

Celebrity Interview: 'DWTS' Contestant Candace Cameron Bure Says "Dance Parties" Have Always Been Her Favorite Family Activity!



By

[Whitney Johnson](#)

Earlier this month, when *Good Morning America* announced the line-up for season 18 of *Dancing with the Stars*, *Full House* fans were excited to see Candace Cameron Bure back in the spotlight. And she's just as thrilled to be a part of the cast: "I've always been a fan of the show. Plus, this is probably the most excited I've seen my family get over

something that I'm doing!" she shares in our celebrity interview.

Candace Cameron Bure Opens Up About Her Family and New Book in Celebrity Interview

Daughter Natasha was particularly happy about her mom's new role. "She was just freaking out," the star says with a laugh. "She wanted to know all about the other celebrities on the show. She's been coming with me to my weekend rehearsals too."

Once her sons Maksim and Lev met her partner, two-time champion Mark Ballas, they got into it too. "They just thought he was so cool," she reveals. Viewers can expect to see her kids as well as her husband Valeri in the audience cheering her on each week.

Related Link: [Mark Ballas and Ex Pia Toscano Reunite at Show](#)

Cameron Bure has certainly been keeping busy, both on and off the small screen. Most recently, the *New York Times* best-selling author published her second book, *Balancing It All: My Story of Juggling Priorities and Purpose*. As for how she manages the never-ending juggling act of being a wife, celebrity mom, actress, and writer, "it's about big picture prioritizing and realizing what's most important in your life. You have to make sure that your top three priorities really stay in place."

She adds, "For me, it's God and family and then my work and social life and all of the rest of the stuff in between. But if God and family aren't in that first and second position, everything else in my life really does become unbalanced."

DWTS Star on Her Celebrity Marriage

Of course, her husband plays a significant role in helping her hold everything together. “He’s an incredibly-involved father to our children and a supportive partner to me. Our lives are really stressful, yet our family is our priority,” she shares about her [celebrity marriage](#). “He’s just a wonderful man, and I feel really blessed to have him.”

The famous couple, who married when they were only 20 years old, first connected over their similar backgrounds. “I lived a very full life before then, as had my husband. We both had been working children: He was playing hockey, and I had been acting since I was five,” she explains in our celebrity interview. “We were both very ready to get married and start a family.”

Related Link: [Are You Too Young for Marriage?](#)

As for what keeps their 17-year celebrity marriage so strong, the blonde simply states, “Common values and love for one another are the main two things. “

For other couples trying to make the most of their union, she stresses the importance of building up your partner to become who they’re meant to be. “When you take the focus off of yourself and focus on how you can help your spouse be better, that’s when your marriage will become better,” the *DWTS* contestant explains.

With her three kids getting older, it’s no surprise that her relationship with them is always changing. “It’s really fun to see the adults they’re becoming. We’re having more mature conversations, and I love the stage that we’re in,” she shares. “I have an open relationship with them, and nothing is off limits.”

That includes everything from conversations about “awkward,

adult topics” to family dance parties. “It’s one of our favorite things to do together. We turn off the lights, put the strobe lights on, and just crank the electronic music,” she divulges. “We have a blast!” While she has no professional dance experience, she loves being the first one on the dance floor at weddings and parties.

Related Link: [‘Full House’ Actress Candace Cameron Bure Talks Motherhood](#)

Cameron Bure and Ballas have been working on a contemporary dance for tonight’s *Dancing with the Stars* premiere. “I have a lot of bruises all over my body, so I’m falling down a lot,” the author shares about their routine. “I’m a fairly athletic person, so I asked Mark to incorporate that into our dance. We have some lifts, which will be fun.”

Of her future on the show, she reveals that she really wants to do the Viennese Waltz. “It’s just so classical and beautiful.” She’s dreading those “dances that have a ton of footwork” but adds that “Mark actually thinks I’ll be pretty good at it. It’s such complicated choreography. Those are the ones that make me nervous.”

When it comes to her competition, she’s seen *Big Time Rush* star James Maslow rehearse and says he’s fabulous. Tonight, though, she’s most looking forward to seeing Paralympic snowboarder Amy Purdy dance. “I think a lot of people are excited to watch her. We’re just curious to see how she’s going to move to all of those steps,” she says. “When I’m feeling slightly challenged, I immediately think of her and think, ‘What am I complaining about? I have two feet.’”

Follow Cameron Bure on Twitter @candacecbure and tweet your support with #DJCandyBall. Be sure to tune in for tonight’s premiere of Dancing with the Stars on ABC at 8/7c.

‘Marry Smart’ Author Susan Patton Wants Young Women to “Plan Ahead For Their Happiness”



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

Maybe it's the native New Yorker in her, but newly-minted author Susan Patton is not afraid to tell it like it is. Although she is first and foremost a human resources consultant and an executive coach, she is perhaps best known for a letter she wrote to *The Daily Princetonian*, the

newspaper of her alma mater, in March 2013.

Her note advised Princeton's young female students to find their husbands while at school rather than dating men post-college who probably won't be of the same standard. She also suggested that female students dedicate less energy solely to advancing their careers and more towards finding a good mate and preparing for children. Naturally, the responses were visceral and immediate. The sheer amount of comments not only shut down Princeton's website, but word quickly spread and soon, Patton was on every talk show imaginable defending her words.

Here, she talks to CupidsPulse.com about her controversial letter and new book *Marry Smart: Advice for Finding THE ONE*, which was released yesterday.

What motivated you to become vocal about the current state of young women and write your letter and then your book *Marry Smart*?

It's become so politically incorrect to suggest to our young women that embracing traditional roles is wonderful. I can't really explain it because I don't understand it myself. But certainly the women's movement has become so extreme and so vitriolic in their message of women being identical to men, that they don't need men, that they can do it alone – but none of that is true. Instead of empowering women, it's become is sort of a bullying organization that is pushing women to want what *they* want for these women, not necessarily what women want for themselves.

What's empowering for any woman is to be with a man in a committed relationship who adores her, who values her and treasures her and worships her. *That's* empowering. Sleeping with a different man every night who you wouldn't even want to have a cup of coffee with isn't empowering.

I think *Marry Smart* is absolutely vital for any young woman who is thinking about how to best plan for her own personal happiness. I think it's a book that will help young women who are interested in being a wife and mother.

Related Link: [Are You Too Young For Marriage?](#)

Do you think your advice applies to women across the board or only for women who attend universities like Princeton?

The reason why I initially wrote this letter to the women in Princeton is because it's my alma mater, and I feel close to the university. I wanted to warn the undergraduates to not let this happen to them, to not be so all consumed with their careers that you get yourself to a point where you're in your mid to late 30s and realize that you have missed your opportunity to be married and have children. And sadly for many of them, they do.

My letter applies to smart women everywhere. You have to plan for your happiness with at least the same commitment and dedication as you're planning for your professional success. In fact, I think you have to invest more effort and energy in planning for your personal happiness because you can make up lost time at work, but you can't make up lost time if you've missed your opportunity to have children.

What would you say to women who don't want marriage and kids in their 20s and instead want to focus on their careers?

I think that's wonderful if that's what they truly want. I'm certainly not saying that you shouldn't pursue a career; I've always had a career – many careers, in fact. I'm not suggesting that women focus only on their personal happiness. What I am saying is that, if you're a young woman and you know you want children in a traditional marriage, you have to plan for it.

If you don't want to get married or don't want children, then

this advice isn't for you. I'm not critical of a woman who chooses career and only career.

Do you think the attitudes of male undergraduates toward marriage have changed as much as those of female undergrads?

