

It Could Happen To You!

The final story I shall share with you is my own, and it is one of true love found.

The moment I posted my profile with two dating Internet sites, a whole new world opened up to me. I had met my first husband when I was fifteen years old. Having married at twenty years of age, he was my one and only boyfriend. I did not begin to date until almost three years after his passing away. I went on one blind date and ended up becoming engaged to that gentleman. Although he was a very nice man and played a huge part in my personal growth, he turned out not to be the right one for me. So never having really dated, I decided NOW was the time. I looked upon it as an adventure, and so it turned out to be one. I probably met around fifty different men, and they were all very nice. I dated a few of them – some for a week, some for a month or longer. Most importantly, I made so many new friends with whom I still keep in contact. I learned so much about myself; I became more confident; and I just had good old-fashioned FUN.

Almost a year after I had started dating, a gentleman contacted me. I was not overly impressed by his profile. He was geographically undesirable as he lived quite a distance from me, and I hesitated about him because I normally liked to meet men who were more highly educated. However, I returned his e-mail and decided to have a phone conversation with him. I allotted only fifteen minutes with which to speak to him, and although I was enjoying the conversation I had to end it because I was off to a meeting. He was going out of town and said he would call me upon his return. I had heard that line once or twice before, so I was not holding my breath waiting for his call. Matter of fact, I was meeting three or four other guys in the interim!

Anyway, he did call me – and it was actually four days earlier than he said he would! I happened to have a meeting near where he lived, so we decided to have coffee afterwards. I was to call him when I was done. Well, when I did call at the appointed time, he neither answered his home phone nor his cell phone. To top it off, his voice mail was full so I couldn't leave a message. This did not bode well. I started to drive home, but I continued to try his cell phone until I was almost out of the area. Finally, he picked up and apologized profusely. He had been out of range, and the calls were not going through. So we decided to still meet. I would wait until he could drive to where I was. So there I was waiting for a half hour in the parking lot of a Starbucks for a guy I wasn't even sure I wanted to meet!

He finally arrived, and I stepped out of my car. Not disappointing, but I didn't think he looked very much like his picture. He came toward me, and I was prepared to shake his hand. He decided he would rather give me a hug. Again, not an auspicious beginning from my point of view because it overstepped my boundaries to hug someone I had never met before. We ended up talking for two hours, and it was a very enjoyable conversation; however, I did not hear any bells or whistles or see flashing lights in regard to him. During the course of the conversation he asked me out for the following week, and I agreed. Keep in mind I had also heard that line before and would believe it when I heard from him again.

Of course he did call, and we did go out. We had a wonderful time full of laughter and good cheer. We continued to see each other, talk on the phone, and e-mail each other quite often. Each time I saw him, he became more and more attractive to me until I thought him the most adorable,

sweetest, nicest man I had ever met. Over the next couple of months we forged a relationship built on mutual values, respect, and admiration. Since we were both more than willing to reveal our innermost thoughts and let the other see inside of us, emotional intimacy was easy and quick to reach. I truly believe that this is the man for whom I've waited my entire life.

The point of this story is to illustrate that love and/or chemistry do not always gel at first glance. Profiles only give you a small glimpse into a person's personality and background; it is merely a piece of the totality of a person. If I had been more close-minded about education (and it turns out he is brilliant) or didn't meet him because his profile wasn't in depth enough for me, I would have missed the opportunity of a lifetime. And if I refused to go out with him because my mind and body weren't in overdrive during our first meeting, again, I would have never known the happiness I now feel.

There *are* opportunities to meet quality people through Internet dating, but sometimes we are impatient and don't allow ourselves the time for a relationship to develop. Time is everyone's friend: truths come to light; personalities are revealed; details become known; lifestyles are observed; and feelings are given time to develop and strengthen. Remember to give yourself the gift of time and don't hurry the possibility of love.