



ASK DEANNA!
*Real People,
Real Advice*

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

Dear Deanna!

I'm in love with a married man and I know he's going to leave his wife for me. He and his wife argue all the time, she nags him and they don't go anywhere together. She tried to trap him by getting pregnant, but he still plans to leave her. She doesn't know about me yet, but I plan to make my presence known. Will this help speed up the process and make him leave faster, or should I let it play itself out?

Committed Mistress
Atlanta, GA

Dear Committed:

You're a fool and dumber than a door nail. A small percentage of men leave their wives, and a smaller percentage stay with the mistress if they do. First, you should look at the fact this man had a baby with his wife while using you like toilet paper. Secondly, you should realize if he cheats on his wife, he'll cheat on you too. Do yourself a favor and find a single man that will respect you and not have you in a deadly situation playing fake love games.

Dear Deanna!

I'm in a relationship with a man I don't trust. I can't place my finger on what makes me feel this way, but I feel it in my gut. I have been observing his behavior when he's on certain phone calls as well as looking at him eyeball other women in my presence. This makes me feel very insecure because he seems insensitive. He doesn't compliment me, but remarks on other women's appearance. Am I making too much out of this, or is this man really not for me?

Janine
Buffalo, NY

Dear Janine:

You're doomed if you don't have trust because this is an essential element for a healthy relationship. If this is your boyfriend and he disrespects you in your face, then obviously he's not the man for you. However, he may need some training, and you should tell him about his behavior and how it makes you feel. If he's totally unaware of his actions, then you have a shot. If he is aware, then you're right, he's not the man for you, and keep it moving.

Dear Deanna!

My sister turned 18 years old and wants to stay at home and do nothing with her life. I've tried to talk to her about going to college, getting some training and getting into the workforce. All she wants to do is run after her boyfriend and hang out with her friends. She'll see this is going to get old after a while, and I don't want her to crash and burn because of her poor life choices. Is there anything I can do to get her motivated?

Loving Sister
Inglewood, CA

Dear Sister:

Your concerns about the future of your sister are valid, but you can't help her if she isn't interested in helping herself. The best thing you can do is lead by example and continue to encourage her and show her a different way of life. As she matures and becomes an adult, she will realize the need to work, survive and carve out her life instead of partying. You can relax because she'll come around and make better decisions as she grows up.

Write: Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211 Website: www.askdeanna.com.

Winfrey tabs Poitier memoir

NEW YORK (AP) - If her goal was to erase the memory of the disgraced author James Frey, then Oprah Winfrey couldn't have made a better pick for her book club than a memoir by Sidney Poitier.

Winfrey ended a year-long hiatus in her club by announcing Friday that she had chosen "The Measure of a Man," a "spiritual autobiography" by one of Hollywood's most admired actors — for whom the word "dignified" could practically be copyrighted — and a personal hero of Winfrey's.

Published in 2000, Poitier's book combines memories of such plays and films as "A Raisin in the Sun" and "The Defiant Ones" with observations about the Academy Award-winning actor's childhood, his religious faith, his thoughts on racism and the influence of such world leaders as Nelson Mandela and Mahatma Gandhi.

"He writes really candidly and passionately about his childhood, his family, relationships and his extraordinary career," Winfrey said on her show, which airs from Chicago. "It (the book) really is about what makes character, what makes you be who you are. He is the measure of one of the greatest men I think who has ever been on our planet."

Poitier did not appear on the telecast. But Winfrey said she will host "once in a lifetime dinner party" with Poitier that will include members of her book club.

In a statement issued Friday by his publisher, San Francisco-based Harper, an imprint of HarperCollins, Poitier said he was "overwhelmed far beyond the point where words, alone, could fully express either my appreciation or my gratitude."

"Meanwhile, I proudly accept this honor on behalf of the forces that brought it about: the love of my parents, the ever-present kindness of strangers, and the hidden mysteries of the universe and, of course, Oprah Winfrey," he said.

"The Measure of a Man" spent several weeks on The New York Times' list of best sellers, and the audio edition, narrated by Poitier, won a Grammy Award for best spoken word album. Poitier wrote a previous memoir, "This Life," released in 1980.

Right before Winfrey announced her selection, the 56th for her book club, "The Measure of a Man" ranked



SIDNEY POITIER

288,958 on Amazon.com, a number that quickly changed, soaring within hours to the top 5. Winfrey's picks almost inevitably top best seller lists.

Mark Tauber, vice president and deputy publisher, declined Friday to say how many books would be printed, but did say he expects to sell hundreds of thousands of copies.

Tauber also said that, unlike many celebrity memoirists, Poitier did not use a ghostwriter, although the actor did have editorial "help."

"I'm sure there'll be speculation about Winfrey picking yet another memoir," Tauber said. "But Poitier's

life is filled with so much integrity."

Winfrey and Poitier have met in the past. During an interview in her own "O" magazine in 2000 — around the time "Measure of a Man" was released — Winfrey and Poitier discussed his life and career; the talk show host confided that she felt like a star-struck fan.

"Poitier and I are sitting across from each other at the Bel-Air hotel in Los Angeles — and I'm admiring that, at 73, this man still personifies grace, ease, strength and courage," Winfrey wrote at the time. "He is a gentleman in every sense of the word. In my more than 25 years as an interviewer, I've talked to hundreds of people — yet today, I'm giddy."

Poitier, who turns 80 on Feb. 20, became the first Black performer to win the Oscar for best actor, cited in 1964 for "Lilies of the Field." His other films include "In the Heat of the Night," "To Sir, With Love" and "The Blackboard Jungle." In 2002, he received an honorary Oscar for lifetime achievement.

He should be a welcome break from the travesty of

Frey, whose "A Million Little Pieces" was picked by Winfrey in the fall of 2005, only to have The Smoking Gun website reveal in January 2006 that the memoir was largely fabricated. Winfrey initially defended Frey, then changed her mind, brought him back to the show and chewed him out.

Winfrey's next pick, Elie Wiesel's "Night," was announced on Jan. 16, 2006, soon after the Frey scandal broke, but had already been decided upon weeks earlier. More than 1.5 million copies of Wiesel's Holocaust memoir were sold because of Winfrey's selection, according to publisher Farrar, Straus & Giroux.

Winfrey acknowledged on Friday's show that it had been a year since she had chosen a selection for her book club. But she didn't blame Frey. Instead, she said she was busy during that time researching curriculum for her school for disadvantaged girls in South Africa, which opened earlier this month.

"So I really did not have time to devote to reading other books," she said. "But now I do."

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