

Hey, Doc.

I'm a chic - but I just HAD to write you and tell you how AWESOME I think you are...

I'm young, successful and good-looking. I have no trouble meeting guys. But I have trouble meeting MEN. It's been tough to find someone I like enough to consider for the long term.

So I started dating this guy recently. And right off the bat, he was so different from any other guy I have dated. He wasn't as clingy, needy, etc. He asked me out regularly but didn't ask me out on the weekends, limited phone calls but always respectful of my time, etc., etc. He was a complete gentlemen and kept his hands off of me for a long time - which I am not used to... The point is, he keeps me guessing and I can't keep my mind off of him.

So, I started looking around online, trying to decipher his, er, unique behavior and I found you. I have been listening to your radio show and reading your articles. Then, I bought your book/cd program. I can't wait to receive it.

See, Doc, I'm into MEN. Not emasculated, sensitive, browbeaten, controlled, frightful boys. I like MEN. Men who are in control of themselves. Good men who demand and give respect in equal amounts. I thought that these kinds of MEN, the men from my father's generation, were slowly but surely disappearing. And when I see the magazine covers (How to Have your man eating from the palm of your hand, The best way to catch him and keep him forever, etc., etc.) I think to myself "these guys are done for". Because these women are smart and scary. They're organized and ruthless. I didn't think that the guys stood a chance. But with you on their side, there's hope!

On behalf of all of the women in the world who want a man they can love and respect (not just control), I thank you...

Zina

Dear Doc:

I am a reasonably attractive 27-year-old woman, and I have been reading your columns off-and-on since my female friend first pointed it out to me in undergraduate school. Back then we used to mock your advice, thinking that as single women we knew better about what men could do to generate attraction. But in recent years as I have acquired far more dating

experience, I have come to really appreciate all your advice to men. As a woman, I find it very insightful to see that men suffer the same dating insecurities, and that they too develop some semblance of a strategy as a means of finding "The One." Moreover, I have found the reasons for my lack of attraction to perfectly nice men deconstructed in a clear-cut way that I was never able to figure out on my own. Time after time I've cut loose decent fellows because they were needy or called me too much or *heaven forbid* bought me presents every week. Then I pursued more challenging guys who wouldn't give me the time of day. I thought for a long while that it was fear of commitment or intimacy, and maybe that's true, but I see now that a big part of it was also that these nice guys never learned your "System."

I am currently dating a nice guy, with all the traits I'm looking for in a long-term boyfriend, except for the fact that he does not present a challenge. After barely a month, I know exactly when he's going to call, and that he will call often, and I know without a doubt that I have him wrapped around my little finger. I'm trying desperately not to run this time, and I'm being very clear about why I think we need to take it slow. He's cute, physically fit, affectionate, intelligent, kind, shares my interests, etc. but he isn't a challenge. Last night he called to set up another date and hung up of his own accord after just two minutes. I was so excited! I thought, "Finally, he gets it!" But thirty minutes later he texted to see if I was still awake to receive another phone call. My enthusiasm deflated immediately and hasn't returned. We had a date scheduled for tomorrow! What would we talk about then if we'd already gotten it out of the way over the phone the night before?! Plus, his stories are soooo long. Why can't he be cocky and funny? We aren't even exclusive yet, and already I'm predicting the next few months of my life played out in super-long phone calls every night that completely sap away all the free time I could have used to read, catch up with friends, or work out at the gym. Or I could do those things while laden with a persistent feeling of guilt for evading his calls and texts. Now, maybe it wouldn't really be like that, but that's what so much calling in the beginning of a relationship causes me to imagine.

He seems to have a lot of friends who always invite him to fun events, so maybe he's just nervous. Or perhaps he had a clingy girlfriend in the past and thinks excessive calling is necessary. I've also learned from your site that guys act the way they do for a lot of completely random reasons that make no sense. So I'll give him a while longer, but I think it won't last. And really, Doc, I wish every nice guy would read your book. Attraction in the

beginning is such a fleeting thing sometimes, and if men just knew how to generate it, we would all have much better love lives.

Sincerely,

Jill

Doc,

I've been reading your articles on AskMen.com. I was initially a little put off by the idea of a System, thinking it was just some way to manipulate women into bed. But as I read more of the articles, I realize you are, as my British friends say, "spot on."

I'm 60 years old, married at 34, divorced a couple of years ago, a CPA with my own house and assets, still energetic and active, and although obviously past my youth, attractive with an active dating life. I wish men would read your articles and books and get a clue. Women want a man who is humorous, attractive, and a little bit out of reach. Spare me the stories about your horrid ex-wife, your wretched dysfunctional family, your financial blunders, your lifelong search for a woman like me, and don't paw me. Keep it interesting, or I'm gone.

Thanks for what you're doing to up the quality of relationships. Men over a certain age think they don't need coaching about how to attract and keep a woman they want, but they do, Doc, they really do.

Best regards,

Susie in Atlanta