

# THE DATING DEN

MARNI BATTISTA | 2020

A romantic scene of a couple sitting on a rocky cliff at sunset. The man is wearing a dark hoodie and has his arm around the woman's shoulder. They are both looking out over a vast, hazy landscape under a warm, orange and yellow sky. The overall mood is intimate and serene.

**JUST TELL  
ME WHAT  
TO SAY:**

5 DATING SCRIPTS MEN  
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*Communicate Your Needs, Get What You Want, and Leave Him Wanting More*

## *Scenario 1*

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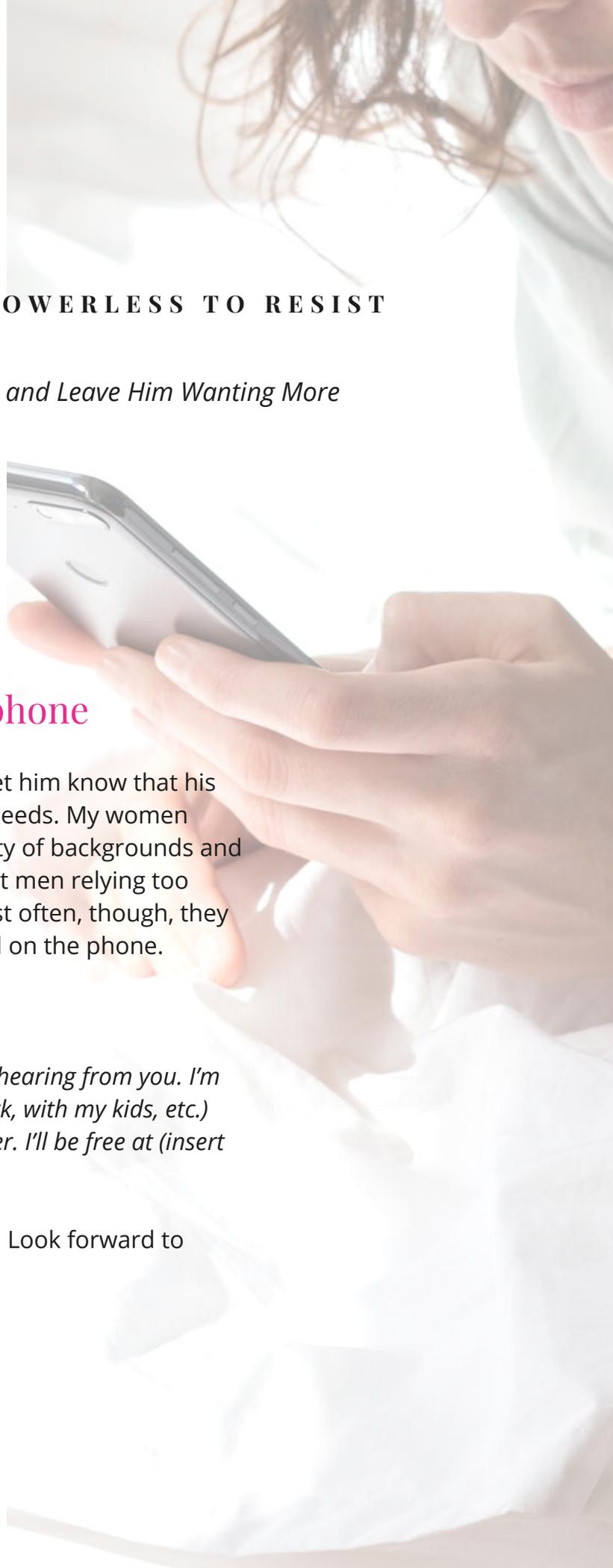
### **He is always sending you texts, while you prefer to talk on the phone**

In a situation like this, it's your responsibility to let him know that his communication methods are not meeting your needs. My women clients (who are all ages, by the way, with a variety of backgrounds and levels of dating experience) often complain about men relying too heavily on texting for their communications. Most often, though, they never tell these men that they prefer to be called on the phone.

That said, here is how it could go down:

**You:** *"Thanks so much for reaching out, Tim. I love hearing from you. I'm not really a big texter and am (insert driving, at work, with my kids, etc.) right now. I would love to connect on the phone later. I'll be free at (insert time). Talk then?"*

**Him:** *"Sounds great. Didn't want to interrupt you. Look forward to talking later tonight."*



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## *Scenario 2*

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You are communicating with someone you met online. The vibe is good, but you're ready to take it offline and want to create an opportunity to meet in person.

If you're tired of the email banter and are ready to move to the next phase (the "meet date"), let him know in a subtle but direct way.