I think, in college, it's hard for anybody to really think about marriage because of the workload and classes, but I think that young men do have marriage in the back of their minds. Then again, my concern isn't really for the guys because if they don't find the women of their dreams in their 20s, it's not like they missed any opportunity. But a woman who is in her late 30s or early 40s has a very different story. If that woman hasn't found a man yet and hasn't had babies yet, she pretty much knows that that ship has sailed.

Related Link: [Is Priscilla Presley Waving the Flag for Older Women?](#)

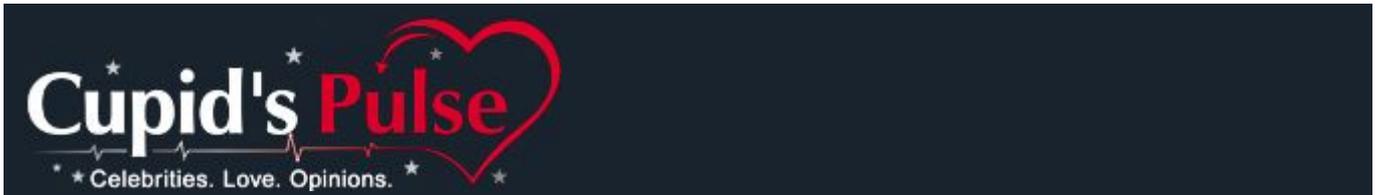
Readers might misinterpret your advice on looking for love in college while there are the greatest number of single men. Do you think it's ever too late to find somebody?

Different groups will misinterpret my words for their own purposes. But how could you argue with the idea that young women should plan for their personal happiness? Who argues with that? Of course, we should encourage young women to plan for their happiness! I think I've been misinterpreted in the sense that I'm not suggesting you don't pursue a career.

No, I don't think it's ever too late to find a partner, but I do know that there is definitively a hard stop on her ability to have children if that's what she wants.

If you'd like to purchase Marry Smart, visit Amazon. You can keep up with Patton on Twitter @ThePrincetonMom.

5 Cutest Teen Celebrity Couples



By

[Whitney Johnson](#)

Lately, it seems like the heavyweights in Hollywood are getting younger and younger. After all, it was just last year that Jennifer Lawrence won her first Academy Award for Best Actress Oscar at only 22 years old. Given their full-time jobs and big paychecks, these stars often grow up a bit faster than your average youngster – which means they also experience love and heartbreak earlier in their lives. With this thought in mind, we developed a list of our five favorite teen celebrity couples:

1. Bella Thorne and Tristan Klier: The 16-year-old star of Disney's popular show *Shake It Up* has been dating her blonde-haired boyfriend since 2012. When we caught up with the actress earlier this year, she revealed her favorite date night with her beau: "Just to sit on the couch and watch Netflix!"

Related Link: [Bella Thorne Shares Her Tips for Having a Memorable Valentine's Day](#)

2. Britney Spears and Justin Timberlake: Will there ever be a teen couple as adorable as these two pop stars? The pair, who met on the set of *The New Mickey Mouse Club*, were only 18 years old when they started dating and split after 3 years together. Recently, Spears even confirmed that Timberlake was her first kiss. Aw!

3. Gigi Hadid and Cody Simpson: The *Sports Illustrated* model and Australian singer, ages 18 and 17 respectively, were spotted at the Vanity Fair Oscars Party, looking every bit like a teenage dream. The lovebirds maintain a long-distance relationship – Hadid is at New York University, while Simpson lives in Los Angeles – but we hope to see the blonde beauty cheering her man on from the audience of *Dancing with the Stars*.

4. Kylie Jenner and Jaden Smith: While this duo hasn't confirmed their relationship status, they've been spotted around New York City, London, and Los Angeles. Plus, the so-called "best friends" have exhibited PDA on multiple occasions. Only time will tell if these teens have found true love!

Related Link: [Kendall and Kylie Jenner Make Celebrity Gossip Headlines Cozying Up to Chris Brown and Trey Songz at Party](#)

5. Selena Gomez and Justin Bieber: Even though the problem-plagued pop star exited his teen years on March 1st and his on-again, off-again girlfriend is already a year into her 20s,

we couldn't help but include this duo on our list. While Bieber may be trying to prove his age with his recent antics, his fans are still primarily tweens and teens, making his love life of utmost importance to this age group.

Do you have a favorite teen celebrity couple? Tell us in the comments below!

'The Bachelorette' Contestant and Hopeless Romantic Chris Bukowski Wants His "Fairytale Ending"





Inte

rview 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.

'Online Dating Rituals of the American Male' Reality TV Star Marcus Pierce Says Being Yourself is Key to Finding a Relationship and Love



Interview by [Lori Bizzoco](#). Written by Louisa Gonzales and [Whitney Johnson](#).

Marcus Pierce is no stranger to the online dating world, having been active on sites like OkCupid since 2006. The

celebrity trainer and Artist Muse creative director also isn't one to shy away from fun opportunities, so deciding to appear on the premiere episode of Bravo's new reality TV show *Online Dating Rituals of the American Male* was an easy choice to make.

Related Link: ['A Million First Dates' Offers New Insights About Online Dating](#)

Marcus Pierce Talks Reality TV and Online Dating

The Los Angeles resident feels like the docu-series came along at just “the right time in my life. I’m kind of at the point where I’ve run out of options. Plus, I’m so busy with work and everything else,” he explains in our [exclusive celebrity interview](#). “And I’m always up for new experiences – especially when it has to do with a relationship and love. I feel like you can find it anywhere if you’re open to it.” Along these lines, *Bachelorette* fans may recognize Pierce from the second season of the show, where he was one of 25 contestants vying for Meredith Phillips’s heart.

Despite his personal beliefs, the handsome trainer understands the doubt surrounding online dating. In fact, he hasn't always been on board with the concept. When he first joined the online dating scene, it was more of a “joke” to him. And he wasn't the only one with that mindset: “Back then, I think people automatically assumed that, if you were online dating, you were desperate.”

Of course, his opinions have changed since then. “At the time, I was younger and wasn't working as much as I am now. I had a lot more free time to actually go out and meet women. So, here we are, eight years later,” he says with a laugh. “Now that I’m busier, online dating just makes it easier for me to look

for a relationship and love.”

So what can viewers expect when they tune into *Online Dating Rituals of the American Male*? Pierce assures fans that he’s always true to himself as he reveals “the good, the bad, and the ugly” of online dating. “I know who I am, and I know I have to be vulnerable, so I’m always just going to be Marcus,” he shares. “I’m a pretty loving guy. I’m very personable. I’m a communicator. No matter what I get from a girl, I’m still going to be me.”

Related Link: [Celebrity Blogger Perez Hilton Talks Online Dating](#)

Bravo Star Shares Online Dating Advice

The reality TV star also hopes that the show will allow people to learn from his experiences. He wants to help both men and women gain a better understanding of online dating, especially when it comes to developing their profiles. “You need to put your best representation forward. You know everybody’s got their weirdness and their issues, but you don’t want to put that all out there!”

Continuing with this advice, Pierce encourages online daters to show off their best qualities in the beginning and not worry about how you think a potential match will perceive your profile. “Always put up your best pictures. Don’t put anything that’s unflattering about yourself; let somebody naturally find out those things about you when they take you on a date. You don’t need to lay it all out on the table. Include the things that will interest people and make them want to learn more about you.”

