

'The Bachelorette' Andi Dorfman Eliminates Chris Soules After Admitting Her Feelings Aren't as Strong



By Laura Seaman

In the latest celebrity relationship news, reality TV sensation Andi Dorfman has narrowed it down to two men on [The Bachelorette](#). [Chris Soules](#), a farm boy from Iowa, was eliminated after his date in the Dominican Republic. Soules told Dorfman that he loved her, but according to [UsMagazine.com](#), the reality TV star didn't feel the same way. "I don't think it's fair to make you sit here for days and wait for a rose ceremony," she said. "I just think I'd rather

be honest with you and tell you that I'm trying and trying, but it's not there..."

How can you manage your relationship and love when your feelings are different from your partner's?

Cupid's Advice:

It can be extremely awkward when one person's feelings don't quite equal their partner's. If don't think you're quite ready for the level of intensity that your partner is, don't worry. There are plenty of ways to handle this issue in relationships and love, and they don't involve running in the opposite direction:

1. Be honest, and tell them to be patient: Don't just let them continue thinking you're more into them than you really are. It's letting them believe in a lie, and it's no better than just outright lying! The further apart your feelings get, the further apart you will grow as a couple, and if you don't fix it soon, the distance may become too much.

Related Link: [Eric Hill's Death Casts a Shadow on 'Bachelorette' Hometown Dates.](#)

2. Ask them to double-check their feelings: Some people might want love so desperately that they trick themselves into feeling it when it's not really there. Make sure you're not a recipient of these fake feelings, and ask your significant other to really think about what they're feeling. This could bring them back to your level and give the relationship a more solid foundation.

Related Link: [How Not To Scare a New Man Away](#)

3. Take a step back and start from the beginning. If you've just been going along with their strong feelings, maybe you're taking steps you weren't really ready for. This might mean moving in together, talking about future plans, or just saying things you don't mean. Ask them to take a step back and start again a few steps back.

How have you gotten on the same page as your partner in your relationship and love? Let us know in the comments below!

Eric Hill's Death Casts a Shadow on 'Bachelorette' Hometown Dates





By Laura Seaman

On week eight of this season's Bachelorette, a tragedy stuns the reality stars just after their hometown dates. A former contestant, Eric Hill, died in a paragliding accident. According to UsMagazine.com, the cast was told after returning from their hometown dates and given time to mourn the loss, though the cameras were still rolling. The rose ceremony was even more emotional than usual, with bachelorette Andi Dorfman saying, "Tonight was always gonna be tough, but I don't think anyone could've imagined that it would be like this."

What are some ways to support your partner through a tragedy?

Cupid's Advice:

Nobody truly knows how to handle a tragedy; if they did, maybe it wouldn't be such a tragedy. However, if your partner is going through a very emotional time, you can try to handle the situation the best way you know how. Here are some tips for helping your partner through tough times:

1. Give them any alone time they might need. For some people,

piling on the attention and affection might seem like a good idea, but sometimes what your partner might really need is time alone to think, reflect, or just acknowledge their feelings. Respect their wishes and keep your distance.

Related: [Screwing the Rules Dating Tips: Communicating About Tough Topics](#)

2. Be the help they need. This could mean keeping your distance, or it would mean being the shoulder to cry on. There are many ways to support your partner, and you have to be willing to try all of them, even if they are out of your comfort zone. If your partner needs you to be there and listen, you need to be there and do just that. If you need to take a few days off work to make sure they're okay, do so.

Related: [How to Help Your Partner Through a Crisis](#)

3. Don't tiptoe around it. Tears and heavy emotions can be awkward and stressful, but you can't just avoid them. The last thing your partner needs is someone who ignores their pain or pretends like nothing is going on. Acknowledge their emotions and be there in the moment. This is a huge part of any relationship!

Have you ever had to help your partner through a tragedy? How did you handle it? Tell us in the comments below!

New Born Baby Bonding the Love Between Bachelor and Lorette

DeAnna Pappas and Stephen Stagliano



By Laura Seaman

A newborn baby girl has brought DeAnna Pappas Stagliano and husband Stephen Stagliano closer than ever. The couple, married in 2011, told [People](#) about their love as parents: “I didn’t know that you could love like this. Obviously I love DeAnna to pieces and we have a wonderful marriage, but the love that a parent has, it’s just different,” said Stagliano. The now 5-month-old baby Addison Marie Stagliano has brought a happy and completely new experience to the couple. “Nothing can really prepare you for what it’s like to have a child and how your life will change, but I will say we’re really good at it,” said the new mother. “We’re a really good team.”

How can a child bring you and your partner closer together?

Cupid's Advice:

Being in love with your partner is one thing, but being in love with your partner while raising a child is another. The process of raising a child puts your relationship through situations to which nothing else could even compare! Through all the dirty diapers, walks in the park, and 6AM wake-up calls, your relationship can become stronger and more wonderful than ever before. Cupid has some advice:

1. Working together to raise a child makes you a team. If you've ever worked on a project with your partner, maybe you know a bit of what this feels like. Raising a child requires a lot of work on both ends, so when small achievements like a first step or a first word start happening, you can be proud together and know that all the wonderful things your baby accomplishes are due to the great bond of you and your partner.

Related: [Olivia Wilde Talks Seeing Son Otis Laugh with Jason Sudeikis](#)

2. Sharing the love for your baby is powerful. A love for one's child is unique, but one other person can truly understand; your partner. You both have this strong, amazing love for your child and that shared love is something nobody else can have. It's like a wonderful secret only you two know.

Related: [Vanessa Carlton Is Expecting a Baby with Husband John Mc Cauley](#)

3. Struggling together through the process can strengthen your bond. Raising a child isn't easy, but you're going through all of the ups and downs with your partner. When times get tough, you can both understand what the other is feeling and be a better support system.

How did your child bring you and your partner closer together?

Let us know in the comments!

Celebrity Tell-All Authors





Ellen DeGeneres and Portia de Rossi

Both of these lovely ladies have written books that give insight into the struggles they've had to face. The funny lady wrote about coming out in Hollywood and her career as an actress, host, and comedian, while her wife wrote about her journey to overcome anorexia and bulimia. Photo: Andrew Evans / PR Photos

Screwing the Rules Video Dating Tips: 'The Bachelorette' Way to Date Lots of Guys





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

Dating Advice from E!'s *Famously Single* Laurel House on Dating Lots of Guys

If you're a fan of *The Bachelorette*, then you know the formula is simple: the Bachelorette (currently Andi Dorfman) starts off dating 25 guys before whittling the group down to her final pick. Using the show as inspiration, in this week's [dating advice](#) video, relationship expert and E!'s *Famously Single* dating coach, [Laurel House](#) shares her best advice for dating a lot of guys. As the dating expert explains, "If you want to find your perfect mate, you need to date multiple people at once. How are you supposed to make a decision if you don't have any choices?"

Related Link: [Video Dating Tips: 'Bachelorette'-Based Ways to Know If He's Using You](#)

Listen up if you're ready to date more than one guy in order to meet your soulmate!

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

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

What are tips for dating lots of guys at once? Tell us in the comments below.

