



## ASK DEANNA! Real People, Real Advice

Ask Deanna! is a column known for its fearless approach to reality-based subjects!

Dear Deanna!

I've been dating a guy for four years and he claims that he loves me. However, I often wonder how we can love one another when we really don't know each other. We never go out together although we spend time at each other's home. He blames it on his job. It's true he works a lot, but I feel that if you really want to be with someone you'll make time. I turned 40 on my birthday and feel its time to move on.

Jeanette  
On-Line Reader

Dear Jeanette:

There's a huge communication gap in this relationship. It's odd to be with someone for four years and still fall short on quality time. He's simply not into you, but you've made it easy for him to be in this relationship. You should get a new attitude and lay your cards on the table and express your desires. If he still wants to be dead weight using his job as an excuse, then hit the road and don't look back.

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Dear Deanna!

My husband caught me in our home with someone else a month ago. I was in a compromising situation that he walked directly into. He immediately started packing his bags and has been staying in a hotel. I want to apologize to him and try to work things out but he refuses my calls and won't respond to my e-mail. How do I handle this?

Patricia  
Detroit, MI

Dear Patricia:

You got exactly what you deserved by bringing this filth into your home and your marriage bed. You're lucky he didn't put a cap into your behind and strangle your Don Juan. If he led you to the bed with this man and pulled back the sheets then he's at fault, if not, you're on your own. You can apologize all day long but you also need to seek forgiveness and pray to your Heavenly Father for strength and a fix it plan.

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Dear Deanna!

I'm a single pastor with no kids and never been married. I met an attractive female that I chatted with for over 45 minutes although I was with someone else at the time. I gave her my business card and she gave me her e-mail address. She told me she's been seeing someone for two years. I sent an online greeting with hopes of hearing from her. I've never felt like this before and wonder if it's appropriate. Should I wait to hear from her or forget it and wait for the Creator to send me someone?

Wise One  
On-Line Reader

Dear Wise One:

You're already disqualified from a relationship with her because she has a mate. She displayed limited interest with the e-mail exchange because instead of responding, she can simply delete your messages. Don't be discouraged. You should translate these elevated feelings into positive thoughts. If she doesn't respond, instead of rejection, consider the experience a blessing and wait for the woman you deserve.

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# BET Awards affair to remember

By James Hill

Don't tell us you missed Beyonce's lapdance! What about the Fugees reunion?

If we learned anything from the 2005 BET Awards, it's that no matter how big the stars who graced the stage, nothing shall surpass the power and dominance of Beyonce's booty. Though it did not make an appearance 'til halfway through the show, it nonetheless remained on the minds of damn near everyone who saw it — including host Will Smith and even BET Founder Bob Johnson.

Before Beyonce's bootylicious moment, Wyclef, Pras and Lauryn Hill, once known collectively as the Fugees, came seemingly out of nowhere to open the show years after an official breakup.

Hill was rocking a '60s Supremes-style wig and pantsuit. But her retro look didn't stop her from quickly reestablishing what made her a superstar in the first place. After her own lengthy break from the spotlight, since the success of her solo album, hearing her startling vocals, blazing rhymes and command of the stage was refreshing.

Despite the time they've been apart, the group performed "Fugee-la" and "Killing Me Softly," with the same energy of their past glory days, and the crowd responded accordingly by singing along.

