



Always Hit On The Wingman...and 9 Other Secret Rules for Getting the Love Life You Want

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Cara says

Saw this in new non-fiction and couldn't resist. It's Jake (the male perspective columnist for Glamour)'s take on how women can get what we want in relationships--both getting the great guy and keeping the romance alive over the long haul.

Basically, the answer is be strong and love yourself, and the right guy for you will be mad for you. Even if not, you'll be too busy living your awesome life to mind too much.

For those of us who aren't quite there, he also offers some suggestions for treating the symptoms (relationship-wise, not self-esteem-wise).

The main point of this book is that we have the power to get what we want in our relationships. It just seems like we don't because we give it up and act all pathetic. If _He's Just Not that Into You_ and _The 4-Man Plan_ got together and had a cheerful kid, this book would be it.

p. xxiii "Relationships aren't supposed to suck. You deserve to be loved, to be paid attention to, to gaze across the room, see your boyfriend and think, 'God, am I lucky to be with that guy,' and to know he's thinking the same about you."

This!

p. 63 "Real chivalry is picking you up from the airport when you've just flown home from visiting your sick mom--and actually parking the car and coming in to wait with you for your luggage."

I'm so glad it's not just me with the airport issue! Park the fucking car. Am I not worth \$1 to you to get the full-on reunion hug and kiss? Come on!

p. 117 Keep dating other people longer than you think you should in the beginning to avoid getting clingy and making the guy your whole life.

"When my friend Tara needed to tell her almost-boyfriend that she'd been out with someone else, she said, 'I'm really doing this more for myself, because I tend to overcrowd people, get too intense too fast and make life difficult for myself and the guy I'm dating.'"

p. 135 To keep the romance alive in the long haul, you need to be real with each other but also maintain some mystery.

"...neither of you is doing the job if you're not both (1) the person most familiar to your mate, the person each of you is the most comfortable around in the world; and, at the same time, (2) the person each of you is always wanting a little bit more of, who still possesses a touch of the foreign and the unfamiliar."

In other words, be best friends but don't buddy out all the way all the time. Do your gross stuff separately, dress differently sometimes, spend time with friends (including making new ones), get your you-time, and don't insist on telling each other every tedious detail of your day.

Chelsea says

Overall, a really good read. The confidence advice was more insightful and helpful than I thought it would be. As far as self-help books go, this was interesting and never boring. I would definitely recommend it to any of my friends.

Colleen Wainwright says

Written by one of the many Jakes of Glamour's famed "Ask Jake" advice column, this book, like most of the other good titles in the genre, contains no real secrets and is not really about addressing your love life—except, of course, as regards loving one's very own self, with tenderness, vigor, and wholeheartedness.

But this is a very good addition to the canon, crappy title notwithstanding. (And, it should be noted, that the crappy title is pulled from Rule #1, which was also the only chapter that didn't sit right with me.) Most of the book's "rules" have less to do with manipulation and more to do with placing one's attention elsewhere, like in the present and on things within one's sphere of control. They and the examples that illustrate them are drawn not just from this particular Jake's experience, but from over 50 years of Jake-ian wisdom, which is both well-taken and well-written. (Glamour has done a very good job, it would seem, of vetting its Jakes!)

Erica Sonzogni says

This is a hysterical "self-help" dating book with practical advice from a guy's point of view. It is reminiscent of "Act Like a Lady, Think Like a Man". I would recommend this book to ladies of all ages, in all kinds of relationship situations, because it not only helps with advice on men, but makes women feels empowered as well.

Jennifer says

Generally I judge dating advice texts not by their putative results but by how they leave you feeling about yourself, and grading on that scale *Always Hit on the Wingman* is a winner. The pseudonymous Jake, one of many in a long line of men to pen advice to women reading *Glamour*, is all about the girl power. (One suspects this has just as much to do with his having recently fathered a daughter as his professed long-standing love of women.) Overall, *Always* may feel a bit *He's Just Not That Into You* - right down to the binding size and cheap grade of paper - but that's not entirely a bad thing, particularly as Jake comes off a bit kinder and gentler than those *Sex and the City Folk*. Well written, and totally lacking the kind of psychotic *Rules*-style advice that's all too common in the genre.

Kate says

A nice book written from a guy's perspective about dating and relationships. It was a very interesting read and it wasn't written by a misogynist who thinks all women are crazy or should just be subservient or just be down for commitment-less relationships and sex. Although there were lots of good specific advice, the overall message was one I could totally get behind: just be yourself and enjoy the ride.

Kathryn Jones says

This is a self help book about finding the right guy for you and how to keep him. It is a collection of letters to Jake, the male columnist for Glamour magazine. Jake takes the the questions asked by real women and gives them advice from a male perspective. Every women should read it.

Macaela says

This is an excellent book. I recommend it to anyone who is dating or even in a relationship. He gives tips about how to figure out which type of guy you're dating, but also which ones to avoid. The first section is the basics on dating, but the biggest point of the book is finding your own inner strength and then finding the guy that fits you.

Kori says

Shut up.

Ursula says

I actually really liked this book. I've read dating/relationship books before & they tend to be really cheesy or hard to relate to but this one was really good. The author is a really good writer, seems to be quite intelligent and has some unique things to say about men & women & the nature of relationships & dating. I actually learned some good stuff from it. And was able to apply some of the advice to my business. Funny.

Hanna says

Need a self-esteem boost? Tired of hearing the "He's Just Not That Into You" line? Then you're probably ready for this.

Quick read, little insightful at times and loved the Jake from the past reunions and seeing how their lives turned out.

It's too bad we just can't go and clone Jake already.

Drake says

It's a decent book and I'd recommend it to my single girlfriends....and....there's a special bonus section called, "jake decodes what guys are thinking...men's secret dating language". You can't beat that, ladies. Yes, it is generalizations....but if you're working the dating scene anyway, why not have a few new tricks up your sleeve.

Amanda says

Best written self-help book on dating, hands down!

The author, Jake, gave a lot of helpful tips and tricks that I would never have even thought of on my own as something that could work in the dating scene. He also wrote in a such a lighthearted and authentic way that there were points in the book where I laughed out loud, and points in the book where I clutched my heart and nodded.

If you are looking for another self-help dating book to line your shelves after this one...then think again, because this would be all you need

Michele says

I've seen Jake's column in Glamour over the years and didn't realize how well guarded his (the columnist at the time) identity is. Interesting tips: some are obvious, while others I forget when dating. Simple, to the point advice mixed with real life scenarios enhance Jake's lessons.

susieqlaw says

I have been a loyal Glamour reader for years. Jake's column in Glamour has always had helpful advice and provided the insight every woman wants to know...the male perspective. So, on my quest to figure out relationships, I must highly recommend Jake's book.

Having the book in Kindle format is handy! Jake has provided an active table of contents. Also, the introduction is written by none other than the Editor-in-Chief of Glamour!

Secretly, I wonder if the cover is orange in honor of the current Jake's lovely lady, Orange Blossoms....