'Bachelorette' Andi Dorfman Quits Assistant District Attorney Job





By Shannon Seibert

After her memorable exit from Juan Pablo's season of *The Bachelor*, Andi Dorfman, attorney bachelorette, has proven to be a woman who goes after what she wants. It has been confirmed that the season 10 Bachelorette has quit her post as Assistant District Attorney in Fulton County, Georgia. Dorfman hasn't announced any plans for what comes next after *The Bachelorette*, but her direct attitude is helping her find love on national television, captivating the hearts of the lucky men as well as the hearts of America, according to UsMagazine.com.

How do you know when to put love before your career?

Cupid's Advice:

How can you choose between the person you love and what you love doing? In matters of the heart nothing is ever simple. Take a step back from the situation and weigh out your options. Love involves taking risks so take into account these three points before making your decision:

1. It all comes down to your happiness: If your partner is asking you to blatantly choose between them or your career, you need to proceed with caution. If this person isn't who you want to spend the rest of your life with, and they're asking you to quit what you love doing, they probably aren't the best match for you. Ambitious women are a force to be reckoned with, so don't let any man stand in the way of you reaching your goals. But if you have asked your partner to make significant sacrifices with their career for you, it may be your turn to return the favor.

Related: [Screwing the Rules Video Dating Tips: George Clooney is Engaged! Why He Chose Her](#)

2. Go with your gut: As people, our intuition can be one of the most useful tools we have. With first impressions, job interviews, and when meeting new people our gut feeling about the person is generally accurate. When it comes down to making a difficult decision with your relationship and your career, flip a coin. When the coin is in the air, you'll realize what you're wishing for most, and that should be the choice you make. Going for what you want most and things not panning out is better than wonder "What if" for the rest of your life.

Related: [Leighton Meester and Adam Brody Walk First Post-Wedding Red Carpet](#)

3. There is always other jobs, but there is only one of him: Yes, leaving the security of a job can be scary, or even just putting it in the backseat can be terrifying. There are millions of organizations out there that would be a good match for you, but there are very few people in the 7-billion that are compatible with you. If you truly love him, then there should be no decision. He is your decision.

Have you ever had to put love before your career? Or the other way around? Share with us in the comments below!

Former 'Bachelorette' Emily Maynard Marries in Secret Wedding



By Shannon Seibert

America's sweetheart, Emily Maynard, was able to finally have her happy ending. On June 7th Maynard and fiancé Tyler Johnson joyously tied the knot at their secret wedding. The couple wed at Johnson's parents' farm in South Carolina, but originally told guests that it was only an engagement party, according to UsMagazine.com

What are some advantages to keeping your wedding under wraps?

Cupid's Advice:

Your wedding day is all about celebrating the love between you and your sweetheart, so wedding plans should reflect the choices you make and who you are as a couple. Now that you have found the Forever to your Always, take charge of your new beginning together and make it your own. Cupid has some advice:

1. You have less people trying to put their two cents in: The over-bearing mother-in-law is every bride's nightmare. When people hear "wedding" everyone comes running to you, expecting an invite. Remember your best friend's cousin's boyfriend's aunt's friend? Yeah, we don't either but she is still expecting an invite. Avoid the external pressures of your loved ones and make this day your own. By keeping the details of the day discreet, you have all of the power.

Related: [Kanye West Shows Off His Wedding Ring](#)

2. You can keep things intimate: A huge bonus of not giving all of your friends and family the secret in tell, it that you don't have to make your day a huge event. It's always awkward having to publicly exclude someone you care about by not inviting them to the wedding, so by keeping it small, people won't feel as left out when they see it's just family and the closest of friends. This also gives you the opportunity to b with the people who mean the most to you, who can give you the love and support you need for embarking on the adventure of marriage.

Related: [Jason Kennedy Announces Engagement to Lauren Scruggs](#)

3. You save money: You know what that means: More for the honeymoon! Weddings are drawn out events, and typically aren't just a one-day thing. People have engagement parties, bachelor

and bachelorette parties, rehearsal dinners, more celebration parties, and that much partying can just be overwhelming. Minimize the stress and channel all of the celebrating into one joyous day with the love of your life. Then take that trip to Cabo you didn't think you could afford, and relish in each other's company while basking in the rays of the sun.

What are some ways you kept your special day on the down-low? Share with us in the comments below!

‘The Bachelorette’ Contestant and Hopeless Romantic Chris Bukowski Wants His “Fairytale Ending”





Interview by [Whitney Johnson](#). Written by Liz Kim.

The Bachelorette season 8 contestant Chris Bukowski might seem like he has everything – great looks, a booming restaurant, and the kind of job that allows him to travel all over the country – but he admits that there’s still something missing in his life. “I’m the most single person in America,” he laments. Hailing from Chicago, Illinois, the reality TV star boasts a pretty impressive resume, including senior sales executive for the New York Islanders, V.I.P. Concierge at the Wynn Las Vegas, and currently owner of The Bracket Room in Arlington, Virginia (with plans to open future locations). But at the end of the day, he misses the magic of a *real* first date with someone special.

Related Link: [Former ‘Bachelorette’ Desiree Hartsock on Finding Mr. Right](#)

Reality TV Star Talks About

Experiences on *The Bachelorette* and *Bachelor Pad*

Fans first got to know Bukowski when he was cast on Emily Maynard's season of [The Bachelorette](#). He initially didn't have any interest in the show. "One of my friends I grew up with in Chicago wrote a letter to ABC about why I should be the next *Bachelor*. And you know how it works – you pretty much have to be on *The Bachelorette* in order to be the star of *The Bachelor*," he explains. He got some emails from ABC casting but brushed it off as a prank.

A change of jobs brought him back to Chicago, and he decided to take a chance and audition at a casting call by his condo. Ultimately, it was Maynard's photo that convinced him to give it a shot. "I never watched the show before, so I didn't really know what I was getting myself into. Once they showed me who the girl might be, though, I thought she was right up my alley," the reality TV star says. "Physically, Emily was really hot! I decided then that, if they cast me, I would do it."

Bukowski didn't expect to fall for Maynard as hard as he did, but as their relationship and love progressed from week to week, he quickly became a fan favorite. After making it to the final four, fans were shocked when Maynard let him go, especially because she couldn't give him a reason as to why he wasn't getting a rose. "After *The Bachelorette*, I left my job. I was alone in my thoughts, and I was a little heartbroken," he candidly shares.

Related Link: [Chris Bukowski Says He Still Has Feelings for Emily Maynard](#)

Instead of wallowing for too long, he agreed to compete on *Bachelor Pad*, a show that featured contestants from *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelorette* who play for a cash prize.

“It was an outlet where I could go to escape, just have some fun, and maybe win some money,” he reveals. “I did it for the experience, and I’m glad I did.”

While he didn’t win the big prize, the handsome Chicago native left quite a different impression on fans than he did during his time on *The Bachelorette*. Previously, viewers knew him as a hopeless romantic who just wanted to find a relationship and love, but on *The Bachelor Pad*, he hooked up with multiple castmates (he attributes this to crafty editing), lied, and exuded a cockiness that turned off a lot of people. Bukowski defends his behavior as a necessary tactic to win the game. “They are two completely different shows,” he explains. “One is a show where you’re putting yourself out there to potentially fall in love and find a wife. The other is a game show. It’s funny because they made me seem so terrible, and I really wasn’t that bad.”

