



# The Science of Single: One Woman's Grand Experiment in Modern Dating, Creating Chemistry, and Finding Love

By Rachel Machacek

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**One year of dating. One year of looking for love. One uproarious and touching memoir.**

After years of dating without a connection, Rachel Machacek vowed to try a more dedicated, less slipshod, more scientific way of finding love. So, she committed a year of her life to trying every mainstream (and not-so-mainstream) method of meeting the right guy. In *The Science of Single*, Rachel welcomes readers into the findings from her roller-coaster year, and although she set out looking for the right chemistry, what she discovers in the process is hilarious, unexpected, and infinitely more exciting.

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### Editorial Review

#### From Publishers Weekly

Thirty-three years old and seven years single, Machacek decides to shake things up by throwing herself into the path of as many men as possible, hoping to stumble upon some surprising relationship truths along the way. Taking advantage of online dating sites, attending singles events and networking conventions, suffering through blind dates and matchmaking misfires, and subjecting herself to the so-called wisdom of dating books and coaches, Machacek commits herself to upping her suitor count and, hopefully, the odds—with mixed results. As detailed in the blog that led to this book, a year of drinks, lunches, dinners, and awkward trysts leaves her pretty much where she started, though with greater courage, self-knowledge, and faith in her gut instincts, a discovery that might seem like a no-brainer to readers. One gets the sense that the real problem might be the quality of men Machacek encounters, or the types—artsy, spiritual, and ultimately flaky—that she seeks. A better experiment would involve breaking old patterns, connecting with promising men from different backgrounds and professions, and seeing if sparks fly. (Jan.)

#### From Booklist

Tired of not meeting men and not wanting to end up alone, 33-year-old editor Machacek decided to conduct an experiment. Over the course of a year, she'd try all the different modern methods of meeting potential romantic partners. Starting with one of the most popular avenues, online dating, Machacek delved into Match.com, the largest online matchmaking site. The venture yielded a plethora of mostly unsatisfying dates, ranging from the socially awkward to the completely chemistry-free. Singles events, including speed dating and mixers, some of which were attended mostly by couples, proved no better. And Machacek feels downright ripped off by a matchmaking company that charged more than a thousand dollars to hand-select dates for clients. Wondering if her locale, Washington, D.C., was an issue, Machacek even hit the road to find out whether dating was easier and the men were more desirable in other cities. Anyone who has ever gone online or attended a singles' event looking for a date will relate to and sympathize with Machacek's colorful adventures on the dating circuit. --Kristine Huntley

#### Review

"...a memoir that's equal parts funny, mortifying and insightful and stands to make Machacek into the Bridget Jones of Washington." --*Washington Post*

Even while rooting for Machacek to find love, I was secretly hoping her search would be long and arduous and last forever. The way she writes about her disastrous dates, complete with nicknames for her potential suitors, is hilarious, highly entertaining and oh so relatable." --**Cathy Alter, author of *Up for Renewal: What Magazines Taught Me About Love, Sex, and Starting Over***

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#### Berneice Ritzman:

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