

## Why You Keep Attracting "Crazy"

A beautiful woman walks by you and immediately captures your attention. You're a handsome guy and you're used to women hitting on you, especially now that you've garnered a little bit of success, but to this particular woman, you are almost invisible. She walks by you as you exit your brand new Lamborghini, and not only does she seem to be blind to your existence, but there's an air of confidence about her that's almost irresistible. You can't take your eyes off her and you're determined to not let her out of your sight, so you began to pursue her as she crosses the street towards a nearby park. Finally, you catch up to her, and instead of greeting you with a smile, she seems almost bothered by your intrusion. "Can I help you?" she asks as she pulls her cell phone away from her ear. You feel a tweak of nervousness and that's not like you.

Normally, you're pretty confident when approaching women, but this particular woman has done the unthinkable: she's intimidated you. After a few minutes of conversation and a few bad jokes, you finally get a smile from her. As it turns out, she's as interesting as she looks. The two of you exchange numbers, and before long, you've convinced her to go on a date with you. You're overjoyed and almost inclined to think that she might be "the one". After all, she's unlike any woman you've ever been romantically linked to.

Five years into the relationship and you've had a major change of heart. You've locked yourself in the bathroom while your once confident "lady friend" beats on the door. In one hand, she's holding a knife, and she's using her other arm to hold up your terrified and screaming two year old son. How could a woman so confident suddenly become so crazy? After a few minutes of what feels like hostage negotiations, you finally get your lover to calm down and let you out of the bathroom unharmed. You sit her down and talk with her, and eventually, you convince her to let you leave the house for a few minutes or a few hours. While she's seated on the couch with her eyeliner running down her face, you grab your keys and leave, knowing full well that you have absolutely no intention of turning back. After a whole lot of court appearances and hateful exchanges, you're finally free from your now "crazy" ex, and you're back on the market.

This time, you're going to be careful. This time, you've made up your mind that you will not settle down with the first interesting woman you come across. You date several women and they all seem to have something in common: they're mesmerized by you and your success. You refuse to enter a relationship with such women because there's no hunt there; it's just too easy to get them. One day, you happen to be at your married best friend's new house. You've been helping him to move his and his wife's belongings into their new home, when all of a sudden, an angelic like laugh catches your attention. You look up and see a woman who can quite

arguably be the most beautiful woman you've ever seen. As it turns out, she's the best friend of your best friend's wife, and she's single. "Who is that?" you ask Jerry (your best friend). "Oh, that's Natalie," responds Jerry. "She's a really nice girl. Maybe too good for you." Now, your interests have been peaked. You ask Jerry a few more questions about Natalie, and then, you catch Jerry's wife, Madison, alone in the kitchen. "You've got to hook me up with your friend!" you exclaim, but Madison's not interested in the idea of you and her bestie being in a relationship. You see, Madison knows something about you that you don't know about yourself. You are a hunter, but you're not a normal hunter. You don't kill for food; you kill for sport. Madison knows that you tend to be focused on beautiful, confident women who pretty much pay you no attention, but once you've caught them, you find something wrong with them, and then, you release their bruised souls back into the wild to fend for themselves. Nevertheless, you convince Madison to talk to her friend about you, and after hearing about your issues with women, Natalie still decides to go out with you.

At first, everything seems perfect. Natalie appears to be the woman for you and you brag about her everywhere you go. You tell everyone with ears that you're in love, and before long, Natalie is driving around in one of your prized vehicles. A few months down the road and the two of you are living together and declaring your love for one another. You appear to be perfect together, and Madison lets out a sigh of relief because it appears that you've finally settled down and that her friend is safe with you.

It's five years later, and you're trapped again, but this time, you didn't get a chance to run into the safety of the bathroom. Nope. You're seated at the kitchen table, and Natalie has a knife to your throat. After going through your phone, Natalie has discovered why you refuse to marry her. You have not settled down just yet! You're still in touch with three of your exes, plus, you're still meeting new women. Your now two year old daughter is seated in her high chair and learning how to handle a man by watching Mommy handle you. It's eery how calm your daughter is in such a tense moment. As a matter of fact, the last time Natalie physically attacked you, your daughter stood by your side as her mother repeatedly punched you. She didn't just stand by your side, but she kicked you a few times because she's seen her mother hurting because of you, and even at two-years-old, she understands that you are the problem. You escape to your now scratched up and depreciated Lamborghini. The only car in that garage that still looks new is the mini van. Your cars, on the other hand, have all been victims of Natalie's jealousy and insecurities. You leave once again, telling yourself that you will never return to your home.