He also shares that his motivations were different than those of his competitors. “I’m very competitive, and no one else on the show had that mindset,” he admits. “I wasn’t sure what they were concerned about. I wasn’t into falling in love with anybody, and I just wanted to have fun.” No matter how he was portrayed, he says that he had the most fun out of anyone in the house and felt that he left a winner.

Chris Bukowski on Finding a Relationship and Love in the Real World

While the restaurant owner is thankful for his time on reality TV, he also believes that this exposure is keeping him from meeting the right person. “I would say I’m definitely looking to settle down,” he divulges. “It’s just tough. People learned a lot about me really quickly because I was on the shows. So when I go out with a girl, they already know about me, and it

kind of takes away from the whole first date experience and getting to know somebody.”

Simply put, “it really does suck. To be honest, I would say my dating life is almost zero right now.”

Related Link: [Dating Advice: How to Approach a Spring Fling](#)

He also admits that the hopeless romantic who fans met on *The Bachelorette* is his true self. He dreams of meeting his future wife by chance at the airport and admits that this desire is fueled by his love for chick flicks. He adds, “I love the fairytale endings. Sure, these things only happen in the movies, but you still get that little hope that it can happen in real life too.”

Ever the foodie, it’s no surprise that Bukowski’s perfect date idea is a nice lunch, an even better dinner, and fine wine. “I may not seem like it, but I’m a really laid-back person,” he says. “I’m happy with enjoying great food, catching a movie, or just hanging out at my place.”

While it remains to be seen if Bukowski will be a future *Bachelor*, he has some opinions about the current leading man, Juan Pablo Galavis. Although he’s picking Nikki Ferrell as his favorite to win, “it seems like Juan Pablo is definitely having fun, but I’m not convinced that any of those girls are going to be his future wife,” he shares. “I think he’s using the show as a way to enjoy himself and probably get himself out in the public eye.”

You can keep up with Bracket Room on the website <http://www.bracketroom.com/>. You can also keep up with Chris on Twitter @chrisjbukowski. Be sure to tune in to The Bachelor finale tonight on ABC at 8/7c.

Stephen and DeAnna Pappas Stagliano Reveal Baby Daughter's Name



By Louisa Gonzales

It's official! The baby name of Stephen and DeAnna Pappas Stagliano has been announced. The beautiful couple has named their baby girl Addison Marie Stagliano according to [People](#). The Bachelorette star and her husband named their daughters middle name after DeAnna's mother, who died of cancer when she was 12. The duo welcomed their baby to the world on Thursday, February 6 and the Bachelorette alum's husband was quick to

tweet the good news. The lovebirds pregnancy was first announced in August, and the starlet even joked about how the baby would be her gift to her husband. The lovers couldn't be happier and are grateful for all the warm wishes they have received.

How do you compromise with your partner on baby names?

Cupid's Advice:

Welcoming a baby into the world is an exciting event. Babies can bring couples together or pull them apart. Discussing and picking out your baby's name can be difficult, especially when you both have specific names in mind. How can the two of you find a way to civilly pick out a name? Cupid has some advice on how to compromise with your partner on baby names:

1. Remember you want to pick a baby name not pick a fight:

There is a way to peacefully pick out baby names, you just have to know how to pick your battles. If the baby name is truly important to you, your partner will most likely understand and agree to a compromise, but before you go there ask yourself how important is the name to you really? More important than your marriage? These are questions you need to ask yourself, when you're set on a name, but your beau is against it.

Related: [Former 'Bachelorette' DeAnna Pappas Stagliano Is Pregnant](#)

2. Be together on this: Couples who are a team and work together have stronger relationships than those who don't. Sit down, maybe go through a baby names book or make a list of possible baby names together. If your lovebird is against certain names you really like ask if they are willing to agree on an alternative. It could be fun to find a baby name together, just make sure it's a name you will both love and be happy with.

Related: [‘Married to Jonas’ Star Danielle Jonas Dishes on Motherhood!](#)

3. Be reasonable: When choosing baby names be fair. Don’t suggest random or odd names that have no real significance to you or your significant other. You don’t want to look back later in life and not be happy with your choice of baby name nor do you want to look back and say, “yea maybe we should have gone with your suggestion”. If you are both honest and willing to be smart about the potential names it will making deciding on one much easier.

What do you think are the best ways to compromise when choosing baby names? Share in the comments below.

‘Bachelorette’ Alum DeAnna Pappas Welcomes a Baby Girl





By Louisa Gonzales

Congratulations to the happy couple, 'Bachelorette' alum DeAnna Pappas and her hubby, Stephen Stagliano for the birth of their first child together! According to UsMagazine.com, the news of their baby girl being brought into the world was announced to the world via Twitter on Saturday, February 8th. Proud papa, Stagliano, was delighted in the welcoming of their daughter to the world, expressing in his tweet how he now has "two loves in his life!". He also thanked all his fans for all the support and love. Pappas, 32, showed her gratitude also and retweeted the message.

What are some ways you can support your partner through pregnancy?

Cupid's Advice:

Pregnancy is one of the many wonders of this world and is a special time for a couple to experience. Finding out you're pregnant can be exciting, exhilarating, and nerve-wracking. For a lot of couples, it's the start of a new

chapter. Cupid has advice on ways you can support your partner through pregnancy:

1. Go with your partner to prenatal doctor appointments: Both you and your partner are soon to be parents, even though only the mother is carrying the child. Show your support and let them know you are in it together, by going with your lover to their prenatal doctor visits and check ups. Experiencing pregnancy things such as finding out the baby's gender, listening to their heartbeat can be a great memory to share as a couple as well as a family. Going to the doctor's can be scary and stressful, being able to hold your lovers hand and show your love is helpful to both the mother's and the babies health as it can help keep her calm, happy and stress-free.

Related: [Former 'Bachelorette' DeAnna Pappas Stagliano Is Pregnant](#)

2. Attend birthing classes and do research together: Signing up and going to pregnancy related classes together shows your lovebird you care and that you'll be there throughout the entire process. Many changes come with being pregnant and being prepared can help with transitioning into this new chapter of your lives. This means reading and researching on what being pregnant means, what you should do to be ready and how to make it as smooth sailings as possible. It's good to do things as a couple still because it shows the other you love them and they're not alone.

Related: ['The Fosters' star Sherri Saum is Expecting Twin Boys](#)

3. Make sure the mother to be is as healthy as she can be: This means eating right, exercising, and keeping her away from anything that can be harmful to both her and the baby. This includes things like stress, which can weaken the immune system. Keeping the mother happy can keep her healthy and the baby. Help her stay healthy by doing it together. For example, both of you can change your diets and exercise together, you

What do you think are good ways to show support towards your lover during pregnancy? Share your tips below.

Cupid's Pulse
* * Celebrities. Love. Opinions. *



Interview by [Whitney Johnson](#). Written by Elizabeth Kim.

Fans were overjoyed when Desiree Hartsock, who finished as fourth runner-up on Sean Lowe's season of *The Bachelor*, was named the next *Bachelorette*. The bubbly brunette captured our hearts even more as we watched her search for true love. It was a gift from Chris Siegfried – a journal filled with a heartfelt message to her and poetry he had written – that ultimately convinced her that she had found Mr. Right. Following his moving proposal in Antigua, the couple moved in together in Seattle, Washington, and are enjoying life since their celebrity engagement.