Just like in real life, online dating matches don’t always work out. Still, he doesn’t let himself get too affected by

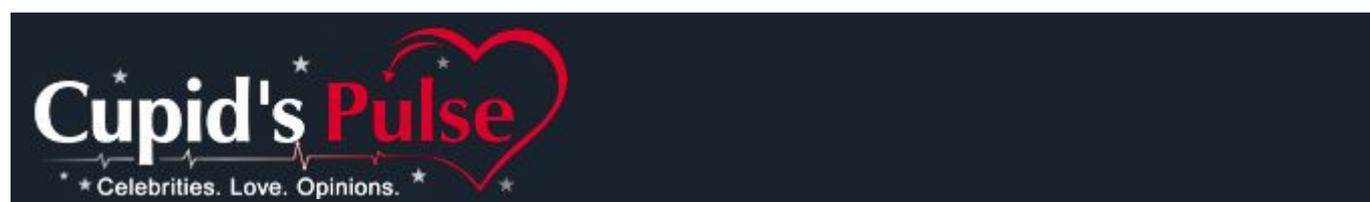
rejection – and he advises others to do the same. “Don’t think about what the other person is trying to get from you. Just be yourself, be vulnerable, and be open to love. And that person who truly belongs with you, who truly wants you for who you are, will find you.”

Related Link: [How to Deal with Online Dating Rejection](#)

While he’s dealt with heartbreak in the past, Pierce *may* be happily coupled up now. When asked if he was currently single, the reality TV star played coy. It looks like you’ll have to tune into the show to find out about his current relationship status!

You can follow Pierce onTwitter @thefitartist. Be sure to tune into the premiere of Online Dating Rituals of the American Male on Bravo this Sunday, March 9th, at 10/9c!

‘American Idol’ Contestant Kristen O’Connor: My Boyfriend “Never Held Me Back from Pursuing My Dream”





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

This week, *American Idol* decided to let the audience get a better sense of the thirteen finalists by giving the singers free rein in terms of song choice. Kristen O'Connor, a 24-year old nurse tech, chose Kelly Clarkson's "Beautiful Disaster." On Wednesday night's show, she explained, "This song is typically about a boy, but I interpreted this song to be about me." Judges Jennifer Lopez, Keith Urban, and Harry Connick Jr. gave generally positive – but slightly underwhelmed – feedback.

Related Link: [For 'American Idol' Winner Candice Glover, Third Time's a Charm](#)

O'Connor, along with M.K. Nobilette and Malaya Watson, was in the bottom three, and she admits that, while she was disappointed to be eliminated, she wasn't shocked. Competing against highly talented singers requires that each and every performance be the best that it can be. "It's unpredictable at this point – who America loves will change from week to week. It was important for me to go out with my head held high and

on a good note. I wanted to leave in a way that I could be proud of.”

Although she may not have gotten rave reviews for her last performance, O’Connor remains upbeat and confident. “One of my strengths, I think, is that I have a really strong voice. Chris Daughtry said my voice was his favorite, and Randy Jackson said I gave him chills. I’ve gotten a lot of really awesome compliments.”

It’s this confidence that has driven the Florida native to sing ever since she was a child. “My experiences growing up definitely prepared me for the competition. I learned everything I know about music from singing in church. I was a music major during my first year of college too.”

She’s also lucky enough to have unwavering love from her family, friends, and longtime boyfriend Renny Whidden. Speaking about Whidden, she thanked him for supporting her throughout her journey. “He never held me back from pursuing my dreams. He is so understanding and gets how important this is to me.” She credits trust with being the major quality that helps them maintain a long distance relationship.

Related Link: [4 Ways to Make a Long Distance Relationship Work](#)

She may not have won the competition, but O’Connor is leaving *American Idol* with new friends. “Before the show even started, Malaya and I were talking, and we thought it would be the two of us in the bottom. We both struggled with the song choices we made. We were just kind of holding on to each other, saying, ‘No matter what happens, we’re going to stay friends’.”

The aspiring singer has no plans to give up her dreams of having a career in music – but she does have a practical backup plan for her future. She recently graduated from the University of Central Florida with a degree in nursing. “I’m very self-sufficient and have worked very hard for everything

I have. I knew that I had to get a degree in something that would give me security," she shared.

She also said that one of the perks of nursing, besides helping others, is that it gives her enough time to keep singing. As for what sort of album she hopes to make, "I see myself as an R&B/pop/soulful singer. I love sultry music."

You can follow O'Connor on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram. American Idol is on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 8/7 c on FOX.

The Pros and Cons of a Whirlwind Romance





By [Whitney Johnson](#)

Taking a cue from some of our favorite celebrity couples – Kaley Cuoco and Ryan Sweeting, Kate Hudson and Matt Bellamy, and Jessica Simpson and Eric Johnson, to name a few – we thought it'd be fun to explore the benefits and pitfalls of quickie engagements. Plus, it's a topic our executive editor knows quite well: She got engaged to her now-husband after only nine weeks of dating! It's not a decision to make lightly though. Here are three pros and three cons of a whirlwind romance – all important things to consider before giving your heart away.

Related Link: [Why Celebrities Fall In and Out of Love So Quickly](#)

Pros

1. You tackle the big issues immediately: Under typical dating circumstances, you may not discuss the serious stuff – how many times your heart's been broken, what you want in a future spouse, how many kids you want – until a few months into your relationship. With a whirlwind romance, you're forced to get

down to the nitty-gritty details if you truly want a future together.

2. There's no time for apprehension: Every relationship reaches a turning point where it's easy to let fear control your actions. When you're falling in love fast, you tend to focus on the good instead of the bad, running to your destiny instead of away from it. "There's momentum and clear interest," explains relationship expert [Michelle Smith](#). "Everyone loves being loved, so when the feeling is mutual and obvious, sparks are going to fly."

3. It's a refreshing type of love: Sometimes, we can get burdened down with the complications that inevitably come with true love. A whirlwind romance, though, offers you a lightheartedness that's a great beginning for any relationship. "This fresh and free perspective is important to note," shares life coach [Kimberly Friedmutter](#). "You're not weighted down by expectations, and it's so much easier to breathe and just enjoy yourself."

Related Link: [Dating After Divorce: How Soon is Too Soon?](#)

Cons

1. You may not have a strong foundation: The healthiest relationships are built on a friendship, but if you've only known each other for a few weeks, you may not have that solid starting point. "Relationships should get better over time, and you should build on the connection you started with," says relationship expert [Andrea Syrtash](#). "When you immediately relate in a heightened way, it's tough to build from there. Whirlwind romances that start too fast can sometimes end too fast..."

2. You miss out on really dating each other: The first few weeks of a relationship, appropriately dubbed the "honeymoon phase," are filled with light-hearted and carefree experiences. If you jump right into something more serious,

you lose this fun time with your partner. It's easy to combat this potential pitfall: You should "date" your significant other always, whether you're newly together, engaged, or married.

3. You (or your partner) might be in it for the wrong reasons:

If you're getting over a broken heart or perhaps a bit bored with your current life, it's tempting to turn to romance to fill that void. After all, there's nothing like the allure of a handsome Prince Charming and a perfectly-fitted glass slipper! On the flip side, it's hard to truly know someone you just met, so your partner may be looking for an escape as well.

Have you ever been in a whirlwind romance? Share your story in the comments below!

