



ASK DEANNA!
*Real People,
Real Advice*

Ask Deanna! Is an advice column known for its fearless approach to reality-based subjects!

Dear Deanna!

My cousin married her husband 2 years ago at age 19. She has confessed to me that she's in love with her husband's best friend who has a girlfriend and is my boyfriend's cousin. These 3 guys have been friends since high school. She wants to tell him how she feels, but I think it's going to be awkward so I told her not to say anything. So far she's kept quiet. I know this isn't my problem, but can you please give me some advice?

Michelle
Portland, OR

Dear Michelle:

First remind your friend that she has a husband. At such a young age, she hasn't sampled life, men or the world and it's not surprising she's ready to cheat. She's also very immature if she's going to risk her husband's friendship for her confused emotions. If it's not too late, suggest a good counselor that can help her decide if she wants to be married and move forward or save face and feelings now with an annulment.

Dear Deanna!

I have a 10-year-old daughter whose dad got married several months ago. I still love him and I'm sure he still loves me. He called twice on his wedding day to let me know he was thinking about me. He got married but we're still together. He doesn't know if he wants to stay with his wife or leave. I told him if he stays then I may not be there. I also have a son that's 1 year old. I love him so much and don't want to lose him again.

Lost in Love
Online Reader

Dear Lost:

You lost him when he married another woman. That spoke volumes because kids or no kids, he didn't choose you. You've settled for less by allowing him to have the best of both worlds by being with him. You can get through the pain by focusing on your children, your faith and your life. If he loves you, demand that he leave and see what happens. If he doesn't come your way cut him off and keep it moving.

Dear Deanna!

I'm in a 5-year relationship with a man who's not my cup of tea. I discovered he has some bad habits. He kept these things hidden to impress me but I asked him to leave when I saw the real man. The police say as long as he pays bills and isn't physically abusive they can't make him leave my home. He's come a long way, but I don't love him and, honestly, I never did. I've been up front and very honest with him. What can I do?

Desperate
Oklahoma City, OK

Dear Desperate:

You can pack your bags and leave or pack his and put him out. If it's your house with your name on it, then you do as you please. However, your man may react and get violent. If that's the case, sell your house, move and start a new life. If he can't accept your honesty, lack of love and wishes, then you're entitled to handle your business.

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Latifah adds flavor to '50s classic

By Kam Williams
Sentinel-Voice

When first made back in 1950, "Last Holiday" starred Sir Alec Guinness as George Bird, a shy and retiring salesman who learns from his doctor that he's suffering from a rare but fatal affliction known as Lampington's Disease. With only a few weeks to live, the lonely, lifelong bachelor quits his job, withdraws all his savings from the bank, and checks into a swanky seaside resort with plans to spend his remaining days frittering it all away irresponsibly, gambling, imbibing and romancing.

But a funny thing happens to George while hobnobbing among the snob set, for he finds himself embraced by both the beleaguered staff and the spoiled guests who presume him to be a man of means. Freed from the restrictive restraints which come with his lowly social status, he suddenly seizes on the opportunity to serve as a positive source of inspiration to anyone he encounters, rich or poor, as he shares sage insights with the aim of bettering the human condition.

George even impresses the manufacturer of the farm equipment he used to sell to the point that the chairman of the company offers to make him a partner in the business. Then, after George learns that he'd been misdiagnosed from Sir Trevor Lampington himself, the discoverer of the disease, the table seems set for a fairytale finale. Yet, that fatalistic flick closes on a grim note, with its rejuvenated role model still dying anyway in an unfortunate accident.

In remaking "Last Holiday," director Wayne Wang ("The Joy Luck Club") essentially opted to overhaul the relatively sophisticated original from a bittersweet morality play into a brainless romantic comedy. This means we have a silly slapstick adventure which is ultimately more concerned with reinforcing the status quo than with questioning or ridiculing the rigidity of the culture's class structure.

Flipping the script, this gender-bending version stars Oscar-nominee Queen Latifah (for "Chicago") as Georgia Bird, a saleswoman who does cooking demonstrations for Kragen's, a department store chain, but dreams of opening her own restaurant in her native New Orleans. The awkward wallflower also harbors a crush



Queen Latifah does a serviceable job in the "Last Holiday."

on Sean (LL Cool J) which borders on stalking, since she can't quite summon up the courage to inform him of her feelings.

So, she superimposes Sean's "Employee of the Month" headshot over another guy's head to make them look like a cozy couple in a photo album marked

"Possibilities." But before Georgia has a chance to pounce on her prey, she has a CAT scan which indicates she has a terminal case of Lampington's Disease. With three weeks to live, she cashes in her 401K and sets off for a spa in the Czech Republic where she checks into a \$4,000 a night suite.

Inexplicably, everyone there appears to speak English with a French accent, except for her German housekeeper (Susan Kellerman) and the Americans whose acquaintance she soon makes. The company she keeps includes a clique comprised of crooked U.S. politicians (Michael Nouri and Giancarlo Esposito) on the take from retail mogul Matthew Kragen (Timothy Hutton) a married man enjoying a getaway with his considerably younger mistress (Alicia Witt).

Unaware that the mysterious woman works for his corporation, the compulsively-competitive Kragen proceeds to take on Georgia at assorted athletic endeavors such as snowboarding and parachuting. Meanwhile, the indiscriminate omnivore bonds over the virtue of eating butter with Chef Didier (Gerard Depardieu), when she is not attempting to melt the steely façade of her Teutonic handmaiden.

Of course, in a predictable romantic comedy, Georgia must get the better of her employer and discover that she's not really sick just be-

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