

# Single Celebrities Who Rock (and Rule)!



By Terry Hernon MacDonald of [singlewomenrule.com](http://singlewomenrule.com)

A happy marriage may be among life's greatest pleasures, but there's a lot to be said for living single. For too long, single men and women have been portrayed as unlovable, irresponsible, selfish, or childish. (The media tend to portray single celebs in their 20s as sexy, but once she – and in this case, it's usually a she – turns 30, the question, "Is there anyone special in your life?" comes with increasing frequency and feigned concern.)

It's time to celebrate two unmarried women who make single living desirable, and they're both well over 30. If you're not there yet, they'll give you plenty to aspire to; if you are, they'll give you reasons to be cheerful.

## **Susan Sarandon**

The young woman who played the grating but endearing Janet Weiss in *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* went on to draw acclaim for her performance in *Atlantic City* and ascended from there.

She built a reputation for being the wise, sexy, and – later on – the older woman men find irresistible. (After 40, she solidified her status as a sex symbol – not a sex object – in *Bull Durham* and *Thelma and Louise*.)

And, while she's sexy, she's also one to beat the odds. According to [IMDb.com](http://IMDb.com), doctors Sarandon that she'd never have children. She had the last of three at 45. Today, she's 64, living on her own terms, having recently ended a 21-year relationship with *Durham* co-star Timothy Robbins.

## Marisa Tomei

According to IMDb.com, this 46-year-old actress says of marriage, "I'm not that big a fan of marriage as an institution, and I don't know why women need to have children to be seen as complete human beings." Tomei does enjoy relationships, though, having dated many attractive men, most recently actor Logan Marshall-Green, who is 12 years her junior.

Since hitting it big in the 1992 comedy *My Cousin Vinny* (her performance was ridiculed by the likes of Charlie Sheen), Tomei earned considerable respect for her work in *Welcome to Sarajevo* and *In the Bedroom*. She garnered an Oscar nomination for *The Wrestler* in 2008 and will co-star with Kevin Bacon, Steve Carell, and Emma Stone in *Crazy, Stupid, Love*, due for release in April 2011.

While Tomei's acting made her famous, what we at SWR really love her for is her work on behalf of women's causes, most notably Equality Now.

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# Michele Cove Discusses Film and Book, 'Seeking Happily Ever After'



By Veronica LaRoque

From reality dating shows to speed dating events to eHarmony

commercials, it seems like everyone is in a race to the altar. Today's society might make it seem like being single is not an option and that it's just a phase until you find "the one." [Michelle Cove](#) documented people on their journeys to find love in her new film, *Seeking Happily Ever After*, and inadvertently found gourds of proud singles out there.

In her companion book *Seeking Happily Ever After: How to navigate the ups and downs of being single without losing your mind (and finding lasting love along the way)*, Cove explores why there have been more single women than ever lately, while allowing single women to reclaim their own stories. With wit, humor and sage advice, Cove uses others' stories to answer questions raised during filming and creates a self-help book expressly for women who are single and loving it.

## **What are the advantages of being single?**

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

Cupid learned all about why women are single and what they can do to make themselves happy by finding true love – if they're looking for it. See what Michelle Cove had to say about her movie and book:

## **How did filming *Seeking Happily Ever After* lead you to writing this book?**

The film poses questions about this phenomenon and allows viewers to come to their own conclusions. When the film was completed, I wanted to go a step further and try to answer some of women's pressing questions that came up during filming—and to create a self-help book that didn't lump single women into one giant category of "desperately looking for a husband," like so many other books out there.

**Before filming *Seeking Happily Ever After*, you had written a book called *I'm Not Mad, I Just Hate You* about mother-daughter relationships. How does that book compare to your first?**

*I'm Not Mad, I Just Hate You* was a book that helped mom teach their teen daughters how to handle conflict. It was a book meant to empower women by giving them concrete strategies that they could then pass on to their daughters. *Seeking Happily Ever After* is a book that strives to empower single women by helping them tune into their own needs and block out all the "noise" and pressure to get married. I think most of my projects, in one way or another, challenge women to explore their choices with thoughtful intention.