5 Celebrity Women Who Only Date Athletes





By

[Whitney Johnson](#)

In today's tabloids, it's never a surprise to see yet another Hollywood beauty on the arm of a hunky athlete. From country crooners to television actresses to reality starlets, these five celebrity women have ditched their singer and actor exes to date – and in some cases, marry! – athletes instead:

1. Jessica Simpson: After her divorce from boy bander Nick Lachey, this lovable pop princess dove right back into the dating game, shifting her focus from singers (a rocky relationship with John Mayer aside) to football players. She dated Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo for two years before settling down with former NFL wide receiver Eric Johnson. The happy couple, who are parents to daughter Maxwell Drew and son Ace Knute, are set to walk down the aisle this spring.

Related Link: [Celebrity Couple Predictions: Jessica Simpson and Eric Johnson](#)

2. Carrie Underwood: This blonde beauty has a similar penchant for professional athletes. Before Romo hooked up with Simpson,

he was linked to Underwood for a brief six months. After he did her wrong (and no, Cowboy Casanova is not about him), the *American Idol* winner met handsome hockey player Mike Fisher. The couple married in 2010 and have made their home in Music City, where Underwood is often spotted cheering her husband on as he plays with the Nashville Predators.

3. Hayden Panettiere: Panettiere is yet another tow-headed singer who gravitates towards sporty boys. The *Nashville* star first dated Ukrainian boxer Wladimir Klitschko in 2010. She was then seen out and about with former New York Jets wide receiver Scotty McKnight before reuniting with Klitschko. After months of speculation, the petite actress confirmed their engagement on *Live With Kelly and Michael* in October 2013.

4. Khloe Kardashian: It looks like Kim – who dated not one but *three* athletes before starting a family with rapper Kanye West – isn't the only Kardashian sister who likes muscular men. Her younger sister got hitched to Los Angeles Lakers forward Lamar Odom after only one month of dating. This past fall, she announced her divorce from him after four years of marriage and has since been linked to Los Angeles Dodgers star Matt Kemp.

Related Link: [Khloe Kardashian Files for Divorce from Lamar Odom](#)

5. Eva Longoria: The *Desperate Housewives* actress married San Antonio Spurs point guard Tony Parker in a fairy tale ceremony in 2007. Unfortunately, after three years of marriage and reports of his infidelity, the couple ended their union. A few years later, she dated New York Jets quarterback Mark Sanchez for a couple of months.

Cupid wants to know: Why do you think celebrity women so often fall for pro-athletes?

'Never Have I Ever' Author Katie Heaney Says Love Should Be "a Supplement to a Full Life"



Interview by [Whitney Johnson](#). Transcription by Maria Darbenzio.

Katie Heaney turned her status as “being permanently single” into a funny memoir that sheds light on searching for your soul mate in the 21st century. In her new book *NEVER HAVE I EVER: My Life (So Far) Without a Date*, the 27-year-old shares her dating (or non-dating) experiences as she attempts to find

romance on her own terms. We recently caught up with the author to glean a few more words of wisdom on looking for love and spending Valentine's Day alone.

What do you hope readers gain from your book?

I hope that young women reading it are able to first find it entertaining and relatable but also find comfort in it if they haven't dated a lot or even at all. It's important for them to know they're not the only one. And I also want readers to know dating doesn't have to be their number one priority. Focusing on friendships with each other is equally valuable and a good use of time, especially when you're in high school and college.

Related Link: [Celebrities Who Are Unlucky in Love](#)

Why do you think there's so much focus on women to find The One instead of to embrace being single?

Even though we've made so much progress – it's because we're being educated at higher rates than guys these days and things like that – it's still supposed to be our primary goal to be looking for a husband so that we can start a family. I think that pressure starts incredibly early, and it doesn't really let up.

I think that what I realized in writing this book is the differences between the way the pressure is directed at me or my friends versus the way that guys experience it. Guys just don't have the same pressure to be constantly focused on love. If they want to focus on their career, nobody judges them. But, if a woman says the same thing, people say "Well, aren't you worried about getting too old? What about your biological clock? Don't you think you should at least be putting yourself out there in case you meet him?" We talk about it like it's this job. We should see it as a supplement to a full life that we create for ourselves.

Do you think this pressure causes women to settle for less than they deserve?

I do. I hear a lot of girls talking about dates they have, and they're not looking forward to them. Or a guy that they've been seeing is clearly not the type of guy they want. There's some weird impotence to kind of keep giving him chances and chances and chances. That's because there's this pressure to find him.

I think that there needs to be more trust in ourselves to know who we're really interested in and who we're not. We need to trust that it's better to be single than to be with someone you aren't interested in. The guy that you *are* interested in will come along.

What's the best dating advice you've ever received from a friend?

The best advice that I've ever been given is just to be comfortable thinking of myself as someone who other people want to date. It's not because I felt bad about myself; I just didn't really see that as a possibility because it wasn't happening. So thinking of yourself as attractive, appealing people who other people want to spend time with kind of affects you in all these tiny ways that impacts the way other people perceive you.

And conversely, what's the best advice you've ever given someone?

I tend to be the friend who tells everyone to break up with their boyfriends because I'm always like, "It's so clear you don't like him."

I think it's important to listen to what the other person is saying and to not be bossy in how you talk to them, helping them to listen to what they're saying and to recognize that if they're not sounding happy or they're complaining more than

not, then something is probably wrong. And you need to remind them that it'll always be okay to be single and make them feel that that's true by being there for them.

Related Link: [Finding Your True Destiny After Losing Love](#)

With Valentine's Day coming up soon, what's your advice for single ladies who let the romantic festivities bring them down?

I hate Valentine's Day, but I think the thing to remember is that couples usually hate it too. I sort of think it's a holiday like New Year's Eve where everyone pretends to be so excited and everyone feels the need to make huge plans, but then everyone is disappointed.

So I would remind yourself that just because someone's a couple doesn't mean they're having a great Valentine's either. That's not to say that you should take delight in other people's misery, but just remember that a lot of people hate it. The best thing you can do is make plans for yourself doing something that you know that you love, even if it's watching *Law & Order* for four hours and ordering in food. Treat it as any other day and know that it doesn't mean anything and that when you're a couple, you're probably going to feel the same way about it.

Heaney has an event at The Strand in New York tonight! For more information, check out her www.facebook.com/KTheaney.

Exclusive

Celebrity

Interview: 'The Bachelorette' Star Desiree Hartsock Says Confidence is Key to Finding Mr. Right



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!

**Celebrity Video Interview:
Brad Goreski Says, "I Think
We're Going to See an
Explosion of Glamour" at the
Oscars**



Interview by [Whitney Johnson](#).

In our celebrity video interview, we talked to fashion stylist Brad Goreski about the fashion at Sunday night's Grammys as well as his tips for [date night](#) looks. "The number one trend that I loved was the metallics," the reality TV star says, citing Taylor Swift, Chrissy Tiegen ("the golden goddess of the evening"), and Rita Ora as gorgeous examples. Plus, he reveals his predictions for the upcoming Oscars: "I think we're going to see an explosion of glamour."

Related Link: [Celeb Stylist Rachel Zoe and Brad Goreski Split](#)

Celebrity Stylist Talks Date Night Looks

When it comes to a date night, Goreski encourages women to look beyond what they're wearing. "Starting off with really

good hair, makeup, and skin is super duper important,” he explains. “Your skin should definitely be glowing on Valentine’s Day!” He also says that you should invest in a show-stopping coat to amp up your look this winter. Watch the celebrity video interview above for more!

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

10 Ways to Make a Long Distance Love Work



By

[Whitney Johnson](#)

Long distance relationships aren't always easy, but that doesn't mean they're not worth the extra trouble. In truth, they *do* take a bit more effort, but with these 10 tips, you'll overcome the miles separating you and your significant other.

