



## ASK DEANNA! Real People, Real Advice

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

Dear Deanna!

I've spent tons of money on dates and dining but get nothing in return. I try to hold on to chivalry in this day and age, but women need to get with the program and spend as well. I'm tired of watching other men do the same? How do I let a woman know I want to date her but I'm not willing to part with my money too soon?

Roger Davis  
Atlanta, GA

Dear Roger:

You're trying to be impressive by spending money like a fake Donald Trump. If "getting something" drives your motivation for dinner and dating, then you got what you deserved. Nothing. It's none of your business how other men spend their money. You should lead by example. Before your next date, have a money discussion and determine who's paying or if you'll go Dutch and keep it moving.

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Dear Deanna!

I've been dating a guy for three 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 it's time to move on.

Jeanette  
Online Reader

Dear Jeanette:

There's a huge communication gap in this relationship. It's odd to be with someone for 4 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's daughter from a previous marriage will spend the summer with us. Her mother never liked me and has passed this judgment on to her daughter. Her mother has threatened to fight me if I verbally or physically discipline her. My husband has given me authority to discipline as needed, especially since I'm the one who will be spending most of the time with her. What are my options?

Anonymous  
Buffalo, NY

Dear Anonymous:

Your husband and his ex-wife need to let the child know that she must behave and act as if she has some sense. If you and your husband are in agreement with the house rules, then nothing else should be said. As for the mother, shut her down and let her know that she can't regulate anything in your house. If she insists, then she can keep the child at home and no one has to deal with any issues.

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# 'Wanted' blends Matrix, mirth

By Kam Williams  
Sentinel-Voice

Wesley Gibson's (James McAvoy) life is a mess. By day, the 25 year-old slacker sits behind a desk at a tiny cubicle in a low-paying job, trying to tune out the unreasonable demands of his overbearing boss (Lorna Scott). Evenings, he retreats to the equally-unpleasant confines of the noisy dive he shares with an abusive girlfriend (Kristen Hagen) who's openly sleeping with his best buddy from work. So, it's no surprise that he suffers from panic attacks, especially since he's too much of a wimp to do anything about his dire straits.

But opportunity knocks for Wesley in a drug store while waiting to refill a prescription for his anti-anxiety medication when he's approached by Fox (Angelina Jolie), a femme fatale with a take-charge attitude.

The mysterious stranger calmly informs him that the father he's never known had been a colleague of hers in a secret society of cold-blooded killers called the Fraternity.

She further delivers the shocking news that his dad was shot to death the night before by Cross (Thomas Kretschmann), a renegade assassin.

Before he even has a chance to digest this information, Cross appears in the aisle pointing a gun in their direction and a shootout erupts which spills into the street and turns into a grav-



"Wanted" features Angelina Jolie as a member of an elite team of mercurial assassins.

ity-defying, adrenaline-fueled car chase clear cross Chicago. When the dust finally settles, Wesley finds himself deposited in front of an abandoned textile mill on the edge of town that serves as the Fraternity's headquarters.

Inside, he's soon recruited to join the organization by Sloan (Morgan Freeman), a sage, elder statesman who explains that it is his destiny not only to avenge his father's slaying but to save the planet as well. It doesn't take much to convince Wesley to accept the noble mission, given the miserable existence he'd be leaving behind.

Still, becoming a world-class hit man calls for mastering a variety of fighting techniques, such as being able to shoot the wings off a fly and to bend the direction of a bullet via mental telepa-

thy. So, prior to setting out in search of the ruthless Cross, it is imperative that Wesley first embark upon a grueling training regimen with the help of a crack team of taskmasters, including The Butcher (Dato Bakhtadze), The Repairman (Marc Warren), The Exterminator (Konstantin Khabensky) and Gunsmith (Common).

This is the intriguing setup of "Wanted," a graphic splatter flick based on Mark Millar's comic book miniseries of the same name. The over-plotted superhero adventure might be best described as a compelling cross of The Matrix and Memento, since it shares the former's reliance on cartoon physics elements and the latter's love of confounding convoluted twists. But Wanted is also at times reminiscent of "The Karate Kid," "Sin City,"

"The Gang That Couldn't Shoot Straight" and the video game Grand Theft Auto.

Soviet director Timur Bekmambetov makes an unforgettable, if quite controversial, English-language debut with this relentlessly amoral exercise in gratuitous violence. For the picture emphatically endeavors to desensitize its audience by adopting an air of indifference about all manner of savagery being committed against animals and humanity.

A cinematic Columbine filled with wanton carnage designed to validate the bloodlust of every ostracized loser stuck in a dead-end job and daydreaming of evening the score by going postal.

Excellent (4 stars). Rated R for scenes with sexuality, pervasive profanity and graphic violence.

## Stars playing poker to help charity

Special to Sentinel-Voice

LAS VEGAS — Celebrities turned out Wednesday to donate to Darfur charities — and to show their fellow stars just who the real card sharks were.

"I'm looking forward to whipping a lot of celebrity rear end," talk show host Montel Williams said before beginning play in a charity Texas Hold 'em tournament at the World Series of Poker. "I tweaked my game, and my game is really solid."

Williams and 87 others, including such Hollywood heavy-hitters as Don Cheadle, Matt Damon, Ben Affleck, Jason Alexander, George Lopez, Adam Sandler and Ray Romano, played in the no-limit tournament to raise money and have a good time.

Charles Barkley also played after a recent pledge to take a hiatus from gambling. The 45-year-old former NBA star, who was sued in May by the Wynn casino for failing to pay back gambling loans, said he would donate his winnings to charity and didn't plan to spend a lot of extra time in town.

The TNT commentator paid back his markers shortly after the casino filed a civil complaint. Barkley said he wasn't going to gamble for "the next year or two" on the air during the NBA playoffs.

"I can't gamble, so I gotta drink," Barkley joked with Phil Hellmuth after the 11-time bracelet winner invited Barkley for a cocktail after the tournament. "Can you imagine how bad life would

be if you couldn't gamble or drink?"

Players donated prize money from the second annual "Ante Up for Africa" event to charities working in the Darfur region of Sudan. Cheadle and poker pro Annie Duke began the event last year to raise money and awareness for the region, where more than 300,000 people have died and 2.5 mil-

lion have been displaced since ethnic warfare began in 2003, according to the U.S. presidential envoy to Sudan.

The tournament benefited two charities — ENOUGH, a project co-founded in 2007 by the International Crisis Group and the Center for American Progress and Not On Our Watch, a group co-founded by Cheadle, Damon, (See Poker, Page 12)

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