couldn't surprise her, but I got her good. This is the best night of my life." In addition, the 32-year-old tweeted, "I flew to Dallas and asked her if she would spend the rest of her life with me. I love you @laurens scruggs." The proposal was held in Scrugg's hometown in Texas. A small number of relatives and friends were in attendance. As she stood on the balcony, Scruggs could see where Kennedy prepared a candle-filled message "Will you marry me?" Moments later, she met him downstairs where a Jennifer Meyer diamond ring was awaiting.

## **What are some ways to show your excitement about your engagement?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

You are more than happy at the idea of spending the rest of your life with that special person and want to shout it at the top of your lungs. In the meantime, you would rather show your enthusiasm in other ways, but not exactly sure how to. Here are a few of Cupid's tips:

**1. Speak highly of your partner:** This will become second nature if you are completely over the moon with your significant other. You will find yourself talking about their greatest traits that make you blush or have butterflies. For example, if they are selfless, you may find yourself telling others about this characteristic.

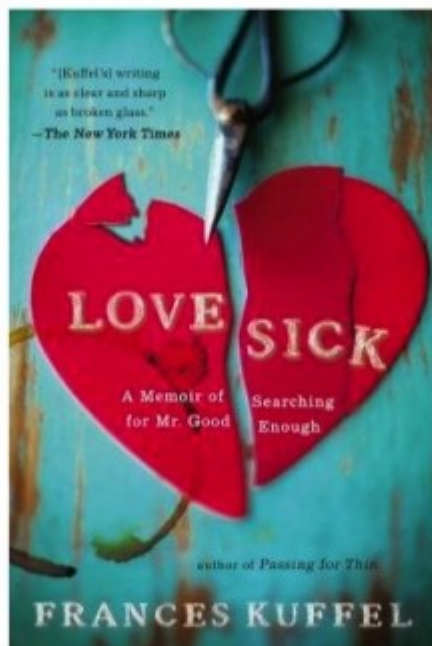
**2. Inform others:** Share with everyone that you are soon to be happily married. Tell family, friends, whoever is in sight! Broadcast it if you feel the need, unless you both have agreed to keep it a secret). If the highest mountain top were accessible, you would do it.

**3. Wear your engagement jewelry:** Whether that be a ring, necklace, what ever symbolizes the engagement, be sure to rock it every chance you get. This let's everyone know, including your partner, that you are looking forward to the day when you exchange vows.

**How do you show your excitement about your engagement? Share below.**

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## Date Idea: Write a Book



By Leslie Chavez

The act of writing can be so romantic. It's a creative way to

reflect on an experience and express your feelings on a special moment in sweet, expressive language. Just think of John Keats, Lord Byron, or William Wordsworth penning their observant and emotional poetry. They'll be sure to inspire you to create a written keepsake with your love.

Be each other's muses as you construct a work that reflects your relationship. If you both love reading, put together a book of your favorite quotes from literature and poetry. You can go back to the book every now and then and take a trip down memory lane, reminiscing on what quotes you chose and why you chose them.

**Related Link:** [Take a Trip Down Memory Lane](#)

Sharing with each other why these words are important to you will make you feel more emotionally connected. Or take it to the next level and do a special exercise: Pick a poetic quote that reminds you of your man and have him do the same for you. Flattery with beautiful verse is such a turn on. Indulge in a little *wordplay*, if you will.

If you both enjoy cooking, develop your own special cookbook. Jot down your favorite recipes to make together. You can even include drawings or funny stories about your experiences when making a specific recipe. Did you stop and have a flirty food fight? Is this something that you made on one of your first dates? Document your experiences! Each time you turn to your special cookbook, it will help you remember the sweet moments that you've spent together. This reminder will give you more than just a meal to savor.

If you want to get even more creative, write a short story, poem, or love sonnet together. Throw some ideas around and don't be afraid of what the other person thinks. Being able to express creative ideas with your partner without feeling self-conscious brings your trust for each other to a whole new level.

**Related Link:** [Publish a Love Sonnet](#)

Let yourself be silly. No matter how crazy an idea seems, tell your love; the worst thing that can happen is that you'll laugh at each other, only elevating your mood and enhancing creativity. When you guys finish your masterpiece, you'll be able to say that you created a work of art together, serving as each other's inspirations.