1. Talk every day: No matter how far apart you are, a simple phone call will work wonders. Hearing your loved one's voice will not only make your day better; it'll also make you feel like a bigger part of your partner's day.

2. Take advantage of technology: Sure, you can't cuddle on the couch as you watch *Scandal* on Thursday nights...but that doesn't mean you can't enjoy it *together*. FaceTime or iChat will allow you to share in your TV-watching night; that way, when you're in the same place again, you'll both know what Olivia Pope and Fitz have been up to.

Related: [7 Secrets to Make a Long Distance Relationship Smokin' Hot](#)

3. Talk about each other: Just because your BFF may not know your boyfriend well doesn't mean you can't talk about him. Reminiscing about your last kiss or sharing your excitement over seeing him again with your girlfriends will bring the two of you even closer.

4. Plan ahead: In any relationship, it's important to have something to look forward to – whether it be a simple date night at your favorite Italian restaurant or a romantic trip to Turks and Caicos. When you live in different cities, it's even more important to pencil in your next get-together.

5. Save up: With that thought in mind, you have to save your money for those frequent plane tickets or road trips. You never want that big sale at Bloomingdale's to get in the way of seeing your someone special.

6. Send presents: On those weekends when you can't visit your

man, send a sweet care package or simple card to let him know you're thinking about him. Even something silly like a box of his favorite cereal will show that you pay attention to what he says – a little thing that make a big difference.

7. Text, text, text: Yes, you need to try to fit in a phone call every day, but texts will help you stay even more connected. If you get a supportive e-mail from your boss or totally screw up during your important presentation, shoot him a quick text to tell him how you're feeling. You can discuss your days in more detail later in the evening.

Related: [4 Ways to Make Your Long Distance Relationship Work](#)

8. Stay positive: Like any relationship, you'll experience ups and downs – only those low moments may be even harder to handle without his arms around you. Surround yourself with pictures and special mementos from your time together. They'll help remind you why you're putting up with the long distance in the first place.

9. Feel confident: Be sure of yourself when it comes to your relationship. It's easy to let the lack of physical closeness translate to lack of trust or jealousy.

10. Think about the future: At a certain point, you have to decide if you want to make a real commitment to your significant other. Are you willing to give up your job, your house, and your social circle to relocate for your love? If so, tell him you're ready to take that next step.

Cupid wants to know: What's your best tip for making a long distance relationship last?

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: How to Be a Better Partner



By

[Whitney Johnson](#)

If one of your resolutions is to be the best girlfriend you can be, we're here to help! Thanks to these great articles from our partners, you'll be off to a fantastic start.

1. Reflect on your love: The New Year is the perfect time to think back on the past twelve months and look forward to the future. Consider these touching quotes from well-known authors, artists, and poets. Maybe you'll even be inspired to write some sweet words of your own!

2. Partner up: Take a cue from *Real Housewives of New York* star Jill Zarin and join your man in supporting a cause that's

close to both of your hearts.

3. Make him happy: Make your partnership the best it can be by focusing on your beau and what keeps him smiling. Guys aren't so complicated – it'll be easier than you think!

4. Fully commit to your beau: With next week's premiere of *The Bachelor*, you'll be obsessing over what lucky lady is going to win Juan Pablo's heart before you know it. Why not focus on your own man instead and help your relationship grow even stronger?

5. Take the next steps: If you've been with your someone special for the past few weeks and know that he's a keeper, it may be time to take your relationship to a new level. Consider these five tips as you plan your first overnight date.

How will you become closer to your partner this year? Tell us in the comments below.

Dr. Sue Johnson Discusses How to Develop Your 'Love Sense'





Inte

rview by [Whitney Johnson](#). Written by Brittany Stubbs.

In a society constantly questioning monogamy and companionship, Dr. Sue Johnson, a clinical psychologist and developer of Emotionally Focused Couple Therapy, uses cutting-edge research to help ordinary people understand why and how we love. In her new book *Love Sense: The Revolutionary New Science of Romantic Relationships*, she presents scientific evidence to show how human beings *are* meant to mate for life and how to develop one's own "love sense," which is our ability to develop long-lasting relationships. In our exclusive interview with the author, she shared her inspiration for the book as well as her thoughts on our culture's fascination with failed love.

What inspired you to write this book?

I didn't actually want to write books for the public. I'm used to talking to mental health professionals, but I noticed how many people came to our practice and were in need of an emotional connection with their partner. They were talking about the pain involved in watching a relationship dissolve

before their eyes. So it felt urgent for me, as a researcher and academic, to share this amazing information on adult bonding and love that has been denied from a more general audience. We know more about love, and we have more control of love than we think. It's my responsibility to help ordinary people know that they need love and tell them about this new science.

Related Link: [How Fighting Can Strengthen Your Relationship](#)

You discuss the idea that humans are meant to mate for life, which is controversial in our society given the high divorce rates and infidelity. What led you to this belief?

There's a good amount of chemical evidence that human beings are suited for monogamy. For example, we're flooded with Oxytocin (often referred to as the "bonding hormone"), which only occurs in mammals that are meant to stay together, cooperate with one another, and look after their young when they're vulnerable.

In our society, we're taught to fully depend on someone in a relationship, and when that relationship doesn't work, instead of fixing it, we go and look for another relationship and try to make that work. When relationships end, you see all the stages of grief people experience before they go on to the next relationship. For me, this is just proof that it's obvious humans depend on and need monogamy, despite all the arguments society has about how we're all so naturally promiscuous.

There's evidence that we're most healthy and happy when we're in these close relationships: with parents, with children, with close friends, and certainly with partners that we make love with. All these chemical and bonding hormones that go on make it obvious that we're meant to be monogamous, but the real issue is that we don't know how to pull it off.

You talk about how romantic love is an attachment bond, like

that between a mother and child. If two people don't feel that way, does that mean their relationship is doomed? Or is that a feeling that can be learned between lovers?

If people really don't have that longing for each other, they usually just accept that they're friends. But longing for one another is something that's wired in us, and once that's triggered and you start to feel this closeness, it doesn't mean you know how to take the next step. If you can stay with each other through that longing and reach each other in those moments of disconnection, it's almost like you will fall more and more in love.

Building on all of this, let's go back to the title of your book. You give your readers the ability to build on their own "love sense." So what would you say is the most important rule someone should follow to sustain that long-term love?

One of the most important rules is to accept the most basic thing about us as human beings: We were never designed to be single or face life alone. Self-efficiency is a lie. So accept that you're a mammal and that you have these needs wired inside and that you need other people's support and comfort – these things are what make you a human being. And if you can accept that you have these needs, then you don't have so much trouble listening to them and sharing them with a partner.

Speaking specifically about the women's movement, for example, part of this time was to empower women and teach them to be assertive and strong, which is really great. But it seems to me that the strongest thing about women is that they know how relational they are. They know they are stronger when they can turn to one another and connect with them. And that's something that I think the feminist movement has sometimes missed. It's something we need to teach men. We get so obsessed with being these powerful individuals, but we're actually wired to be most powerful when we're connected to others. So accepting your needs of longing, of closeness, of

support – that helps a lot in building that long-lasting love.

Related Link: [Ways to Help Your Single Friends Find a Partner](#)

So much of our society focuses on breakups and divorces. Do you think that fixation on failed-love has an impact on the way we perceive love in general?

I understand that bad news and gossip grabs people's attention, and that's why we focus on these topics. But I think focusing on instances where marriage doesn't work or doesn't last generates this pessimistic attitude about relationships. It's demoralizing. And the irony is it's not true anymore. Scientist like myself are beginning to make it clear that we need love relationships, and we know how we can hold on to them and better them. The sensationalism around affairs and divorces just kind of obscures the fact that we are getting a handle on love and understand it more than we ever have before.

