

WomenZone



life
column

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FIRST IMPRESSIONS MATTER

PEOPLE who say that first impressions are not a big deal don't know what they are talking about, because first impressions can make or break the deal, whether it's a first date, a job interview or meeting your in-laws.

A friend of mine recently met her future in-laws and got the third degree from them. It was a tough experience, but because she was dressed appropriately and had good social etiquette, she scored many points with them and has been warmly welcomed into the family.

Sometimes people are not that fortunate – I had a business meeting with someone, and the person arrived not only dressed as if he had just woken up, but he wasn't organised or prepared. Let's just say that was the first and the last time I met with him.

THE TROUBLE WITH WHINING

WHY do people complain so much? If they put a pound in a piggy bank every time they whinge, I bet they would get rich quick!

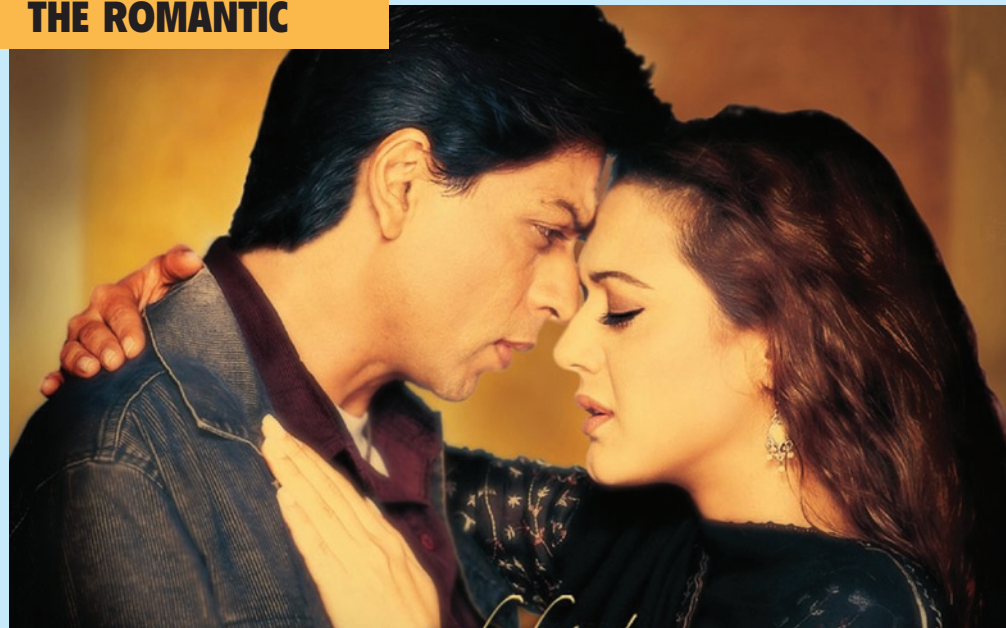
At the hair salon, a woman doesn't like the way her hair looks and freaks out at the hair dresser; at a fundraiser, a man complains that the food was cold and not very tasty; at the grocery store, a couple complains that the lines are too long and there needs to be more check-out staff; and then there is the guy who complains profusely that the world is against him. It's an endless list that I'm sure a book has already been written.

Over the years, I have become more aware of that bad habit and my piggy bank is a lot lower on cash than it used to be. Now I am more of an observer than a complainer.

WOMEN AND MAKE-UP

I HAVE done make-overs for women who say that they are a shade lighter than they actually are. Fair skin may be beautiful but you can't make yourself lighter than you are with a foundation and get away with it. Then there is the other extreme, where women want to be a few shades darker to give their skins a tanned look. Little do they realise that the rest of their body, neck and arms have to match this new shade of foundation! They are better off going to a tanning salon to get their desired colour. An experienced make-up artist can show you the colours that bring out your eyes, lips and cheeks, even if you are looking for something more natural and easy to do on a daily basis.

THE ROMANTIC



Characteristics: This guy is in touch with his feminine side and loves Bollywood films. He knows how to please a woman, writes poetry and will treat you like a princess.

Pros: Be prepared to get a compliment for everything – romantics know all the right things to say and their loving and caring side will sweep you off your feet.

Cons: They can be too sensitive at times and you might end up feeling like the man in the relationship.

How to spot one: While he can be the life and soul of a party, the romantic is actually quiet by nature and will be shy around a girl who he likes.

Appearance: He copies the latest fashion trends as worn by Bollywood's heart-throbs in their films – think open shirt and tight jeans.

The women he goes for: Romantic guys like sweet, innocent girls who fall for their cheesy lines. She will also have to be a really big Bollywood fan.

Most likely to: Cry while watching *Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge* for the 30th time.

THE BAD BOY

Characteristics: The bad boy regularly breaks the law and has no manners. This guy likes to have a good time and usually drinks or takes drugs. He is probably a wannabe MC looking for a record deal. But though they like to act tough, most of them are often mummy's boys.

Pros: He will beat up anyone who messes with you or your mates.