### **What kind of problems do you address in the book?**

I give women the tools they need to figure out what they want for themselves in a relationship, which isn't easy in a culture obsessed with weddings. I also give them scripts to use to deal with family members, friends, colleagues and so on who treat their single status like a problem to fix. Also, I answer practical questions like, "I worry about being alone and getting sick. What can I do?" and "What do I need to know about traveling on my own?"

### **In the book, what is your view on being single?**

The book is divided into 12 types of singlehood, such as "The Organic," who wants to meet a guy the old-fashioned way (by chance), but friends and family insist she'll end up alone; "The Late Bloomer" is the single who refuses to live life to the fullest now, but rather is waiting because she wants to enjoy her dreams with a husband. Then there is a chapter on "The Trailblazer," and this is the woman who has no interest in marriage and is sick of having to defend her decision. She has the challenge of carving out her own path, and I give women in this category tips for being able to create a new path even as others tell them their choice is wrong.

### **What advice do you have for single women out there?**

We are taught pretty early that happiness is "married with two kids and the white picket fence," and many of us buy into this

“happily ever after,” whether it fits us or not. I think women need to learn how to tune into their own voice and figure out what their own happily ever after looks like right now, whether it’s the conventional route or not, and how to get it. I also think we need to appreciate that our “happily ever after” notion will change over time, and it should. Our needs change over time, so we need to tune into these needs and explore them consistently.

Cupid thanks Michelle Cove for her time! For more information on the author, visit [www.seekinghappilyeverafter.com](http://www.seekinghappilyeverafter.com).

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## SWR Singles Blog Crawl: Day 3



### Rachel Buddeberg Muses on All Things Single

2010 SingleWomenRule.com Blog Crawl for National Unmarried and Single Americans Week

September 19 – 25, 2010

Crawl over to a new blog by Dr. Bella DePaulo, All Things Single (And More), where **Rachel Buddeberg** will share her musings.

**Bella DePaulo** (Ph.D., Harvard) is the author of *Singled Out*, *Single with Attitude*, and a blog “All Things Single (and More).” She also writes the “Living Single” blog for Psychology Today. Her op-ed essays have appeared in

publications such as *The New York Times*, the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, and *Forbes*.

**Rachel Buddeberg**, a feminist and freethinking humanist in the San Francisco Bay area, muses on her blog about meaning making; redefining community and relationships to build alternative ways of relating, which avoid cultural trances and thus support equality and democracy; and anything else that interests her.

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# SWR Blog Crawl-Step Outside Your Dating Comfort Zone This Fall



**2010 SingleWomenRule.com Blog Crawl for National Unmarried and Single Americans Week**

***September 19 – 25, 2010***

***Day 2***

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**Today's Prize:** Visit [SingleWomenRule.com](http://SingleWomenRule.com) to enter to win one of several great prizes including an introductory pack of cards to the new dating site, [Cheekd.com](http://Cheekd.com), Modern Courtesan by YS perfumes, books, and more. Open to U.S. Residents only.

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Guest Post by *Melissa Braverman, Singlegalnyc.com*

Summer may be over, but there's no better time to heat up your love life than by stepping out of your dating comfort zone this fall.

Some of today's hottest celebrity couples got their start because one half of the pair made a bold move. During an appearance on Josh Duhamel's Las Vegas, Fergie walked right up to him and said 'I read you had a dream about me' for her opening line. Desperate Housewives' Marcia Cross first saw future husband Tom Mahoney at a flower shop and asked the owner to give him her phone number.

As a woman, making the first move isn't always easy – and, in some countries it hardly happens at all, as I've discovered during my European Dating Blitz. Over the last five weeks, I have traveled far out of my own comfort zone to explore what being single is like in six European countries. One recurring theme I've heard, especially in England and Ireland is that neither gender feels comfortable initiating a flirty conversation. "In Europe, people don't really want to make the first move," according to Fabrice LeParc, CEO of SmartDate.com, an online dating site that caters to both Americans and Europeans. "Here, it's not accepted for a woman to make a move. A smile is the most you can hope to get."