To purchase Love Sense, check out Amazon or your local bookstore.

Giveaway: Keep Your Dog Clean and Happy with Warren London Products





This

post is sponsored by Warren London.

By [Whitney Johnson](#)

It's no secret that many pet owners want what's best for their furry friends, and Eric Bittman was no different when he created [Warren London](#). Eric and his wife Sara are the proud parents of two Boston Terriers, Maurice and Brittney. When Maurice was six months old, he developed a number of skin allergies. Unfortunately, the recommended shampoo only left his skin drier and itchier, which is why Eric decided to develop his own line of grooming products.

Warren London's main goal is to make innovative luxury spa and grooming products that get great results. The company uses only natural ingredients to ensure that all items are top quality; they're even human tested on top of being dog tested. Each product is made with a simple belief in mind: "Every dog deserves a spa day!"

From shampoos and conditioners to paw revitalizers and facial cleansers, Warren London sells a wide range of products that are sure to keep your dog looking (and smelling) his best. We

all know that a clean dog makes a happy partner; after all, nobody wants to come home from a week-long business trip and be greeted by a smelly pooch who leaves muddy paw prints on their dry clean-only suit.

Plus, for a bit of added fun, the company also has quick-drying, non-toxic, water-based Pawdicure Polish Pens, available in 13 colors and perfect for dog nail art.

My husband and I used the Coconut 2-in-1 Shampoo + Conditioner on our Lab mix, Finn. Just a puppy, he loves to play and run around outside, which means he gets dirty quickly; even so, three days after his bath, he still smelled like coconuts. His coat was particularly shiny and seemed more moisturized despite the Colorado winter air.

We also used the Instant Ear Cleaner on Finn's sensitive ears. He happily obliged while we massaged the solution into his ear canals, and his floppy ears stayed much cleaner than usual.

Lucky for you, one lucky CupidsPulse.com reader will win a Warren London gift bundle that includes: Lavender Shampoo, Hydrating Butter, Deep Cleaning Paw Fizz Tablets, Paw Sani-Scrub, Cucumber Melon Foaming Facial, "Wet Kiss" Dog Cologne, Grapeseed Oil, Instant Ear Cleaner, three Polish Pens, Nail File, and Buffer Block. Grooming your dog should be easy, effective, and, most importantly, fun – and thanks to Warren London products, it can be!

~~**GIVEAWAY ALERT: To enter for a chance to win the Warren London gift bundle, go to our [Facebook](#) page and click "like." Leave a comment under our giveaway post letting us know you want to enter the contest and telling us something fun about your dog. We'll contact the winner via [Facebook](#) when the contest is over, and they will have three days to respond back with their contact information. The deadline to enter is Monday, January 13th at 5 p.m. ET. Good luck!**~~

Congratulations to Melissa Mazzur!

Open to US residents only.

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Find True Love in the New Year



By

[Whitney Johnson](#)

The start of a new year is like a blank slate. It's the perfect time to evaluate your goals and figure out what you want to accomplish over the next 365 days. If you're single and ready to settle down, use these great articles from our partners to open up your heart to love in 2014:

1. Get inspired: Thanks to these 50 romantic quotes, you'll be

more than ready to find the relationship you deserve. So snuggle up with a cup of hot cocoa and get ready to be inspired! (YourTango.com)

2. Rediscover your passion: It's easy for romance to take a backseat during the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. Whether you're partnered up with someone who you think may be your soulmate or you're working up the courage to say hello to your crush, these four tips will help you reignite your love life. (GalTime.com)

3. Tap into technology: If you want to settle down in the new year, it's time to change your approach to dating. Use this foolproof advice to perfect your online dating skills and meet the man of your dreams. (YourTango.com)

4. Take a deep breath: Former *Baywatch* star Gena Lee Nolin encourages us to enjoy this time of year – whether you're single, in a new relationship, or happily married with four children (like she is!). After all, "true happiness comes from within." (Celebrity Baby Scoop)

5. Ring in the new year with someone new: Just because you're single doesn't mean you can't have a fantastic New Year's Eve. Why not find a single guy and plan a first date for December 31st? Sparks may fly! No matter what you decide to do, reflect on the past year and set clear goals for the coming twelve months. (GalTime.com)

How will you find true love in 2014? Tell us in the comments below!

Daphne Oz: “It’s Such an Adventure Being Pregnant”



By

[Whitney Johnson](#)

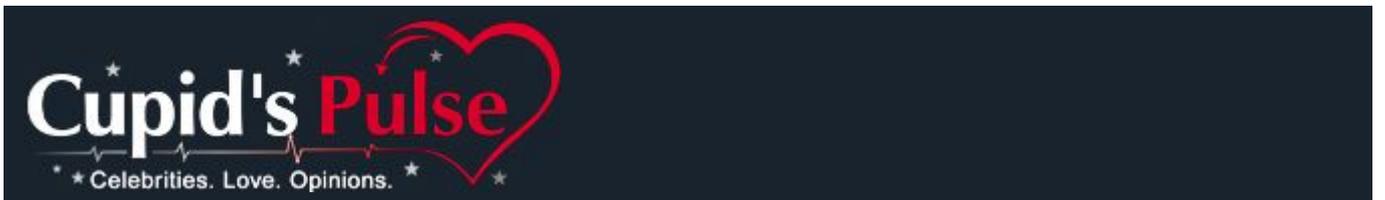
Like any mother-to-be, Daphne Oz has been excitedly preparing for her upcoming arrival. She recently took a big step and picked out baby furniture at Delta’s Children showroom in New York City.

Related Link: [Emily Blunt Celebrates Her Baby Shower](#)

“I’ve loved every minute of being pregnant. It’s such an adventure, and everything feels so new and exciting! Since we don’t know what we’re having, I’ve been designing the nursery in all neutrals – white, creams and grays – with lots of plush textures and soft things for baby,” *The Chew* co-host recently

told Celebrity Baby Scoop. “My mom has been helping me, which is so much fun as we create a welcoming environment for the newest addition to our family.”

Cupid’s Weekly Round-Up: Tips for Having a Fun Family Holiday



By

[Whitney Johnson](#)

The holidays are meant to be spent with the ones you love most: your family. Whether you’re a newlywed spending your

first Christmas with your husband's family or new parents trying to survive those sleepless nights, it's important that you soak up this time together. With this thought in mind, CupidsPulse.com has pulled together these great articles from our partners, filled with the tips you need to have a fun-filled holiday with your family:

Related Link: [Drew Lachey Talks About Spending Time with His Family](#)

1. Bond as a family: It's no secret that your kids won't be little forever, so why not enjoy this time before it's gone? Take a look at these gift ideas to bring your family even closer. (GalTime.com)

2. Show your bestie you care: Many women find a BFF in their sister or mother, but even if you're not related to your best friend by blood, you probably still view her as family. These 37 friendship quotes will remind you how special your bestie is. (YourTango.com)

3. Celebrate your loved ones: Making people feel loved and special is important all year long, not just during the holidays. Here are four ways to show your family and friends just how much you care. (GalTime.com)