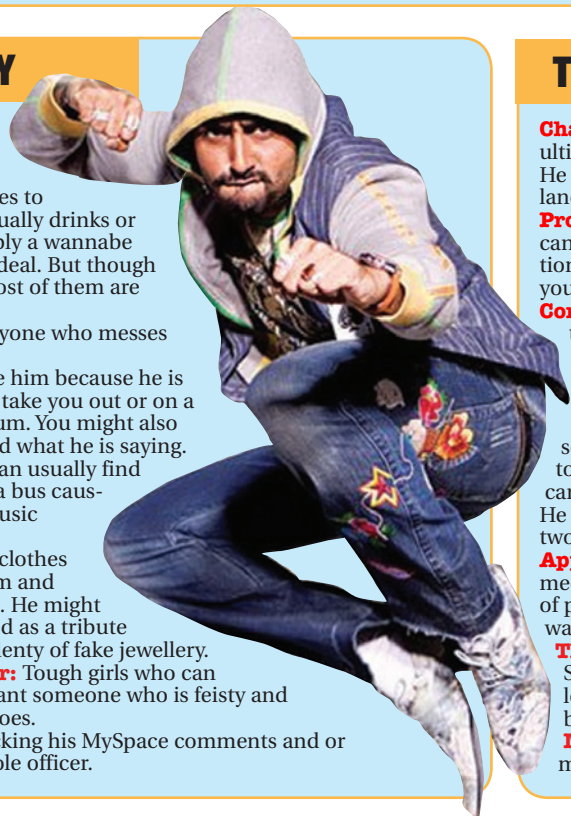
Cons: You will hardly see him because he is either in jail, too poor to take you out or on a strict curfew from his mum. You might also find it hard to understand what he is saying.

How to spot one: You can usually find them in the street or on a bus causing a scene by playing music loudly on their phone.

Appearance: He wears clothes three sizes too big for him and owns at least one hoodie. He might also have his nose pierced as a tribute to Tupac and he wears plenty of fake jewellery.

The women he goes for: Tough girls who can fight back. These guys want someone who is feisty and can keep them on their toes.

Most likely to: Be checking his MySpace comments and/or checking in with his parole officer.



THE PRETTY BOY

Characteristics: He is the ultimate metro-sexual man. He is vain and dreams of landing a modelling deal.

Pros: You can use him as arm candy and he gets you attention in public. He will also let you put make up on him.

Cons: He loves himself more than he loves you.

How to spot one: A pretty boy rarely smiles because he is afraid of getting laughter lines. He will also stop every five minutes to look in every mirror or car reflection in the street. He will usually wear a T-shirt two sizes too small for him.

Appearance: He is well groomed and never has a hair out of place. His clothes are always clean and fashionable.

The women he goes for: Someone not too good looking – they don't like being outshone.

Most likely to: Steal your moisturiser and concealer.



THE SUGAR DADDY



Characteristics: The sugar daddy is usually much older and has a well-paid job. He will probably be going through a mid-life crisis when he meets you, has been married at least once and has a kid who will hate you.

Pros: He is rich and will buy you anything you want. He might also leave you his fortune when he dies.

Cons: He thinks money can buy love. People may also mistake you for his daughter.

How to spot one: A sugar daddy can be found working in the city. He drives a flashy car and will try to act younger than he really is.

Appearance: He looks and dresses like your dad.

The women he goes for: These guys like younger women with a hot body. They also like to think they know best, so personality or a mind of your own is a turn-off.

Most likely to: Go for their daughters' mates.

THE STALKER

Characteristics: This guy just can't take no for an answer. After talking to you for five minutes, he will become convinced that the two of you are soul mates.

Pros: None. Always being there and knowing your every move is not a good thing.

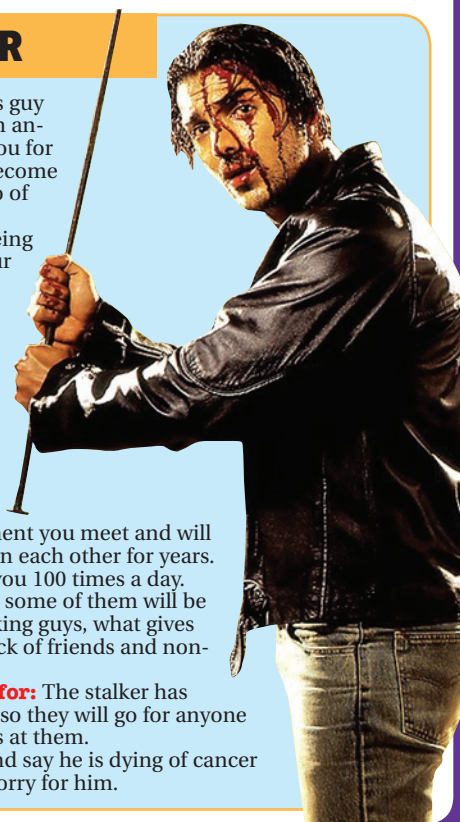
Cons: He's always around. This guy also gets possessive and jealous very quickly and will turn into a nuttier version of *Devdas* if you reject him.

How to spot one: He will be extremely friendly from the moment you meet and will act like you have known each other for years. He then starts calling you 100 times a day.

Appearance: Though some of them will be disguised as good-looking guys, what gives them away are their lack of friends and non-existent social skills.

The women he goes for: The stalker has no standards or pride, so they will go for anyone who so much as smiles at them.

Most likely to: Lie and say he is dying of cancer just to make you feel sorry for him.



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