Here's how it could go down:

**You:** *"I've really enjoyed the email connection, Brad. In fact, I'm intrigued! I'm a big fan of moving through the email phase so that we can both see if this is worth exploring further. Technology is great, but it's definitely not a substitute for the real deal, right? Looking forward to your response. Kate."*



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### *Scenario 3*

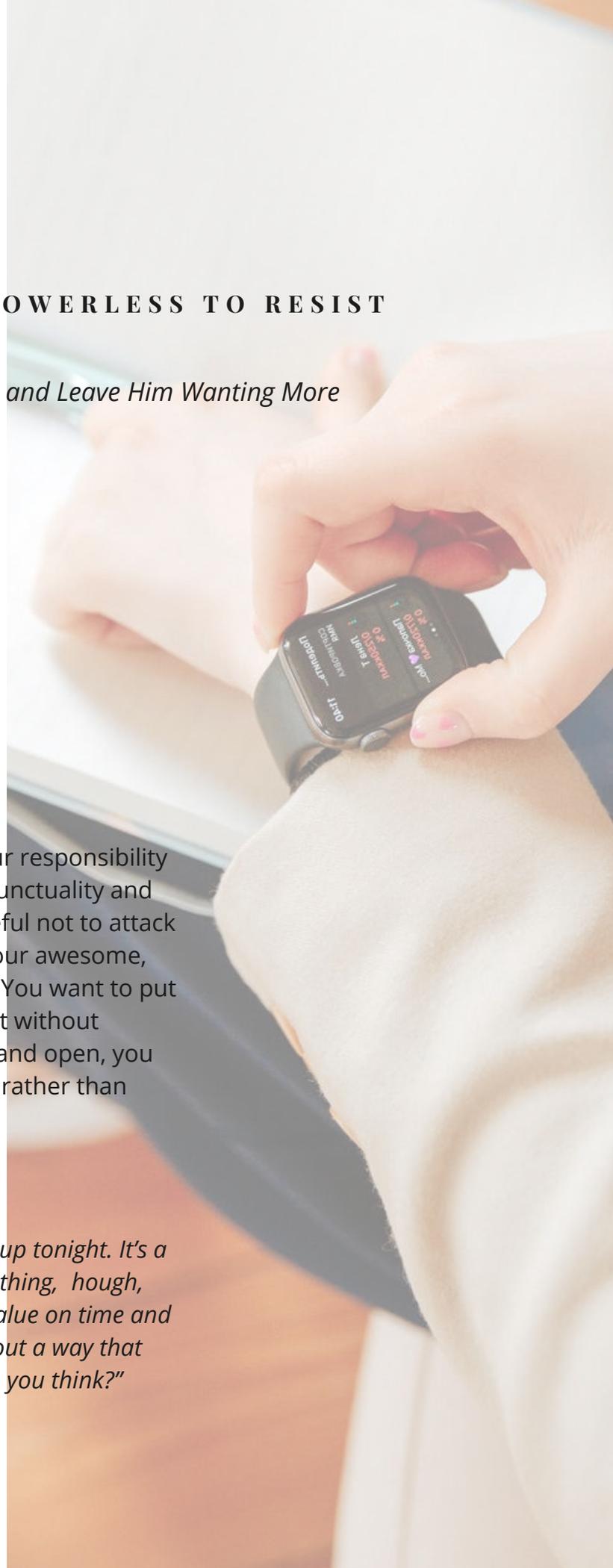
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He's late. It's happened twice, and you want to let him know it's important to you for him to be on time in the future.

If the man you're dating is habitually late, it's your responsibility to let him know that you place a high value on punctuality and it's not okay for him to keep you waiting. Be careful not to attack him the minute he does arrive, but instead be your awesome, positive self until you have settled into the date. You want to put him at ease and enable him to receive your input without becoming defensive. By keeping your tone kind and open, you can engage him in solving the problem with you rather than make him feel like you are criticizing.

Here's how:

**You:** *"I really appreciate that you drove to pick me up tonight. It's a little gesture, but it means a lot to me. There is one thing, though, that I want you to know about me. I place a huge value on time and punctuality, and so I'm wondering if we can figure out a way that you can arrive on time yet not feel rushed. What do you think?"*



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## *Scenario 4*

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### **He cancels your date.**

You want to express your disappointment without seeming needy while at the same time making sure you don't inadvertently communicate that "it's cool" or doesn't bother you.

**You:** *"I'm so disappointed we aren't going to get together. I was looking forward to it. I'm looking forward to rescheduling, Brad. I'm available (insert date). Let me know if that works for you when you have time to get to your calendar. In the meantime, (insert "feel better," "hope work slows down," "hope your grandma recovers quickly," etc.)."*

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## *Scenario 5*

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**Your relationship hasn't been progressing, and you want to check in to see if he's looking for a long-term relationship (in other words, if he is Mr. Boyfriend Material).**

If you have been dating a man for a while but things just don't seem to be moving forward as you'd like – if he always seems to be squeezing you in around his other priorities, allows long stretches of time to go by between dates, or does other things that make you feel like you and your relationship are not at the top of his list – it's your responsibility to speak up, express your desires and expectations, and find out if he's on the same page.

This conversation shouldn't be raised until at least the fourth or fifth date. If your relationship has gotten this far but doesn't seem to be progressing as you'd like, here's how you could raise the issue:

**You:** *"I have really enjoyed getting to know you, Tom. We have had such fun on the amazing dates you've planned. You are so creative (or, insert other compliment, kudos or praise here). I'm hoping I can get to know you better, though. I'm wondering if we could have a date that (insert "starts before 9:00 p.m.," "is on a night when you don't have to rush off to work/a meeting/or another obligation," or "is before next week")."*