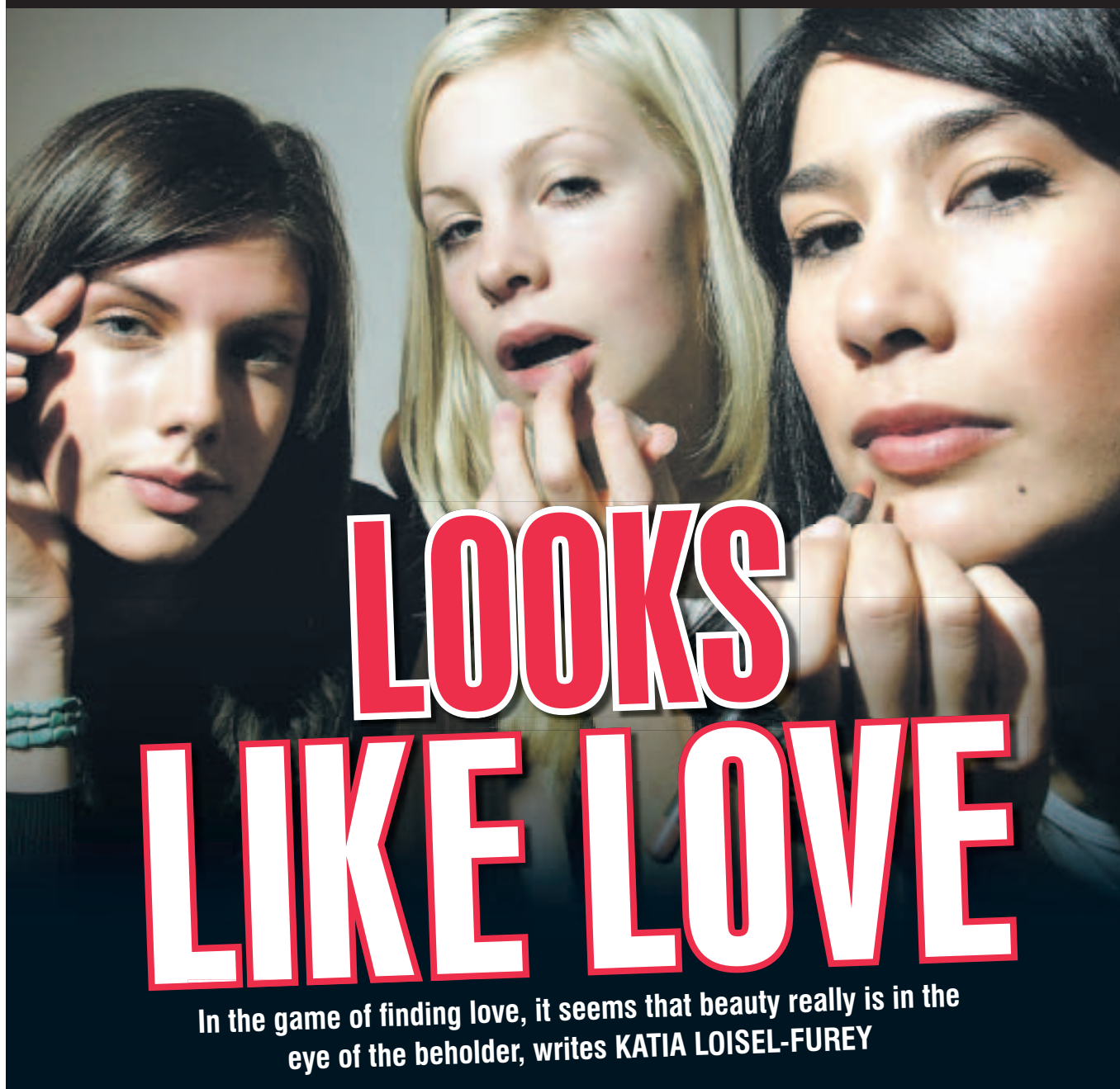


mxFlirt



LOOKS LIKE LOVE

In the game of finding love, it seems that beauty really is in the eye of the beholder, writes **KATIA LOISEL-FUREY**

When it comes to getting the one you want, is there hope for those of us who aren't blessed with model good looks?

Do men really fall in love with their eyes first?

Girls, there's no denying that men are visual creatures but the good news is that they're not as superficial as you might think.

A five-year study called *Real People, Real Answers* has found that although 79 per cent of men think appearances are important, 67 per cent rate a woman's attitude as more significant than her looks.