You can even write about your own relationship. According to new research from Northwestern University, a few minutes spent writing about your relationship can protect your bond. In the exercise, couples were asked to write about an argument that they recently had from a neutral third-party perspective. When doing this activity, they were much better able to contemplate what the best, most logical solution to a problem in their relationship would be. According to the article, "The reflection and contemplation involved in writing makes for a healthier relationship and reduces the amounts of distress couples feel about arguments." What a relief!

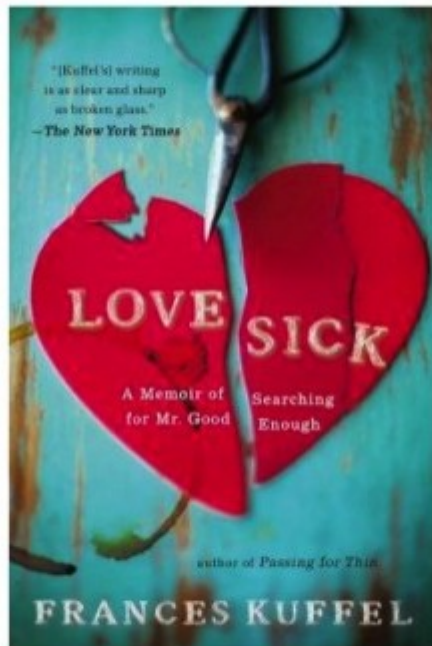
So whether used to reflect or to create, writing serves as an intellectual experience you and your muse can connect with and benefit from.

**Have you ever written something special with your love? Tell us in the comments below!**

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## **Evan Rachel Wood and Jamie Bell Split After 2 Years of**

# Marriage



By Sanetra Richards

The wedding bands are off for! According to [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com), Evan Rachel Wood and Jamie Bell have decided to go their separate ways after two years of marriage. In an exclusive statement, a rep told *Us*, “Evan Rachel Wood and Jamie Bell have decided to separate. They both love and respect one another and will of course remain committed to co-parenting their son. This is a mutual decision and the two remain close friends.” A source also added, “They love each other so much but it just wasn’t right.” The pair met back in 2004 on the video set of Green Day’s “Wake Me Up When September Ends” and walked down the aisle eight years later in 2012. The 26 and 28-year-old also welcomed a new addition to their family last



July. The new mom shared with Us in November what motherhood was like and her busy schedule: “I’ve been having separation anxiety because I’m so used to him being right here all the time. They kind of become a part of you, you know?” said Wood as she blushed about their baby boy. “It was my dream to be a mom, so I’m loving it. I love it.” “He’s smiling and laughing. He started rolling over,” she went onto add about his steps through babyhood. “He’s grabbing things. You know, he’s making oohs and aahs.” The couple’s last red carpet appearance was also back in November for the LACMA 2013 Art + Film Gala held in Los Angeles.

## **How do you know when it’s time to call it quits on your marriage?**

### **Cupid’s Advice:**

Unfortunately, every marriage cannot be salvaged, and it’s best to know when you should part ways before letting time pass you by. Here are a few things Cupid thinks will help you come to the realization:

**1. Everyday bickering:** The time you spend together is consumed by arguments, whether petty or major. And at the end of the day, you and your partner cannot come to an agreement on anything. Compromise definitely does not exist in your household! Pay attention to the disputes revolving around some of the smallest issues and if there is constant finger pointing. Although proper communication can repair a relationship, there is not a 100% guarantee.

**Related:** [Evan Rachel Wood Welcomes a Baby Boy with Jamie Bell](#)

**2. Future? More like past:** Your significant other starts off as a good time – you can see planning and building your entire life with him/her . . . but then you begin to realize that you do not see them in your future. The dream of making a home, starting a family, etc., slowly vanishes. The nitpicking and dislikes become greater than ever – and so does calling it



quits.

**Related:** [Evan Rachel Wood and Jamie Bell Tie the Knot](#)

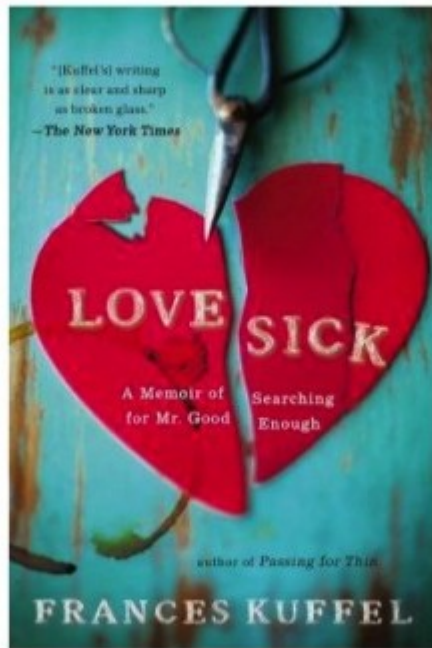
**3. Attraction fizzles:** No more wild and spontaneous dates, or romance, period. You no longer desire to have your partner around. Do not ignore the warning signs! Keep in mind, they are always there before the storm approaches.