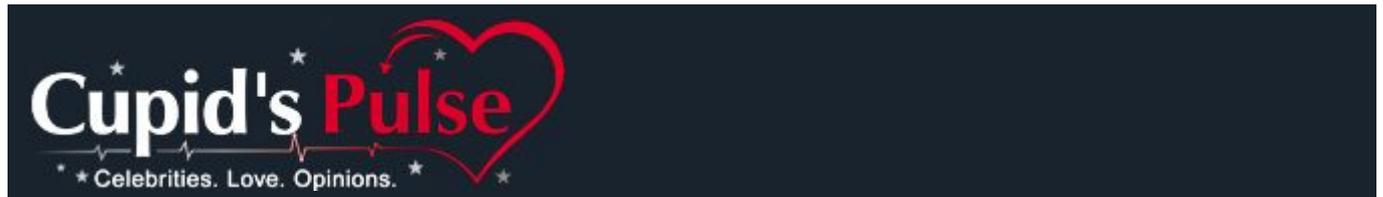
4. Embrace your inner kid: Take a cue from Alyson Hannigan and her husband of ten years Alexis Denisof and be a kid at heart. We promise you'll enjoy the holidays even more through the eyes of a child! (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

Related Link: [Make Your Holiday the Best One Yet](#)

5. Tell your partner you love her: With the needs of your little ones filling you and your wife's days (and often your nights), it's easy for you to feel like you're missing out on time as a couple. Use these 15 tips to make sure your actions show your sweetheart just how much you love her. (YourTango.com)

Cupid wants to know: How will you bond with your family during the holidays?

Celebrity Christmas Weddings



By

[Whitney Johnson](#)

The holidays are said to be the most wonderful time of the year, so it's no surprise that so many couples – famous faces and everyday folks alike – choose to walk down the aisle around Christmas. Thanks to lightly falling snow, flickering fireplaces, and cozy color palettes, the wedding practically plans itself. Whether they embraced the cold crispness in the air or escaped the winter wonderland and headed somewhere

warm, the celebrity couples below ensured that their holiday seasons were all the more magical because of their plans to say “I do.”

1. Cassandra Jean and Stephen Amell: The handsome star of The CW’s hit show *Arrow* married the former *America’s Next Top Model* contestant during a small sunset ceremony officiated by a close friend in the Caribbean on Christmas Day in 2012. The couple had a second wedding in New Orleans on May 26, 2013, and welcomed their daughter Mavi Alexandra Jean Amell, in October.

Related: [Stephen Amell Marries Cassandra Jean for the Second Time](#)

2. Katherine Heigl and Josh Kelley: These two lovebirds exchanged personally-written vows in Park City, Utah, on December 23, 2007. The wedding took place at the Stein Eriksen Lodge, and the tent was decorated with white flowers and white candles, both of which complimented the fresh snow. The actress was decked out in a custom-made Oscar de la Renta gown and walked down the aisle to an acoustic song written by her husband-to-be. Bringing in a bit of Christmas spirit, Heigl’s bridesmaids wore red.

3. Danielle Deleasa and Kevin Jonas: The pop star made sure that his “Jersey Girl” had a wedding fit for a princess: The couple tied the knot at Oheksa Castle in Huntington, New York, on December 19, 2009. Jonas even gifted his bride, who wore a strapless tulle and Chantilly lace Vera Wang gown, with a pair of glass slippers on the big day. With the groom’s brothers, Nick and Joe, serving as the best men and his father officiating the traditional ceremony, it was a family affair – one that most certainly extended into the holidays.

4. Crystal Harris and Hugh Hefner: A tumultuous courtship preempted this couple’s big day: Harris began dating Hefner in January 2009 and initially broke off their engagement in June

2011 – only five days before she was set to walk down the aisle. Nearly a year later, the twosome reunited. They became re-engaged on December 1, 2012 and married in a small ceremony at the Playboy Mansion on New Year's Eve of that year. A perfect way to end the holiday season and ring in the new year!

Related: [Hugh Hefner and Crystal Harris Tie the Knot on NYE](#)

5. Perrie Edwards and Zayn Malik: This musically-talented pair, who only got engaged in August, is hoping to say “I do” before Christmas of this year. The reason for the rushed wedding is quite practical: Edwards, a member of the British girl group Little Mix, is dreading being away from her fiancé when he departs for One Direction's 2014 tour, and she's hoping it'll be easier if they're hitched. Only time will tell if these plans come to fruition!

Cupid wants to know: Would you ever want a holiday wedding? Why or why not?

HGTV Designer Sabrina Soto Shares Her Party Planning Secrets in Celebrity Video Interview





Interview by [Whitney Johnson](#).

Celebrity Video Interview with Sabrina Soto

The holiday season is in full swing, and for many people, that means the next few weeks will be filled with parties to plan. With that thought in mind, we enlisted the help of style expert and author Sabrina Soto. In our [celebrity video interview](#), the host of reality TV show *The Great Christmas Light Fight* shares her top tips for hosting a stylish and affordable party.

Related Link: [Kathy Hilton's Advice for Holiday Entertaining](#)

Plus, she let us in on her holiday plans: "I have been engulfed in Christmas décor for the past two months, so this year, I'm going to Europe for Christmas just to get away and not have to worry about it!" the HGTV designer reveals.

Be sure to check out Sabrina Soto on *The Great Christmas Light Fight*, which premieres tonight at 9/8c on ABC.

For more great holiday party ideas, visit www.target.com/.

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

10 Blind Date Etiquette Rules



By

[Whitney Johnson](#)

As tricky as it is to navigate the dating world, a new type of pressure is added to the meet-up when it's a blind date. It may be the first step to finding lasting love, or it may be the worst date of your life. Even so, everyone should experience a blind date at least once. You're sure to learn something about yourself and what you want in a mate. Read on

for 10 blind date etiquette rules to keep in mind before getting together with your mystery man:

1. Don't drag your feet. Rather than postponing the date or holding off on meeting for a few weeks, schedule a get-together as close to the initial fix-up as possible. "The longer you have to exchange digital communication, the longer you'll have to create a fantasy that this date will be the perfect mate," says author and relationship expert Dr. Wendy Walsh.

2. Keep your expectations in check. It's natural to have some hopes or doubts about the date, but keep an open mind. Even if you have an instant connection, there's bound to be an awkward moment or two. Dr. Walsh adds, "Creating a build-up, site unseen, can set you up for a big crash."

Related Link: [How to Ease Your Nerves Before a Blind Date](#)

3. Ask your matchmaker for details. Don't hesitate to ask the friend who set you up for intel about your date. If you're lucky, you can get an idea of what type of guy he is and what type of girls he's dated in the past. Plus, you can identify a few common interests to keep in mind when conversation grows quiet.

4. Dress like a lady. Since a blind date eliminates the usual pre-dating process, it's particularly imperative that you make a great first impression. When he first lays eyes on you, he won't be seeing your charming personality or quick wit. He'll only be noticing what you're wearing, so keep it classy. Save your distress (but very trendy) jean jacket or fanciful headband for next time.

5. Come prepared. As Dr. Walsh explains, "In these days of gender equality, it's perfectly acceptable to bring your own car and your own money to a blind date." It's also the best way to keep yourself safe, as you want to have an easy exit

strategy in case you feel threatened or in danger.

6. Be your best self. “You could be auditioning for the most important role of your life: being the companion to an incredible person,” reminds online dating expert Julie Spira. If you’re the right match for your date, you won’t need to lie about who you are or even try to impress him. He’ll like you for you.

7. Don’t expect immediate chemistry. “It takes time to get to know someone, and relationships need to go through all seasons before you sign up for the long-term,” says Spira. Also remember that your date may be nervous, so “if you aren’t feeling it right away, give him a second chance.”