What men want

Believe it or not, men aren't necessarily after a thin, leggy Swedish supermodel with a cascade of platinum-blonde hair and perky E-cup breasts.

That's not to say that they wouldn't look if Giselle Bundchen walked past (in fact you'd probably have to pick their tongues up off the floor).

But, when it comes to finding love, most men are happiest with someone who's of a comparable level of attractiveness (with the obvious exception of Rod Stewart) and who shows interest in them.

So, if looks aren't top of the list, what do men really look for in a woman?

Weight for it

If the sight of your saddlebags or flabby tummy sends you reeling in horror and ordering salads with dressing on the side for the next month, here's a comforting thought: curves are in. It's official – 63 per cent

of men prefer a woman with curves and 76 per cent of men say they are happy with average-sized breasts.

What women want

Is she after a Johnny Depp look-alike or is it the size of your wallet that matters?

The study reveals 50 per cent of women questioned think that a man's appearance isn't important, with 91 per cent of women believing that a man's attitude is more important than his looks.

But before you head out in your daggy but comfy tracksuit, take note.

When it comes to women, it is the whole package (and that includes the dressing) that counts, with 92 per cent saying how a man dresses and grooms himself is important.

Get their attention

Is there a sure-fire way to make yourself more attractive to the opposite sex? You betcha.

Research by Dr Moore has found guys are more likely to approach a woman who is sending positive signals their way than someone who they found more physically attractive.

So girls, if you think he's cute, make eye contact and flash him your pearly whites.

Guys, keep the tracky dacks for when you're in the garden, dress as well as you can afford and don't be afraid to go up to a woman, smile and say: "Hi."

■ **Katia Loisel-Furey is the co-author of the books *How To Get The Man You Want* and *How To Get The Woman You Want*. Visit www.realpeople-realanswers.com or www.top-flirting-tips.com**

HOW WAS IT FOR YOU?



"It might be easier to deceive through cyber means, but internet dating speeds up the whole frog-kissing process."

Dr Bella, I know I am a cliché. But who cares? I am playful and cheeky but nice. When I meet a woman I tell her what sort of guy I am straight away. She can decide whether she is wasting her time or not. Here is my point: during my time using internet singles' sites these are the types of women I've encountered:

- Women who have been hurt yet are still looking for someone.
- Women who are in love with another man overseas.
- Women who do not want a nice man.
- Women who don't grab a nice guy when they see one.
- Women who keep secrets (I dated one who had a child and didn't tell me for two months).
- Women who tell you that you are too intense when you tell them about yourself or ask them what sort of guy they are looking for and how they expect a guy to treat them.
- Women who giggle at you and are cute.

These are what my women friends have encountered from men while using internet singles' sites:

- Men who ask for web cams.
- Men who still see their ex.
- Men who just want sex.
- Men who look for someone very soon after their wife has passed away.
- Men who use the worst one-liners in history.

How can people look for a relationship in such circumstances? Aren't people supposed to be in the right frame of mind when looking for a relationship?

Well, I looked and I looked for about a year and guess what? I have found the most amazing, beautiful, precious girl ever online.

■ **Men who still see their ex.**

■ **Men who just want sex.**

■ **Men who look for someone very soon after their wife has passed away.**

■ **Men who use the worst one-liners in history.**

How? Common sense and feelings. Two things not many people seem to have.

– *Ang*

Dearest Ang,
How thoughtful of you to provide the lowdown on internet date-site madness from male and female perspectives.

Despite all the demons and dungeons, you secured a princess in the end, right?

Love, whether online or on-street, is perilous.

Although it might be easier to deceive through cyber means, you have to admit that internet dating speeds up the whole frog-kissing process.

Hi Bella, I work as a duty manager at a railway station. Recently a woman took my interest. The last couple of days we started exchanging looks and just today she approached me to ask me a question about the train. I then introduced myself and told her it had been a pleasure to talk to her.

However I thought she expected me to say more. What should I have said? How can I ask her to go out with me and where should I suggest?

– *Greg*

If, after exchanging looks, a woman approaches a man to ask him a question, she's basically giving him the green light to ask her out. Next time you see her, ask her how her day was and whether she'd fancy a drink. Where to go? Somewhere local. Speed is the key, Greg. Make your move.

*Best of luck in love,
Dr Bella xx*

BOYS WILL BE BOYS

© GAVIN AUNG THAN 2008



BTW Please write in by emailing me at dearbella@mxnet.com.au or visiting www.drbella.com.au *Mwah.*