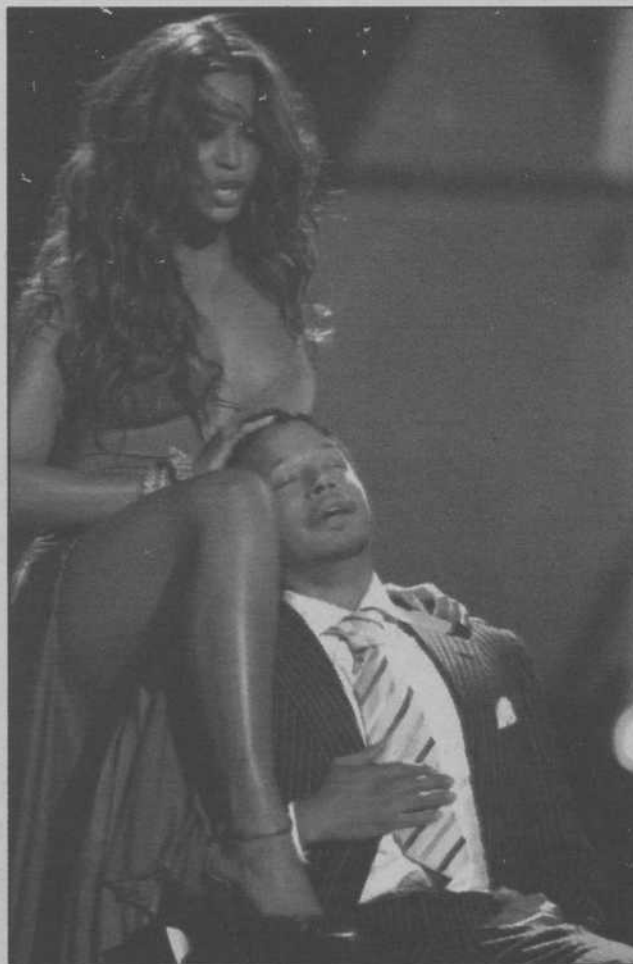
After that unexpected and unannounced surprise performance, the "President and First Lady of Black America" — hosts Will and Jada Pinkett-Smith — were introduced with African drums and fanfare, rolling onto the stage in a horse drawn-carriage, with Sprewells spinning.

In an effort to keep the show "on par with all the other esteemed award shows," Will and Jada comically announced the new rules for the show:

1. A three-homeboy limit for acceptance speeches.
2. No bright suits or gold goblets.
3. Do not thank God if you cannot perform your work in church.

Halle Berry presented the night's first award to soon-to-be-defunct trio Destiny's Child for Best Group. Although Michelle said, "Sorry Jada, but we thank God for this," thankfully, none of the girls were carrying goblets.

Next to tear down the



Beyonce straddles singer Terrance Howard during the show.

stage was Missy Elliott, performing her new cut, "Lose Control," with Ciara and Fat Man Scoop. Elliot and her Michael Jackson T-shirts-wearing dancers threatened to stomp holes in the floor. It appeared that the quite overweight Fat Man Scoop might actually put that hole in the floor after baring his chest and writhing around on the stage.

Considering the still-simmering beef between The Game and 50 Cent, security must have been tight when Game performed "Hate it or

Love It." Since it was obvious 50 would not be caught on the same stage with Game, the audiences cheers showed how pleasantly surprised they were when Mary J. Blige, the queen of the remix, loaned her gritty vocals to The Game's debut hit.

Now back to the highlight of the evening, certainly a memorable moment for actor Terence Howard. Figuring they might as well go out with a bang, Destiny's Child led Terence Howard, Nelly and Magic Johnson to three seats on the stage where the

three ladies commenced to rub their round parts all over the stars while singing "Cater To You." Howard was so obviously affected that he might be expecting a call from Jay-Z.

But Howard was clearly unafraid of the Jigga Man. "Listen, Jay-Z, I ain't no actor. That bad guy is for real, man. Your woman chose me. I might let you have her back." Then he added, "No, thank you for letting me stand close to your dream for a moment."

After putting on a typical strut-and-mug performance, Southern rapper T.I. upped his game by breaking out a live band — led by pioneering drummer Sheila E. — and a dapper black suit as he turned in a smoking rendition of "Bring 'Em Out."

"I really liked it when T.I. was out there. He really set it off," Paul Wall said. "It was a really memorable night."

John Legend, winner of the Best New Artist Award, performed his hit "Ordinary People" with special guest Stevie Wonder.

The pair continued to do press together after the performance. Stevie said, "It was an honor to perform with John Legend. He is someone that the world will hear from, some great singing from, great music is nothing without sincerity. What I get from him is sincerity. ["Ordinary People"] is my favorite song of the year."

Another diva missing in action returned to the spot-  
(See BET, Page 9)

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