

Behind the Scenes (or the Computer) of “Save as Draft”

A broken engagement and a broken heart... that’s why I wrote this book. Well, there were a few other things too such as an unworn \$3000 wedding dress,¹ a pseudo-rebound affair, a job that didn’t fit me,² and a very bad economy. You know, “things like that.”

In October 2008, I called off my engagement to be married to this man³ who just so happened to be my best friend. I know that people always say “don’t date your best friend because it’ll ruin your friendship.” I, however, extended that saying to mean: “don’t date your best friend unless you plan to marry him in which case it will not ruin your friendship.” So, I dated my best friend because, yes, I planned to marry him. Problem was, I didn’t marry him and so, yes, it ended up ruining our friendship.

It wasn’t quite as simple as that though. (Is it ever?) Stuck squarely in between my best friend/fiancé and me was another guy who did his very best to win my heart. This is called a “love triangle.” Can you believe that Wikipedia actually has a definition for love triangle? “A love triangle is a romantic relationship involving three people.” But, it doesn’t stop there: “While it can refer to two people independently romantically linked with a third, it usually implies that each of the three people has some kind of relationship to the other two.” True enough. I prefer Urban Dictionary’s definition, however:

“Love triangles, as it is widely agreed, really f—king suck.”

They “suck” so much so that after my love triangle crashed and burned at the end of 2008, I decided to put pen to paper and write about it. Well, let’s be honest here, after my relationships ended I felt sorry for myself for two months, cried every night, called my mother and best girlfriend way too often, engaged in more retail therapy than I could afford, ate too many carbohydrates, watched repeats of “Sex and the City,” the list goes on and on⁴, and, only after that did I put pen to paper. After that, I sat down, and I wrote this book.

I wrote it entirely in emails, Blackberry messages, text messages, on-line dating profiles, and internet websites. Why? Because I realized that the main reason both of my relationships failed was lack of communication. I went back and read all of my g-mail inbox and discovered that I had conducted both relationships over the internet, not in person. Worse than that though, I realized when I opened up my Draft folder that all the things I should have said (or sent) from Day One to both of these special⁵ men were still in my Draft folder – unsent. I started asking my friends – both guys and girls – to look into their Inboxes and Draft Folders. They too discovered that relationships now take place on-line and no one says what he/she means for fear of what it will reveal (and for fear of being hurt).

So, I pieced together all of my emails and draft emails from my roller coaster year, and I decided to write a book about dating, love, friendship, growing up, and

¹ Which I secretly try on around midnight when I’m all alone, have consumed too many glasses of red wine, and smoked half a pack of cigarettes after a “very bad night”. I only try it on to make sure it still fits, of course. (Yeah, right.)

² I was a lowly attorney at a big law firm, need I say more?

³ No names will be used to protect the not-so-innocent.

⁴ And there is not enough room on this page to list everything.

⁵ See? I’m almost over the bitterness phase.

everything else that comes along with life in this electronic day and age when people are unwilling – or unable – to say what they mean and so often had the emails left “Save as Draft” been sent instead, it would have made all the difference. Or, more simply put: say what you mean, don’t hold anything back, and you’ll be happy (or happier).

I hope you enjoy my first book, “Save as Draft.” More than that though, I hope you can learn from my mistakes. All of us (yes, even the most cynical) really are in this to fall in love, to find “the One.” It’s certainly not easy, but... a few helpful tips along the way make it a little easier... I hope I’ve provided some tips or, at the very least, a fun heartfelt read for a few moments out of your otherwise crazy high-tech life.