Related Link: [Desiree Hartsock Says 'Love Can Be Unpredictable'](#)

Reality TV Star Discusses Life Since *The Bachelorette*

In our exclusive celebrity interview, the reality TV star happily admits that there haven't been any rude

awakenings and attributes their success so far to good communication. "From our time getting to know each other on the show as well as seeing each other while the show was airing, we had a great idea of what it would be like living together," she explains. "We work well together because we already disclosed all of our little quirks."

They're also lucky enough to live close to *Bachelor* alums Jason and Molly Mesnick. "They have been so great to us, and it's nice to share a common bond," she says of the celebrity couple. "We'll get together with them whenever possible for dinner or even just to hang at their house with Riley, their adorable baby girl."

Although Hartsock may be best known for her role on *The Bachelorette*, she's also an accomplished designer. While working toward a degree in fashion design, she fell in love with the bridal industry and eventually worked as a stylist in various bridal salons. She also worked for a plus-size women's contemporary brand that gave her the experience and appreciation of designing clothes that flattered all shapes. She even designed and created the dress she wore to fellow *Bachelor* stars Lowe and Catherine Giudici's wedding.

Related Link: [Sean Lowe and Catherine Giudici's Wedding](#)

After devoting so much of her life to the bridal industry, some may think that Hartsock feels pressured to have the ultimate celebrity wedding. But true to her easygoing nature, she isn't stressing over every detail. With an engagement party coming up in a few weeks, the famous couple are in the beginning stages of planning their nuptials. "We are working on setting a date," she shares in our exclusive celebrity interview. And lucky for fans, she adds, "We're open to having it televised and still planning for the fall." As if the prospect of a televised wedding wasn't daunting enough, she also plans to design both her wedding *and* reception dresses.

The former *Bachelorette* is working with award-winning designer Maggie Sottero to help her visions come to life. “I have worked with many designers in the past and found that Maggie Sottero is the most sought-after designer because of the company’s commitment to ensuring a bride’s happiness as well as providing the best fit possible.” She coyly adds that, while she doesn’t want to give too many details away, one thing is for sure: “Both dresses will reflect my personality in different ways. I love to dance and be comfortable, so my reception gown will cater to that, while the ceremony gown will be more romantic.”

Desiree Hartsock Gives Love Advice

Given her reality TV past, she knows what Juan Pablo Galavis, who competed for Hartsock’s heart, and the current season’s *Bachelor* hopefuls are experiencing. Of the remaining ladies, she says, “There is definitely chemistry with Nikki, Andi, and Renee as well as with Clare. I don’t like to choose favorites, but I do like Renee’s demeanor and personality.” No matter who Galavis picks, Hartsock advises the women to focus on their potential future with Galavis rather than worry about the other girls.

Related Link: [Why Confidence is So Important in Dating](#)

It certainly takes a level of self-assurance to be vulnerable in front of millions of viewers, but Hartsock believes that confidence is key to finding love on *or* off the screen. “My love advice is to know your self-worth and what you deserve, to be confident in who you are, to let him pursue you, to be independent and not desperate, and to be yourself.”

With such a dismal track record, past stars of *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelorette* may also want to heed the designer’s advice for dealing with broken hearts. “The way that I have always gotten over break-ups is knowing that things happen for a reason, and no matter the circumstance, there is always

something more or better to come,” she says. “Although it can be really tough to do, it’s important to hold on to the hope that there is someone out there who will be everything you deserve and more and to not dwell in the hurt or past, but keep pushing forward with each new day.”

To learn more about Desiree visit her website, www.desireehartsock.com/. The Bachelor airs on Monday nights on ABC at 8 p.m. ET!

Can You Really Find Love on ‘The Bachelor’?



By [Marni Battista](#)

The reason for our culture's collective obsession with *The Bachelor* franchise is obvious. What single, soul mate-seeking dater wouldn't dream of being presented with 25 gorgeous single men or women and a period of 6 weeks to strategically whittle down that group to a proposal at the end? The all-expenses-paid fairytale dates, exotic destinations, and expensive sports cars probably don't hurt either.

The conducive environment of 'The Bachelor' makes finding relationships and love seem like a breeze. But the real question is, are the happy celebrity couples really as in love as they look?

But underneath the fluffy fanfare that leaves us hopeless romantics watching at home with hearts a-fluttering, at the show's core is a promise of two people finding everlasting relationships and love. After all, the show has resulted in a few happy marriages, with last month's nuptials of happy celebrity couple Sean Lowe and Catherine Giudici from *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelorette* Season 1 couple Trista and Ryan Sutter's ten-year vow renewal.

Related Link: ['The Bachelor' Stars Sean Lowe and Catherine Giudici Are Married](#)

However, in an environment so unrealistic and clouded with so many distracting factors, I can't be convinced *The Bachelor* process is conducive to building the foundation for lasting relationships and love. Do I think it's possible to fall in love on the show? Taking into account the myriad of other ways

couples meet these days, sure. Still, I think the success stories are the exception rather than the rule, and here's why:

1. The Isolation: Before they even meet the star of the season, the 25 contestants who make it through the arduous casting process are then sequestered in a Los Angeles mansion for the remainder of the process. At the beginning of any relationship, I advise daters to make space in their schedule to reflect and allow true feelings to come to the surface. With no escape from this microcosm and no contact with anyone other than the bachelor, crew, and other contestants to distract you, it's easy for the show to become your world, distorting your judgment and emotions.

2. The Game: As much as the creators would like you to think that the show allows one lucky man or woman to naturally select a lifelong partner, it's simply impossible for one person to get an accurate impression of 25 different people's personalities in one night. From the get-go, the show becomes a strategic game where the more extroverted contestants come out on top and those who take a little bit longer to open up often get shafted without a fair shot. Even the contestants who make it past the first couple of rounds of elimination still have to be pretty brazen to stay on the guy's (and camera's) radar, and as a result, many of them get caught up in the competition while losing sight of their true purpose.

Related Link: [How to Listen to Your Heart and Take Back Control of Your Love Life](#)

3. The Entertainment: Ultimately, the show's creators prioritize entertainment value over all else. That means there's a whole other slew of factors that make this dating game less natural and more complicated. The over-the-top dates to exotic locales with private performances by the latest up-and-coming country artist may be fun for the viewer to watch, but it distracts the two people from truly getting to know one

another. I mean, who wouldn't fall in love with someone in a rose petal-dotted hot tub overlooking the mountains of Thailand while Josh Groban serenades them softly in the background?

The show's creator, Mike Fleiss, has also openly admitted that they make sure to stock at least half the cast with potential villains or loose screws because they know their audience wants to see drama more than they want to see a proposal. So before the show even begins, cattier girls are selected over more compatible mates, and those stroking the drama are kept around longer than they should be.

To put it simply, any situation that brings people together that normally wouldn't meet carries with it the possibility of true love. But considering the numerous reality-distorting factors involved in *The Bachelor*, I'd steer you toward taking your chances in the real world.

[Marni Battista](#), founder of *Dating with Dignity*, is an expert dating and life coach with a 10-step system to manifesting love for your self and others.

'The Bachelorette' Stars Trista and Ryan Sutter Renew Vows in Vail





By Kerri Sheehan

Trista Rehn and Ryan Sutter met during the *Bachelorette*, and ever since the two have been happily married. This weekend, ten years after 26 million viewers tuned in to see the two get hitched, the couple renewed their vows. They said, “I do,” once again in Vali, Colorado. Trista dished to [People](#), “It’s an understatement to say I hit the jackpot. He is such a good person. He gets better with age.”