Part of the challenge in Northern Europe is single men tend to be reserved. "Men here are more on their guard and shy than in Spain, France and Southern Europe," observes France-born single Charlotte, 37. "They just come and say hello and start a conversation." Something that most British single women don't feel comfortable doing. "I would never go and talk to someone in a bar and neither would any of my girlfriends," says London bachelorette Nichola, 34. "As a single girl, you would never go to a bar on your own."

When flirting does happen, sex happens more quickly without the so-called rules that are so much a part of the American dating scene. For European singles, though, breaking the ice isn't easy since small talk doesn't happen in the same way that it does in the U.S. "If you don't know someone in Paris, you don't talk," says bachelor David, 35. "In Anglo-Saxon places like the U.S., it's normal to talk. We are too closed in Paris."

Perhaps one of the greatest differences between American and European dating is in how singles approach their love lives. "People in France and Latin countries, they want to feel fate has a role to play," says Fabrice. "Americans and Nordics are more organized, they want to take control of their lives."

I'm no exception. A few nights ago, I decided to venture out on my own to a bar in Berlin. I wouldn't think twice about doing this in New York, but I had a little trepidation in unfamiliar territory where a woman out on her own is not at all the norm.

"Are you here alone?" asked the bouncer, clearly surprised to see that I was.

Once I was inside, I spotted a cute redheaded guy also alone, at a table by the window. Drink in hand, I gingerly walked in his direction and placed my glass on the table. He said, "hello" and we ended up talking the night away.

Like Fergie and Marcia Cross, I've found that your love life can be full of surprises when you step outside of your comfort zone. Here are three tips for shaking up your routine this fall.

**Skip The Same Old, Same Old:** Take a break from your favorite neighborhood haunts and venture to a new zip code. Whether it's exploring a watering hole you've never been to or discovering a new restaurant, act like you're visiting your hometown for the first time.



Take The Why Not Approach: If there's something you've always wanted to try, whether it's speed dating or a singles lock and key party, don't ask yourself why. Ask why not? and just do it. You've got nothing to lose and everything to gain by putting yourself out there.

Recruit A Wingman: It's no secret that getting out of your comfort zone is a lot more fun when you've got a wingman by your side. Recruit a fellow single friend to join you as you embark on new season of adventure and romance.

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# Single Women Rule Singles Blog Crawl



**National Unmarried and Single Americans Week**

***September 19th – 25, 2010.***

According to the U.S. Census bureau, there are an estimated 84 million single and unmarried adults in the United States. To celebrate all of these non-couples, SingleWomenRule.com will be hosting their Second Annual Blog Crawl, and this year, Cupid's Pulse will be part of it!

**What's a blog crawl?** It's a like a pub crawl (minus the booze, unless you want to enjoy a glass of bubbly in the comfort of your home) on your computer and it lasts a full week!

**Here's how it works:** SingleWomenRule.com will guide visitors to a different blog each day, for seven days, to read a guest post by one of seven featured writers. The blog crawl is designed to show case some of the most influential and talented writers and blogs in the online singles community.

**Where does Cupid come in?** Cupid's Pulse will participate as a blog host on Monday, Sept. 20, and will feature singlelegalnyc.com, Melissa Braverman, as she talks about the differences of dating in Europe vs. the U.S.

But that's not all Cupid will be doing to celebrate the week:

- The Ah Diamond Ring for singles (an Oprah favorite) will be featured on The Beat.
- Cupid will be participating in the first of three Tuesday night events for the upcoming "Live the Life You Love" Series beginning Tuesday, Sept. 21! Watch for free ticket giveaways.
- Check out our fabulous interview with Nicole Porter, author of *The Break-up Cookbook*.