**What are the signs that your marriage is in its last days? Share your thoughts below.**

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## Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Defining Your Relationship





By Shannon

Seibert

Lately, it is becoming seemingly more difficult to define a relationship than it is to find one. The two of you have been hanging out for a couple of weeks, and you send each other flirty “I want to see you” text messages when you’re apart, but you don’t want to seem too pushy for a commitment. We’ve pulled together these five articles from our partners to help you figure out your next step:

**1. Talking about it can help:** Opening up a can of worms can be scary at first, but it’s always better than wondering about those “what if?” scenarios. If you’re really starting to develop feelings for him, you need to let him know. Look him in the eyes, remain calm, and be confident with each word you speak. A stimulating conversation could be just what the two of you need in order to progress in the right direction. (GalTime.com)

**2. A strong friendship is a great foundation:** One of our biggest fears when we start to have feelings for someone is that we’ll be trapped being “just friends.” For some couples,

the unforeseen future stemmed from this stage. For example, newlyweds Kim Kardashian and Kanye West began a slow and steady friendship, and now, they are happily married with a beautiful daughter. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

**3. "Hooking up" is not an exact science:** Casual relationships have become increasingly popular in recent years, therefore changing the rules of the dating game. We start out thinking that the idea of a no-strings-attached encounter is the perfect temporary solution until we figure things out, but eventually, it becomes one powerfully-enticing cocktail that will leave you with a nasty love hangover. (YourTango.com)

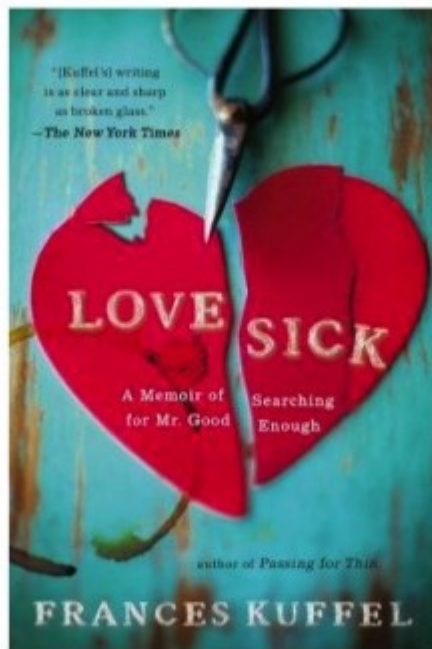
**4. Sometimes, the wait is worth it:** When it comes to mixing the mental and physical elements of relationships, things can get a little hairy. How far is too far? The answer to that, of course, is wherever you're comfortable. Never let a man dictate the happiness of your relationship or allow him to make you feel like you have to measure up to his expectations. (GalTime.com)

**5. Don't rely on subtle hints:** Men aren't exactly rocket scientists. We want to believe in the fairy tale we read about in Nicholas Sparks novels, but this is the real world, and sometimes, in the real world, women need to be their own heroes. Here are 50 ways to say what is weighing on your heart – without even opening your mouth. (YourTango.com)

**How do you know how to define your relationship? Tell us in the comments below!**

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# Single in Stilettos Show: What Makes a Man Disappear



On this week's [Single in Stilettos](#) show, founder Suzanne Oshima talks to New York dating coach Hunt Ethridge about what makes a man disappear. According to Ethridge, there are three things that you should avoid doing if you want your guy to stick around: being too needy or desperate, thinking about the future too soon, and saying "we need to talk" (the absolute *worst* thing you can say to your beau!).

**Related Link:** [Hunt Ethridge on How to Ask a Guy Out](#)

Listen up for more great advice!

For more information about Single in Stilettos shows,

click [here](#).

*For more videos from CupidsPulse.com, check out our [YouTube channel](#).*

**How to you ensure that your new guy doesn't disappear? Tell us in the comments below!**