What are some compelling reasons to renew your wedding vows?

Cupid’s Advice:

After a few years of marriage you and your significant other may want to declare your love for one another all over again.

1. To recreate the dream: Every little girl has an idea of what her dream wedding should be, however some couples may not get to fulfill this dream. Whether money, time, or faith kept them from having the perfect ceremony, a vow renewal will give them a second chance to have the perfect wedding.

Related: [‘Bachelorette’ Trista Sutter Talks About ‘Happily Ever After’: “Ryan and I Make It Work for No One But Ourselves”](#)

2. New you: Over the years people change so the person that you married may not be the same person in 15 years. After a big personality change it's nice to let your partner know that you still love the person that they are.

Related: [Jessica Alba and Cash Warren Celebrate Five-Year Anniversary](#)

3. To celebrate: Many couples choose to renew their wedding vows on their anniversary to celebrate another chapter in their marriage. This is the perfect way to show your partner, your friends, and your family how much you two care about each other.

Why would you renew your vows? Share below.

‘Bachelorette’ Trista Sutter Talks About ‘Happily Ever After’: “Ryan and I Make It Work for No One But Ourselves”





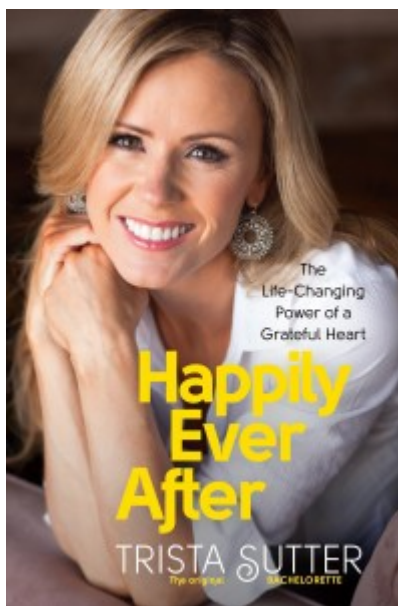
By Kristin Mattern

Reality TV viewers know Trista Sutter from the first season of *The Bachelor* where she grew to be a fan favorite on the show. When she ended as runner-up, ABC chose her as the first star of their new show, [*The Bachelorette*](#). It was there that she met and fell in love with her husband, firefighter Ryan Sutter. Defying the bleak love statistics of the popular ABC franchise (as of 2013, only three famous couples have gotten hitched out of 25 seasons), Trista and Ryan married in 2003 and have since welcomed two beautiful children – Maxwell Alston and Blakesley Grace. Family life hasn't slowed down this stay-at-home celebrity mom. She regularly contributes to several blogs and most recently wrote a book about the power of gratitude.

Related Link: [Reality Stars Who Found Real Love: Trista and Ryan Sutter](#)

Celebrity Interview with Former Bachelorette Star Trista Sutter

Happily Ever After: The Life-Changing Power of a Grateful Heart was inspired by Sutter's desire to write about a topic she could speak to authentically and realized that the subject most important to her was gratitude. "It's kept me uplifted during the hard times and grounded during the high times," she says in our celebrity interview. "I truly hope I'm able to encourage happiness in my readers by writing about its value through the stories of my life, others' lives, and the incredible scientific research proving its positive effects." The title stems from the reality TV star's Disney-like romance, but her book also showcases that life isn't perfect. Sutter believes that "if you embrace a grateful heart, your fairy tale will reveal itself through a happier life."



With Thanksgiving only a few days away, the release of Sutter's book is fitting. The mother-of-two says she is most thankful for her relationships with family and friends and the experiences in life that have taught her to cherish her blessings. "Moments full of sadness or strife have made me realize how short life is and helped me to appreciate it," she says.

Related Link: [Five Bachelor and Bachelorette Couples We Can](#)

Trista Sutter Opens Up About Her Relationship and Love

When it comes to her celebrity marriage, Sutter says her relationship with husband Ryan is based on true love. Asked if they ever feel pressured to stay together because of their reality TV past, the starlet candidly responds, “I wouldn’t say that we are pressured to stay together, but I’ll admit that I would never want to disappoint our hopeful fans if we were to ever decide that our marriage wasn’t healthy anymore. We love each other and make it work for no one else but ourselves.” This December, the happy couple will be celebrating their ten-year anniversary, but they’re keeping their plans a secret for now!

Over the last decade, their relationship and love has evolved simply because they’ve become parents and have “two tiny humans to concern themselves with.” The charms that keep their fairy-tale marriage under a love spell are simple: “communication, love, respect, trust, honesty, fun, humor, adventure, commitment, friendship, forgiveness, and faith.” Quite a long list, but it works for them!

The Sutter’s haven’t told their son and daughter about their unconventional romance but will do so when the kids are older. When the parents do share their love story, the Colorado natives plan to give this relationship advice: “Be yourself, marry your best friend, and never settle. The fairy tale is out there, and even though everyone suffers through heartache, we need to be grateful for the road that leads us to the eventual path to our soul mate.” In the meantime, she and Ryan are focused on filling their children’s lives with positivity and every night, they recount the blessings of the day.

Related Link: [Love Lesson’s From ABC’s ‘The Bachelor’](#)

Never one to slow down, she is continuing her work by partnering with GloryHaus.com and featuring a line of gifts called "The Grateful Heart Collection," which includes picture frames, wall art, magnets, pillows, jewelry, tote bags, and more – all created with the intention of spreading the word about gratitude. Just in time to start your holiday shopping!

With the next season of *The Bachelor* due to air soon, Sutter advises those women seeking to win the heart of Juan Pablo to have fun, be themselves and make friends!

To learn more about Sutter and The Grateful Heart Collection, visit her website, www.tristasutter.com/index.html. Her book, Happily Ever After: The Life-Changing Power of a Grateful Heart, goes on sale today.

Bachelor/Bachelorette Alums AshLee Frazier and Michael Garofola Are Dating





By April Littleton

According to UsMagazine.com, *Bachelor* alum AshLee Frazier and *Bachelorette* alum Michael Garofola are now a couple! The lovebirds have been seeing each other for a few weeks. Garofola posted a picture of the two at a Blue Label Vodka event Friday, Oct. 4. "Amazing night with an amazing girl in an above average city," he captioned the photo.

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

Cupid's Advice:

You've been dating someone for awhile and you think it's time to let everyone you care about know about your new relationship. Before you do, there's a few things you need to think about first. Cupid has some tips:

1. Timing: Take into consideration how long the two of you have been dating. If the relationship is still fairly new, then maybe you should wait a little while longer – at least until you and your new boo are sure things are headed in the right direction.

2. Feels right: If you're comfortable in the situation you're in and your partner is OK with the decision to go public, then go for it. Don't feel like you have to tell your friends and family what's going on in your love life if you're unsure if the person you're dating is the one for you. Be sure what you have with that special individual isn't just some fling before you start spreading the news.

3. You talked about it: You're not the only one who gets to decide when to go public with your relationship. Your partner needs to be in on the decision as well. If you're thinking it's time to let your loved ones know who that special someone is in your life, you should have a conversation with your honey about your plans to announce the exciting news first.

How did you know when to go public with your relationship? Comment below.