What's the problem here? Why do you keep attracting beautiful, confident women who are hard to catch and even harder to get rid of? The problem here isn't the women. It's you. You see, we attract what we are, and a man's choice of woman is always a reflection of himself. Now, this does not excuse the women of your choice for their behaviors, but in many cases, these women were broken before you came into their lives. That's why they were willing to shack with you. They weren't single women; they were women who'd married several men over the courses of their lives through fornication. They hadn't healed, but they'd learned to pick up the broken pieces of their hearts and move forward. They moved on with their lives, but in truth, their hearts were still reeling from the impact of every broken relationship they've fallen victim to. You see, the relationships broke, but the soul ties didn't. Nevertheless, these women didn't know how to heal, so they learned how to function in their pain. After a while, they didn't feel the effects of the soul ties anymore, so they thought they were over the men of their pasts, but they weren't. Instead, they learned how to keep the "obvious" jerks away from themselves. They'd learned to walk with their heads held high and they likely went back to school to better their lives. They learned to better guard their hearts, and after a few years of ruthlessly avoiding the wrong men, you came along and pursued them like no other man had. You were attracted to the way they wore their pain, but you didn't know that. You thought you were attracted to their feisty attitudes and their air of confidence, but in truth, the fact that they weren't interested in you woke up the hunter in you. You see, God designed men to pursue and it's the pursuit that thrills you the most. The truth is...you're a broken man so you pursue broken women because they wear their brokenness better than you do. You cover your scars with fancy cars and a little black book full of ever-so-available women, but the women you're most interested in cover their scars with makeup, expensive clothes, college degrees and an almost impenetrable heart. They're not easy like the women you're accustomed to; instead, they make you pursue them and you've mistaken their resistance and feisty attitudes for confidence when it was really fear. They were afraid of getting hurt again because they somehow knew that their hearts could not withstand the impact. You pursued these women. You told them what they wanted to hear; you told them what they needed to hear. As a matter of fact, because of your brokenness, you actually thought you loved them, but you didn't. You were simply intoxicated by their beauty and their evasiveness. Every woman you've pursued was unlike any woman you've ever caught.

Here's the thing. Women tend to go after men who remind them of the men in their pasts. There's something about familiarity that makes a woman feel comfortable, but men, on the other hand, tend to pursue types of women, and the types they are most interested in are the types or categories they have not yet ventured into and conquered. Nevertheless, when you

pursue a woman, she knows your type, but in all fairness, she tries to give you a chance. That's why it's easy for a woman to call you by another man's name while in the midst of a conversation. It doesn't necessarily mean that she's still seeing the guy; it normally means that you remind her of him in one way or another, but of course, she's not going to tell you that. Every time you do something that is unlike the guys you remind her of, you help to reassure her that you are different and she convinces herself that she can expect a different outcome with you. Before long, she settles it within her heart that there's nothing wrong with the "type" or category of men she's labeled you as; instead, she tells herself that the guys from her past who were in that category were simply jerks. She then removes the chains off her heart and lets you in, but once you get in and see all the brokenness, you're ready to run, not knowing that your heart doesn't look any better. Nevertheless, you think you deserve better because you drive a Lamborghini, but it's too late. It took you a few years to fully capture that woman's heart, and by now, you're sharing a house and a kid or two with her. You want out because you think you can do better. She wants to stay because she doesn't think she can do any better. The two of you, in your brokenness, fight daily; that is, until you finally decide that you will find a way out of that relationship, even if your way of escape is a curvaceous other woman whose confidence appears to still be intact.

Don't you see the pattern here? You keep attracting crazy because your mind isn't sound. You need to find out why your value is wrapped up in material things and women. You need to find out why you pursue the type of women that you do, and nine times out of ten, if you really gave your whole heart to God, what you'll find is you're just as broken or even more broken than the women you're pursuing. The difference is...women are emotional and oftentimes have trouble hiding their feelings. Men are logical and oftentimes protect themselves from the hurt of broken relationships by entering new relationships; nevertheless, this never stops a man from hurting. Instead, it only delays his pain. Something many men don't realize is...women hurt while in the midst of the relationship. We see the end coming and we panic before impact. Men hurt after the relationship has ended because they didn't think the relationship was really over. Instead, men draw from familiarity and become comfortable; for example, a man who's been with a woman who's been threatening to leave him for five years will always have trouble actually believing that she would actually leave him and not look back. Such a man will end his relationship, enter a new relationship, and then, try to "keep tabs" on the old woman. When the ex begins to move on, he suddenly has a change of heart because it never occurred to him that she could go on with her life. That's a mind issue and it's the evidence of an unsound mind, or better yet, a man who needs a renewed mind. The problem today is that society teaches that male promiscuity is normal, therefore, crazy men do crazy things and end up with

crazy women. God never designed you to be a "boyfriend"; after all, you've grown up, and now, society labels you as a man. I love what Paul said in 1 Corinthians 13:11: *When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.*

God designed you to be a man after His own heart, and He designed a special woman just for you, but you need a renewed (and sound) mind and the heart of Christ to find her. If you don't allow God to renew your mind, you will keep finding value in material things and you'll base your own value on those things, meaning, you'll devalue yourself. When you devalue yourself, you will devalue the women who join themselves to you. Because your mind isn't sound, you'll keep attracting broken women who think that you have the tools to fix the cracks in their souls and the enemy will use the two of you to break each other all the more.

I get it. God created you to pursue. Try pursuing Christ, and after you've done so for a while, you will begin to find yourself. That's when you'll know how broken you were, and that's when you'll learn to value members of the opposite sex the way that God values them. Pursue the Word of God and watch how God changes your mind. When your mind changes, your life will change. When your mind changes, you won't be attracted to broken, confident women who've been pushed to the edge of sanity by a bunch of unsevered soul ties. Instead, God will place something on the inside of you that will lead you to the woman He's crowned to be your wife. You may crown her finger with a diamond ring, but God has crowned her soul with holiness and wholeness, and He will crown you with favor for finding her. When a man finds "his" wife, he finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord. You don't know what it means to be favored until you find your good thing.