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## Single Ladies: Live the Life You Love



**Win a Free Ticket: October 12th at 6:30**

Want an expert opinion on how to improve your relationships, boost your career, or just make your life a little more luscious? This fall you'll have your chance to hear it all at the upcoming Second Annual "Live the Life You Love" event, sponsored by HurryDate and Single Edition.

The three-part women's-only lifestyle series begins Tuesday,

Sept. 21 at the Samsung Experience Store in the Time Warner Center. Each seminar offers insight, innovative tips and creative ideas to help you thrive at work, home and in your community – not to mention a great opportunity to meet other fabulous single women just like you!

You can buy your tickets here, or for your chance to win one free ticket, shoot an arrow to Cupid's Pulse with the name of your favorite celebrity couple. One random winner will be chosen in October.

### **Here are the speakers for this event:**

Carolyn Kelly North: "Dump the Slumps! Ways to Boost Your Mood when 'Dating Fatigue' Sets In"


Helen Kim: "A Woman's Guide to Your Money Relationship"

Kathryn Kaycoff-Manos and Lauri de Brito: "Fertility 101: Essential Tips for the Single Woman"

If you don't win this time around, don't fret. There will be another opportunity on for the last event on November 2. Stay tuned to Cupid's Pulse for your chance to win more free tickets!

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## **Jersey Shore Boyfriends Strike Out**

 Got a fever for *Jersey Shore* cast? You're in luck – they're single! Snooki, Sammi Sweetheart and JWoww have broken up with their respective partners, [E! Online](#) reported last week. Despite Snooki's dumping her "Gorilla Juicehead" beau, Emilio Masella plans to win her back. "I've been doing

everything crazy to that you can think of to get MTV's attention," he told E!. JWovw's manager boyfriend, Tom Lippolis, won't speak on their issues, but commented, "I've been better." Lastly, *Jersey Shore's* favorite couple from season one, Ronnie Magro and Sammi, have been in an on-again, off-again relationship for a while. They're currently off-again.

## **How can you survive the summer while being single?**

### Cupid's Advice:

Summer promises warm days, long nights, beaches, parties, and even that summer fling. But if everyone is hooking up and you're left in the dust, it can get a little lonely. Cupid has some ways to deal when you're not getting your fair share of the summer hook-up:

**1. Enjoy it:** Summer is the time to bear it all. From bikinis and daisy dukes to shirtless pecs, say hello to some well-deserved eye-candy! There are plenty of fish in the sea, but they're all crowding the beach while the weather is still warm. Head to your closest shore and feel free to ogle the goods.

**2. Friends:** You can never have too many friends. If your buds are spending more time with their significant other, find some new people to kill time with. Who knows – you may end up meeting someone to spend those long summer days with.

**3. Family:** No one knows you better than your family, so spend your time with them. It's less awkward than being the third wheel. Going to barbecues and family picnics will take your mind off of things.

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# Kelly Osbourne Parties After Breakup



Hello Sin City! The newly single Kelly Osbourne hit up Las Vegas and partied with friends last week after her recent breakup with British model Luke Worrall. Osbourne spent Thursday night celebrating best friend Blake Wood's birthday. "She seemed really happy and not phased by the breakup," a source who saw her that night told [People](#). The 25-year-old and her friends did lemon drop shots and danced the night away at Haze Nightclub after a lobster, crab, and steak dinner at Union Restaurant.

**How can you bounce back after a breakup?**

## **Cupid's Advice:**

Finding out he wasn't your Prince Charming can be tough. Here are some of Cupid's ways to speed up the process:

- 1. Take the high road:** Don't spread rumors or make negative comments about your ex behind his back. Remember, there was something about that person that made you fall head over heels for him or her at one point.
- 2. Get your mind off the bad things:** Keep yourself preoccupied with work or hobbies to keep busy mentally. This will help you focus on the important stuff.
- 3. Channel your energy:** Take whatever feelings of resentment or revenge you may have for your ex, and use it towards something productive, like exercising or staying in shape.