Former 'Bachelorette' Emily Maynard Says There's No Pressure to Find a Guy





By April Littleton

According to [People](#), Emily Maynard is in no rush to find love again. The former *Bachelorette* star got engaged twice on TV. Her first engagement to Brad Womack ended in 2011 and her most recent relationship with Jeff Holm ended last October. “Right now, I am under no pressure to find a guy,” Maynard told the [Huffington Post](#).

What are three main positives about living the single life?

Cupid’s Advice:

Everyone loves to have a special someone to spend lonely nights with, but it’s not the end of the world when you find yourself to be “alone.” After the end of a relationship, every person needs time to regroup and enjoy the single life for awhile. While you’re spending some time going solo, it’s important to look on the positive side of things. Cupid has some advice:

1. Less stress: Relationships are stressful and can cause you to feel mentally, spiritually and physically exhausted. When

you're single, you can enjoy time alone, hang out with close friends and stay out as long as you want without having to worry about telling another person your whereabouts.

2. More time for yourself: A lot of couples lose sight of who they are as individuals because they get too wrapped up in each other. Flying solo means you have more time to do what you want to do. You can pick up new hobbies or get back to some of your old ones. Instead of moping around the house, take all of the extra time you have to develop some new skills and interests. Take a cooking class, finish reading that book you never managed to finish while you were dating your ex or pamper yourself with a day at the spa.

3. Friends: People in love tend to forget about their friends throughout their relationship. Once you're back on the market, get some of your friends together for a night out and get reacquainted with each other. You may have momentarily forgotten about them, but they have always been there for you and it's guaranteed they'll help you get over your recent heartbreak.

What are some other positives about the single life? Comment below.

‘Bachelorette’ Desiree Hartsock Says ‘Love Can Be Unpredictable’



By April Littleton

Desiree Hartsock took to her blog on [People](#) to thank everyone who watched her journey to find love on the latest season of *The Bachelorette*. " I appreciate the encouraging words from many and the understanding that love can be unpredictable." Ultimately, Hartsock chose Chris over Drew because she felt her relationship with him "didn't move forward" after their date in Antigua.

How do you roll with the ups and downs of a relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

Dealing with the ups and downs of a relationship can be complicated, but love isn't perfect. In order for you and your partner to be happy you must learn how to properly handle any bumps in the roads that you're bound to hit. Cupid has some

tips:

1. Don't ignore the issue: When you realize that you may have a problem, confront it head on. Some couples choose to neglect the problem, but this will only make matters worse. You may even end up breaking up because of it. Take the time to sort out why the two of you may be having issues. The sooner you talk about what's bothering you, the quicker you can find a way to solve the problem and get back to being the happy couple you once were.

2. Don't bring up the past: Once you decide to forgive each other for whatever wrongdoing may have occurred, leave that issue in the past. Constantly bringing up problems that aren't relevant to your relationship anymore is immature. Of course, couples fight, but that doesn't mean you have to bring up conflicts that occurred months ago. Let the past be the past.

3. Stay positive: When you and your honey are on the outs, think about all of the positive things the two of you have done together and how much the both of you have overcome. Don't focus on the negative. Rather than obsessing over the things your partner may do wrong, draw your attention to all of the things he/she does right. Your relationship will be better for it.

**How do you roll with the ups and down of your relationship?
Comment below.**

QuickieChick's Video Dating

Tips: Real Life Impact of 'The Bachelorette'



By [E!'s Famously Single Dating Coach, Laurel House](#)
In this week's [dating advice](#) video, relationship expert and E!'s *Famously Single* dating coach, Laurel House discusses *The Bachelorette*.

Dating Advice from E!'s *Famously Single* Laurel House on *The Bachelorette*

Did you ever think a reality television show like *The Bachelorette* could actually offer you valuable real world

advice? QuickieChick and dating expert Laurel House didn't think it was possible...until this past Monday's dramatic finale. The surprise ending made her reflect on her own relationship history, and in this week's video, she reveals ten love lessons that she learned from Desiree Hartsock's journey.

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

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

Tell us: What did you learn from this season of *The Bachelorette*?

The New 'Bachelor' Is Juan Pablo Galavis!





By Kerri Sheehan

With the wrap up of the most recent season of [The Bachelorette](#), ABC has announced its newest star in search of a relationship and love: Juan Pablo Galavis! You may recognize Galavis as one of Desiree Hartsock's suitors on *The Bachelorette* season 9. The 32-year-old single dad and former Venezuelan soccer player is hoping to find the perfect person for him and his daughter. According to [People.com](#), this reality TV star and new *Bachelor* said he is looking for "a mom for [my daughter] Camila and someone I can spend many years [with] together."

The new star of *The Bachelor* has some Venezuelan roots that make most girls swoon. What are some things to consider when you're

dating someone from a different culture?

Cupid's Advice:

Meeting people from other cultures can be shocking, but can you imagine dating someone with a different background? Cupid has some dating advice about what to consider when you're falling for someone from a different culture:

1. Embrace your differences: You were likely raised differently, so don't be too shocked when the two of you do things a bit differently. Don't pressure your partner into doing things your way, as that may feel unnatural to them.

Related Link: ['The Bachelorette' Star Desiree Hartsock Says Confidence is Key to Finding Mr. Right](#)

2. Learn something new: Learning about another culture can be quite exciting, so soak up every moment of it! Don't stress too much about your differences, as the two of you can find common ground if you work together.

Related Link: ['Bachelorette' Andi Dorfman's Promo Poster Mocks Juan Pablo](#)

3. Take up cooking: Cooking is a great way to dive into your significant other's culture! Just make sure to run the ingredients by each other. For instance, snails and frog legs are a delicacy in France, but here in the States, they're considered adventurous meals.

Have you ever dated someone from a different culture? Share below!

'Bachelorette' Desiree Hartsock Chooses Chris Siegfried



By Kerri Sheehan

This season's *Bachelorette* was not exactly a cookie cutter love story. Desiree Hartsock was blindsided when her frontrunner, Brooks Forester, decided to bow out of the competition leaving her with the last two contestants, Drew Kenney and Chris Siegfried. Rather than abandon her search for love, Hartsock decided to give each of the remaining bachelors a rose and a chance at her love. In the end, Chris

Siegfried won her heart and had her feeling, "Like the luckiest girl alive," according to [People](#).

What are some ways to choose between two potential partners?

Cupid's Advice:

Not everybody's love story is straight out of a Nicholas Sparks novel. Sometimes you may be forced to choose between two love interests and the decision will be one of the hardest of your life. Cupid has some advice about how to deal:

1. Ask what you want out of life: Take time to really think about what you find most important and consider which partner can help you attain that. Most of the times you'll want to achieve these things yourself. If that's the case then consider who is most likely to give you an emotional boost when you're feeling down.

2. Long-term happiness: In the end you have to put your long-term happiness above all else. Think of whom you can see yourself growing old with and stick with them. You live your life for you, not for anyone else.

3. Think of what draws you to each partner: The human mind can do this really neat thing where it builds people up on its own accord. This means that part of the guy you're falling for can be partially in your head. Think about each guy separately and what you love about them. This should include the good, the bad, the ugly, and the pretty.

How would you choose between two potential partners? Share below.

