

CUPID'S FRUSTRATION

And we wonder why it is so hard to find lasting love

By [RANEE ALISON SPINA](#)

In a fast-paced society that reinforces behaviors stemming from no self-respect, no gentlemanly manners, and no relationship courting, how can love be ever-lasting let alone even sprout?

Cupid must surely find himself defeated at the end of each day. As he takes aim at some poor sap's heart, he must know that even his passionate arrow is not enough to triumph over today's "dating" scene. Even if he uses the heaviest of arrows and hits the vital area with a quick, clean shot, this bowhunter is aware that the target's heart is up against some overwhelming odds.

When did it happen? When did we lose the ability to respectfully connect with the opposite sex? It was not an overnight fall into disgrace. It was more like a force building speed with each passing year. The unspoken motivation has been, "How can men and women become even more disrespectful of themselves and each other?"

Think about what has been disappearing at an escalating rate. Long lasting relationships. We want everything fast now-a-days. Fast food, fast technology, and instant gratification. Was there any value realized in traditional courting?

Yes, there was value! Trust was established. Intimacy was established. This occurred before bodily fluids were exchanged! People discovered each other's idiosyncrasies, and accepted them, before rolling around naked with each other.

Cupid's frustration has nothing to do with those consensual, "I'm only in this for the sex" pairings; such players have no desire to find a life-long love. The cherub's focus is

on those who truly long for the relationship that can last past two months, past two years, heck, for a lifetime.

I wonder who came up with the lame 3rd Date Rule? Some guy who did not want to have to go on more than three dates with the same woman? Or, was it a woman who needed to rationalize when to have sex? The bottom line is that three dates is no courtship. And, how ironic that the same woman who expects a red rose on the first date, also hops into bed with Mr. Disrespectful on the 3rd date. Let us all say this together, "What a set-up for failure!"

Cupid finds two people he believes have a chance at long-lasting love, so he does his thing. He draws back his bow and shoots His and Her hearts. Here is where it all goes wayward. One would think that the He in this situation would have the courage and respect to simply ask this woman out for a cup of coffee. A simple "Let's hang out and see if we even like each other" get together. The She in this situation should be smart enough to simply say "Yes, I'd love to" with no preconceived notions about "I don't think he's my type." Then as the dates continue, common sense would dictate that these two love birds would be able to pace the relationship instead of giving into the heat of the moment. But, they have every TV show, movie, and magazine screaming at them that they are supposed to be having sex. So, they do. The shallow intimacy is a result of their impatient need to be part of a couple. Then the confusion occurs because the He and She do not really know where they stand with each other. *Are they a couple? Are they serious? Is he now going to call everyday? Does this mean they're not going to see anybody else?*

They do not really know each other so usually the relationship will fumble about for 2-3 months and then come to an end. Next. Repeat same behavior. Start complaining that there are no good men and only women who are only looking for mucho dinero.

What if we raised our expectations when it comes to dating? What if women had enough self-respect to not go gaga over disrespectful men who are clueless on how to be a gentleman? What if men sought out women who were free of drama and not just looking for the next guy to latch onto?

The next time your heart feels the piercing of cupid's arrow, behave differently. Behave better. Behave like you truly desire to find a lifetime of love. Please keep in mind that you have the power to lessen that cute little cherub's frustration.

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