Related Link: [Why a Blind Date Might Be Good for You](#)

8. Keep the conversation light. “Just because you know someone in common doesn’t mean you need to kiss-and-tell or spend the entire date talking about your past history,” cautions Spira. “Ration your information flow.” Sticking to surface-level topics will also keep him wanting more – you can tackle the heavier stuff on a fourth or fifth date.

9. Never walk away. No matter how poorly the date is going, it’s never an excuse to be rude. Even if you see no future with this man, you can survive a few hours of harmless chit-chat. Plus, as Spira points out, “Even if there’s no chemistry, your date might have a friend to introduce you to, know of a business opportunity for you, or just be a great guy to have in your life.”

10. Be honest. At the end of the date, tell the truth when it comes to your feelings. There’s no reason to string someone along if you have no interest in seeing him again. If you’d love to get together again, don’t be shy! No matter what, be gracious as you say goodbye and know that there’s someone out there for you, even if this guy’s not The One.

For more information on Dr. Wendy Walsh and Julie Spira, please visit DatingAdvice.com.

Tell us: What's your number one rule for a blind date?

5 Celebrity Couples That Fight Dirty



By

[Whitney Johnson](#)

It's no secret that mean words and angry actions can be detrimental to a relationship. Still, it's easy to get caught up in the moment and say or do something you don't mean. Even celebrities are guilty of this inappropriate behavior – and

unfortunately, their arguments are often caught by paparazzi and splashed on tabloid covers for all the world to see. In order to learn from their mistakes, here are five celebrity couples that fight dirty:

1. Emma Roberts and Evan Peters: This past summer, the 22-year-old *American Horror Story* actress and her boyfriend were caught in a violent fight that led to Roberts being booked in a Montreal jail. When the cops arrived at the scene, Peters was found with a bloody nose and a bite mark. Fortunately, no charges were pressed, and the couple remains happily in love.

Related Link: [Emma Roberts Arrested After Fight with Boyfriend Evan Peters](#)

2. Mary Delgado and Byron Velvick: Season 6 *Bachelor* Velvick was engaged to the show's winner for five years before they finally split in 2009. The couple first showed signs of trouble when Delgado was arrested for assaulting her fiancé in 2007. According to the police report, she was under the influence of alcohol when she punched Velvick in the mouth.

3. Rihanna and Chris Brown: It was hard to miss that infamous picture of Rihanna after an argument with Brown escalated and he repeatedly attacked her following a pre-Grammy party in 2009. Still, the couple reunited and has since been in an on-again, off-again relationship. The pop star most recently referred to the incident as "the biggest wake-up call."

4. Kourtney Kardashian and Scott Disick: You can still fight dirty *without* being physically violent, and this reality star couple is proof of that. Thanks to E!'s popular show *Keeping Up With the Kardashians*, they have to relive their many arguments and sometimes work through the issue more than once – even months after the initial disagreement occurred. Even so, Disick recently told Ryan Seacrest that the couple is "decently happy."

Related Link: [Kourtney Kardashian and Beau Get Therapy](#)

5. Sharon and Ozzy Osbourne: Early in their marriage, during Ozzy's drug- and alcohol-filled days, the rocker reportedly beat his wife, even trying to strangle her once. Somehow, though, they worked through their issues and have been married for over 30 years, briefly separating earlier this year.

Tell us: What celebrity couple do you think fights the dirtiest?

Chad Michael Murray Opens Up About Dating Nicky Whelan



By

[Whitney Johnson](#)

Well, that was certainly fast! Only a month after ending his seven-year engagement, Chad Michael Murray has found a girlfriend in Australian actress Nicky Whelan. The actor, who met his former fiancée Kenzie Dalton on the set of *One Tree Hill*, is starring in the upcoming film *Left Behind* with his new leading lady. Confirming their relationship, Murray tweeted a picture of the twosome kissing and captioned it, "I am a lucky lucky man. Blessed to feel the way I do with @NickyWhelan! I hope each of u feels the same in ur world!" According to [People.com](#), the couple was also spotted at the Chateau Marmont hotel in Los Angeles.

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

Cupid's Advice:

It's easy to get caught up in the excitement of a new love, but if you rush into something serious before you're ready, you may never reach your full potential as a couple. Keep the three points below in mind before taking your relationship public:

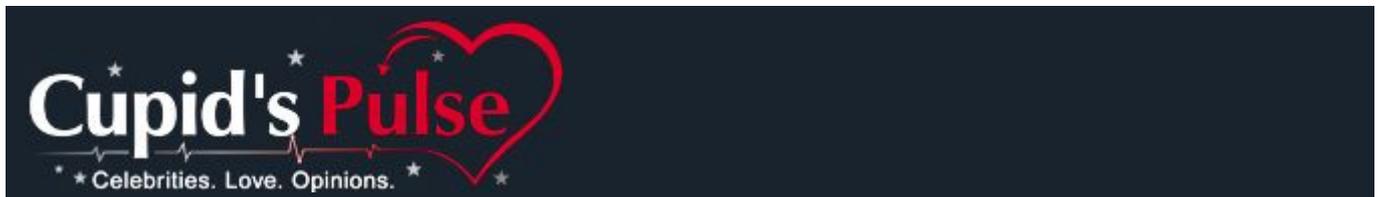
1. It's more than a fling: You don't need to decide if your partner is soul mate material or not, but it's important that you feel confident that it's a long-term relationship. You don't want to introduce your friends and family to someone who's not going to be around by Thanksgiving.

2. You want to share your love: Consider *why* you want to go public with your relationship. If it's because you want your loved ones to know how happy and fulfilled you are because of your significant other, it's time to introduce them. If it's because you feel pressure to be dating someone or you want to get revenge on an ex, you should rethink your motives – and your relationship.

3. You've talked to your partner: Before you shout your feelings from the rooftops, be sure that you and your beau are on the same page. He may not be ready to be exclusive or meet your parents, and it's important that you respect him. Taking a big step in your relationship is much more fun if you do it as a team.

How do you know when to go public with your relationship? Tell us in the comments below!

Michael Morris Steps Out with Wife Post-Katharine McPhee Scandal





By

[Whitney Johnson](#)

It looks like yet another cheating scandal has rocked Hollywood. Last week, married actress Katharine McPhee was spotted kissing her *Smash* director Michael Morris, also hitched. This past weekend, [Us Weekly](#) revealed that Morris was spotted with his wife, *In Plain Sight* actress Mary McCormack, who allegedly kicked him out of the house they share with their three children. Sources say that the *American Idol* runner-up has been separated from her husband, Nick Cokas, for several months, but she's still incredibly embarrassed by the situation.

What do you do if you find out your partner has been cheating?

Cupid's Advice:

It's easy to say what you would do *if* your partner ever cheated, but the reality of the situation is completely different than that "what if" scenario. Before you make any rash decisions or say and do something you may later regret, consider the tips below:

1. Take a breather: It's natural to need a bit of space after finding out such life-altering news. Step back from your relationship and use this alone time to think about how you feel about your relationship, your partner, and, most importantly, your future.

2. Seek outside help: Whether it's a close friend or a therapist, talking to an outsider about your partner's cheating will help you gain some much-needed perspective. It'll allow you to look at the big picture and really consider the questions needed to determine if you want to work through this rough patch with your significant other or if you're ready to call it quits.

3. Follow your heart: Finally, no matter what anyone says, listen to yourself. Deep down, you know whether or not you can truly forgive your beau and move forward in spite of the transgression. Just remember that if you can't see past this mistake, you'll never be happy together.

How would you deal with a cheating partner? Share your comments below!