'Bachelorette' Desiree Hartsock Speaks Out at 'Men Tell All'



By April Littleton

The bridal stylist blogged on [People](#) about the ups and downs she went through while getting the chance to see all of the men she dated on *The Bachelorette* again. She talked about her unresolved feelings for some of the contestants and how it felt to see some of the men who manipulated her. "It was exciting and fun to to see everyone at *Men Tell All* and to hear what they had to say after watching the episodes," Hartsock said.

What are some ways to tell your partner something difficult?

Cupid's Advice:

Sometimes it's hard to tell your loved one something important depending on how they usually react to surprising news. The more difficult the situation is, the harder your partner may take it. Unresolved issues can escalate into a fight, so whatever the problem is, don't keep quiet. Cupid is here to help:

1. Practice: Before you bring the issue up with your partner, it's best to prepare what you want to say first. If you're nervous or unsure of how to bring the subject up, this tactic might help you. Practice in front of the mirror or ask one of your friends to sit in as your love.

2. Don't get defensive: When you do tell your significant other the bad news, try not to place any blame where it doesn't belong. It may be hard for you to do so, but consider your partner's feelings in the situation. Be kind while still remaining honest. Both of you need to be responsible for whatever is going on in the relationship. One of you shouldn't feel worse than the other.

3. Write it down: Sometimes the best way to say something is by not saying anything at all. If you don't have the heart to tell your loved one bad news vocally, try writing it down instead. Write down all of your feelings in a letter and give it to your partner when you feel ready.

How do you tell your partner something difficult? Comment below.

Ali Fedotowsky Tells Us How to “Attract More Love and Happiness” Into Our Lives



By Kristin Mattern

Ali Fedotowsky is no stranger to ABC's *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelorette*. She was a contestant vying for Jake Pavelka's affection in season 14 of *The Bachelor* and later starred on season 6 of *The Bachelorette*. Well-versed in love, relationships and reality television, Fedotowsky is now putting her dating and media expertise to work on a new blog for *E!* about the popular dating competition show. Additionally, she has continued her foray into the world of the small screen as the host of *1st Look*, the Emmy Award-

winning travel show from NBC. In an exclusive interview, this adorable TV personality opens up about the current season of *The Bachelorette*, moving on after heartbreak and her happy relationship with Kevin Manno, host of *Abby's Ultimate Dance Competition*.

The bubbly blonde has a unique point of view to share with readers of her *E!* blog. "I kind of feel like my time as the bachelorette was a lifetime ago, so I don't have any emotional connection to the show," she explains, "but I do enjoy watching with my girlfriends. And I definitely have a different perspective on what it's like for Desiree. I know firsthand that it's not easy!" Fedotowsky remembers her time on the reality series as one the most stressful and emotional times of her life but says that being a contestant on *The Bachelor* was "just fun!" She enjoyed her time hanging out with the girls and talking about boys. The big life lesson she learned from her experience on the shows is to be honest with yourself: "I don't think it changed the way I date. It just made me trust my instincts more."

Related Link: [Bachelorette 9, Episode 7: Confession in Madeira](#)

Given their similar circumstances, Fedotowsky has become friends with the current bachelorette, Desiree Hartsock. The two hit it off while filming a special that will air during tonight's *Men Tell All* episode. "Desiree is as sweet and down to earth in person as she is on the show. I really have nothing but wonderful things to say about her," the television personality remarks. Wondering if they shared secrets about the end of this season? "When we hung out, I told her to please *not* tell me anything. I didn't want her to think I would try to pressure her for those details. I'm there as a friend, not to interrogate her!" However, Fedotowsky did tell us that she is rooting for Chris but that she "will be happy with whoever she [Desiree] picks because she's happy! She'll pick the guy she falls for; that's not for me to judge."

Fedotowsky is no stranger to love and heartbreak. She was lucky enough to find her happy ending on *The Bachelorette* with Roberto Martinez, but the couple called it quits after an 18-month engagement. When it comes to moving forward after a broken heart, she suggests staying as busy possible. With this thought in mind, she's thankful for her role as host of the travel show *1st Look*. "It was good timing for me since I was in a transitional period of my life." Of course, this adventure-filled opportunity doesn't come along for everyone. "Volunteer," she advises. "I've done that in the past, and it not only keeps you busy but makes you feel good."

Related Link: [Lessons from Justin and Selena: Should You Get Back with Your Ex?](#)

It's no secret that the Los Angeles native has jumped back into the dating scene. She confirmed her relationship with Manno in April, and the pair was recently spotted celebrating his 30th birthday in Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico. When they're not soaking up the sun south of the border, the twosome enjoys playing "darts or any sort of game, like Bingo or bowling."

And for those of you just dipping your toes into the water after a split, the starlet shares this sage wisdom: "Get out there and do what makes you happy! I really feel that, when you show everyone that you love and respect yourself, you attract more [love](#) and happiness into your life."

*Be sure to tune in for tonight's Men Tell All episode on ABC at 8/7 pm c. To learn more about Fedotowsky, you can connect with her on [facebook.com/MissAliElaine](#) or Twitter [@AliFedotowsky](#). You can also check out her blog for E! and her travel show, *1st Look*.*

Bachelorette 9, Episode 8: Meeting the Families



By [Jared Sais](#)

This week's episode of [The Bachelorette](#) hit close to home...literally. Desiree toured the country, visiting all of the guys' hometowns and meeting their families. She seemed to take this opportunity to reaffirm how she feels about each contestant, and luckily, each family was welcoming to her.

Her only somewhat-negative experience was with Zak's family, as they may have come across to her as a bit campy. She made an "aw face" while they were singing to her, which is characterized by:

- Raising the inner corner of the eyebrows
- Lowering the outer corners of the mouth
- Swelling of the lips
- Occasionally tilt of the head

It can seem like a look of sadness, but it's really more akin to the expression someone makes when looking at a cute dog or baby. This non-verbal cue could mean that Des was genuinely touched by the gesture, or she could've been trying to be nice. It could also have been a look of pity. It didn't matter in the long run, though, since she sent Zak packing at the end of the episode.

Related Link: [Bachelorette 9, Episode 7: Confession in Madeira](#)

Ultimately, though, I believe that all Desiree wanted was proof that Drew's family is fun and loving, which she definitely got. She made it clear last week that she's made up her mind about who she's going to choose, and to me, the hometown dates only confirmed that fact.

This episode, perhaps more than any other episode of *The Bachelorette*, is applicable to our own lives. When you meet your significant's other's family, how do you think they feel about you? Here are some cues to consider.

Signs That Your Partner's Family Likes You

- **They give you real hugs.** Real hugs are tight and last a long time. If it concludes with the rubbing of the back of your neck, you know it's a real hug.
- **Their smiles are genuine.** When someone offers you a genuine smile, crow's feet appear in the corner of the eyes, the cheeks are pushed up and the corner of the lips rise.
- **They stay close to you.** Family members will sit next to you

and position you in the middle of the group. They invite you into their personal space, which is less than four feet from them according to Edward T. Hall.

- **They want to get to know you.** They ask you about your interests, your likes and your dislikes.

- **They invite you to future events.** Such invitations are a clear indication that they like you and want to see you more.

- **They're eager to serve you food and beverages.** People who like you want to make sure you're taken care of and happy.

- **The ex isn't mentioned.** They rarely discuss your partner's ex, and when they do, it's to comment on your superiority.

- **They give thorough answers to your questions.** People who like you will take their time in responding to you. They may even seem to ramble when they tell stories because they enjoy your company and want to maximize the amount of time that they spend with you. Tedious as it can be, try to think of it as a type of initiation.

- **You're a part of family stories.** They start telling anecdotes about things that occurred while you were in their company, which really indicates that they consider you to be "one of them."

- **They treat you as a member of the family.** If your significant other's mother or father asks you to set the table or perform a different household chore, it's another indication that they view you as a member of the family.

- **They offer compliments.** Take it as a good sign that your partner's family showers you with praise.

- **You feel wanted.** Trust your gut. Stay attuned to the vibes – good or bad – that you pick up.

- **They stretch out their goodbyes.** It's hard to say goodbye to

people you like or love. When leaving your partner's family, look for signs of sadness. For example, their voices might lower. They might also give you multiple hugs and kisses.

Related Link: [Bachelorette 9, Episode 6: Drama in Barcelona](#)

Signs That the Family Doesn't Like You

- **They give you fake hugs.** When someone gives a fake hug, their butt is pointed out. The hug is quick and may consist of only a single or double tap on the back.
- **Their smiles aren't sincere.** Fake smiles only engage the lower half of the face. There is a total lack of eye movement.
- **They keep their distance.** They maintain space between themselves and you. Perhaps they scoot their seats away from you, lean back in their chair, choose a seat that's far away from you or find tasks to perform to avoid speaking to you.
- **They're uninterested.** They don't ask you questions about yourself or perhaps they simply exclude you from the conversation.
- **They exclude you from family events.** You notice that they never include you in their plans for family activities.
- **They glorify your partner's ex.** They speak very highly about your partner's previous relationships yet never compliment you.
- **They're not conversational.** They offer short responses to your questions.
- **They're reluctant to compliment you.** They rarely say nice things about you.
- **They have private conversations.** They often take your partner aside to have private conversations that are most likely about you.

- **It's impacting your partner negatively.** Notice your partner's mood. If they seem upset or angry, it may be because they are frustrated by having to defend you to their family.
- **Your partner emphasizes your strengths.** If your significant other starts describing you as the funniest, most brilliant person in the world, it's probably his attempt to ingratiate you to his family.
- **They say an unemotional goodbye.** When you leave them, they use casual phrases like "take care" or "see ya." They may also say goodbye in a silly or high-pitched tone.

Meeting the family can be a daunting next step in your relationship. With these non-verbal and verbal signs in mind, however, you can determine how they feel about you and respond accordingly. Good luck!

After watching this week's episode of *The Bachelorette*, how do you think meeting the families will impact Desiree's final decision?

Doing It All: 'The Bachelorette' Star Jillian Harris Launches Her Latest Project, Charlie Ford Vintage





Interviewed by [Lori Bizzoco](#); Editorial by Kristin Mattern

Many of us remember the charming Jillian Harris from ABC's *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelorette*. Since first revealing her sparkling personality, filled with irrepressible humor and emotional honesty, Harris has moved on to expose viewers to her design expertise on both *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* and *Love It or List it Vancouver*. Staying true to her motto of "doing it all," she is now sharing her adoration for vintage and antique items as founder and creative director of Charlie Ford Vintage, a website that brings unique pieces, hand-selected by Harris and her team, to people across North America. "I've always been passionate about antiques. My mom used to take me antiquing when I was a little girl," says Harris. "And I realized that there was opportunity to share the things I loved with the world."

Harris is the quintessential busy bee, and she puts all of the energy her petite frame has into everything she does. Driven by her zeal for design and antiques, she decided to launch her online shop with her closest friends, Tori Wesszer and Alyssa Dennis. *The Bachelorette* star is not only the face of

the brand but also helps search for everything you see on the site. The website offers one-of-a-kind items from a variety of Canadian and American antique dealers that adhere to the company slogan of “redefining the way consumers view and buy vintage and antique home décor across North America.” Harris is excited to work with her friends and the rest of her team, who she notes “is incredible!”

Related Link: [Exclusive: Maitland Ward of ‘Boy Meets World’ Believes that “Friendship, Trust and Laughter” Make for a Strong Relationship](#)

The inspiration for Charlie Ford Vintage came from a mixture of her live-in boyfriend Justin wondering what they were to do with the multitude of early 1900s apple boxes that Harris bought last year and repeated questions on her blog of, “Oh my gosh, where did you find that piece?” The brunette realized that saying she found an item in Vancouver didn’t help someone in Idaho. She quickly decided she should offer the items she found online for others to buy. And with that, Charlie Ford Vintage (named after Wesszer’s one-year-old son) was born.

But this isn’t any regular online antique store. “Essentially, what I’m doing is personal shopping for you,” Harris notes. “I go out, find the items and post them online, and then, our vendors just take a commission. We aren’t marking things up; we’re negotiating to make sure we get the best price.” In the future, she and her team plan to allow for client requests. “If there is something particular you are looking for, like an old cookie jar or a piece of art, we’ll find it. We’re out there all the time, in the trenches, searching for antiques that our customers want.”

Harris certainly has her own sense of style and design. Her favorite piece is a blue, vintage buoy from the early 1900s that she bought while in Paella, Maui and made a part of a nautical vignette in her living room. When it comes to decorating and using antiquated items, she is a pro – and not

just for women's spaces but for men too. "I think the great thing about vintage that a lot of girls don't realize is that guys love it too. If you put an old box for ammo on your coffee or side table, guys think it's awesome, and women love the connection and history. You really can't go wrong," she observes. "I think guys want the same thing girls do: something that's unique, something different. When you're decorating as a new couple or with a guy in mind, going vintage is great."

The former bachelorette has not only found love with antiques but also in her current relationship. Harris met Justin at a bar, and they immediately hit it off. "He was just gorgeous," she gushes. "He was very nice too. I was dating someone awful at the time and thought, 'You know, I'm gonna give this guy a try.' The rest is history."

"I will never let him go," she adds.

Through heartache, she learned what it takes to be happy in a relationship: "I believe that if you can't be happy with yourself first, you're not gonna be happy in a relationship. You can't beat yourself up too much, and you can't force something to happen. If it doesn't feel right, just let it go. Remember that there are plenty of fish in the sea and that you only live once." Wise words that the current bachelorette, Desiree Hartsock, should take note of.

Related Link: [Bachelorette 9, Episode 7: Confession in Madeira](#)

When not working as co-host of *Love It or List It Vancouver* (*Love It or List It 2* for viewers in the United States) or digging for treasures for Charlie Ford Vintage, she enjoys spending her date nights with Justin making dinner at home, playing cards and sipping wine by firelight. As for their future, she says, "I would like to have children in the next few years – in my late thirties, I think, would be a good time." So do we hear wedding bells? "Marriage is really

important to me, but I don't think that marriage defines a relationship. I'm more concerned with our relationship being healthy and happy, and if the marriage part happens, it happens."

Harris also dreams of some more time off and for Charlie Ford Vintage to become her main – and only – project. "It's my passion," she remarks. "I'm hoping one day it can be enough to support me and my family, and I can continue to share what I love about antiques with the world."

To learn more about Jillian Harris, visit her blog www.jillianharris.com/ or stay connected through [facebook.com/designerjillian](https://www.facebook.com/designerjillian) or Twitter @jillianharris