The Falcons folded
AND OTHER CONSPIRACY THEORIES

Chicken and ethics
WHY CHICK-FIL-A TASTES SO COMPLICATED

MODERN LOVE

ON OUR SCREENS,
IN OUR SLANG AND
ON OUR SHELVES
For all the technology that’s been invented in the past five years, the online dating landscape hasn’t changed much. Ever since Tinder took horny singles by storm in 2012, “swipe left, swipe right” has become the dating model du jour.

In 2014, some folks decided that getting bombarded with vulgar messages and unwanted dick pics wasn’t fun for women—thus Bumble was born. The app is just like Tinder, except that it requires the woman to make the first move. It sounds great in theory (or maybe guys could stop being a-holes?), but Bumble comes with its own swarm of problems.

Right off the bat, Bumble’s most glaring issue is that it’s really only different if you’re straight. For gay men and women, it’s the same thing as Tinder, with a slightly more confusing interface and fewer gay users. Another buzzkill? Bumble gives straight women a 24-hour time limit to send the first message before their “match” disappears, unless users fork up some cash. There’s enough pressure with online dating as it is; no one wants to race against a ticking time bomb.

There is one significant perk, though. Bumble-rs seem to have their sh*t together way more than their primordial swiping brethren, and they might be more focused on finding an actual partner (if you’re into that kind of thing). Does Bumble make Tinder shoppers feel better? Not really. But when it comes to dating, having more options is never a bad thing. Leslie Ventura

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Two people sit together in a restaurant. They appear to be a couple sharing a meal, because they order food, it’s served and they eat. But they’re not speaking to each other. Are they together?

“They spent most of their time each on their phones, so much so that I thought I’d missed something, that maybe they’d gotten into a fight when I wasn’t paying attention. They looked so completely disconnected,” Katherine Hertlein says. “And at the end of the meal they get up, hold hands and walked out.”

To Hertlein, a UNLV professor and director of the college’s Marriage and Family Therapy Program who has been practicing for nearly 20 years—and to most of us—this is unusual behavior. But also, it’s not. The iPhone has only been around for 10 years, and yet there’s clearly a ubiquitous tendency to ignore everything and everyone, especially spouses and partners, in favor of constant media consumption.

And it’s a problem. “Even if it’s not the thing a couple cites as the problem, talking with them invariably reveals it,” she says. “And the problem isn’t just what couples are looking at while together, but saying to one another when they’re not. “We just communicate differently now,” Hertlein adds. “Couples like using technology to communicate because they can do it quickly and more conveniently, but research tells us those communications have less content and are more task-oriented, very different from the conversations we used to want to have when we get home and talk about our day.”

When it comes to texting your significant other, more is actually less. Constant contact makes us think we’re better communicators than we are, but there’s little meaning in a steady stream of emoticons. “When you’re trying to solve a problem, asynchronous communication—when you don’t expect an immediate response—can work well,” Hertlein says. “But when couples need to solve a problem, a sense of presence is really important. How many times have you texted and tried to get your partner engaged right away and then you get pissed off when they’re not answering? We have to remind ourselves what the goal is.”

We also share more information about ourselves on social media, mundane stuff that happens throughout the day, but it’s more info that we used to first share with our partners, before we could blast random photos and anecdotes out into the universe. It’s all about specialness. You want to feel like the most important person in the world to your partner, and you want them to feel that way, too, but that little screen is getting in the way. It’s sucking all that specialness right through your face.

It’s easy to vilify technology, Hertlein says, “If I could say, “Turn off your computer when you’re with your partner,” that’d be great, but the computer is everywhere you go. We need to figure out ways to use technology as an advantage in our relationships instead of assuming it’s a disadvantage.”

By Brock Radke
U

er popular opinion time: I don’t like online dating. And yet, despite my aversion to distant rock climbers and venture capitalists, I still have those world-traveler-type

day, hang your head as you fiddle apps on my phone. Why not? Dating apps are especially handy if I’m stuck in line waiting for coffee, and even better if I’m trying to temporarily forget about the nation’s impending doom. Something tells me I’m not the only one who does this.

I’m, as millennials might say, uninterested AF. Meeting random folks in my spare time isn’t my idea of fun (I

feminism and Thai food. I mean, I don’t believe in ghosts,

Actually, yeah, it probably does.

best. As a queer, bisexual, not-exactly-femme-but-not-exactly-

signed up for OK Cupid on a whim—dating apps were fine, but a website? That

recently hit me hard. That’s also all I can do.

SIDE NOTE: In my mind, I have

suspended the fire alone isn’t so fun. Single people/handicapped people/marriages do not go well together.

When I’d spent most of my

life single, February brought feelings of intense shame and loneliness. I’d think

about someone who later showed up. What was I thinking?

I was a single girl who’s friends explained my inability to get a date with the phrase, “You don’t play the game.”

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What was I thinking?

Unlikely. The popular girls received jingling, flashing, helium-filled displays didn’t bother me (because I have a mother).

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likely romantic. But love?

Last year I suggested
to my boyfriend that we celebrate by going disc
girling. We looked through an isolated course on a forested mountainside in Kingman, Arizona, and then watched a spectacular sunset on the way home. It was so romantic.

That Valentine’s, I suggested an after work hike.

But the BP doesn’t want to hike in the dark. I told him we had to hike to this maze, which he

So you’re saying it’s just pick up a roadside teddy bear on the way home and be done with it?&

on steak, red wine and essential oils. (Note: I don’t think

these sales actually existed, but my brain filled in any gaps in complex societal-illusion.)

It all boils down to my lizard brain screaming,

WHERE ARE MY PRESENTS! And, more tragically,

missed them.

I spend that night at home with my mom wishing

Valentine’s Day, sophomore year of high

school until the chain broke a couple weeks later. The

read, “Your friend … ????”

I spent that night at home with my mom wishing

that nobody would know.

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What is wrong with me that nobody is gifting me

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What does illegal sex work look like these days? Have we moved past streetwalkers and card-slappers? If you ask a sex worker from Vegas’ shadow industry, you might get an answer—oh, and that one.

Cover Story
WEEKLY | 02.09.17

His ‘N’ Hers MERCHANT
A FEW UNIQUE GIFT IDEAS, JUST IN TIME FOR VALENTINE’S DAY

BY ROSALIE SPEAR

Looking for some novel ways to woo your lover? These items from Déjà Vu’s Adult Emporium can help you explore new romantic terrain, from body art to Hansel-and-Gretel toys.

DIRECT FROM THE ITS NOT FOR EVERYONE (Mikayla Whitmore/Staff)

FOR THE FOODIES...

Love Food Love Sex ($60)
Blanketing sex and relationship expert Emily Dodsworth and chef Israel所得的美食和爱情是平等的。爱情和烹饪是平等的。

FOR CREATIVE TYPES...

Play Pens ($50)
You’re probably dead of body play. You sure you’re not on BFF. Try this: The BFF pen for body play. It’s aVF ($10)

Love Is Art ($40)
Transform your passion into a work of art. This artistic 100 different sticks, which make up different ways to seduce. Stickey secret formulas include “tooth,” “scent,” and “taste.” We’ve added a recipe book available that details numerous flavor combinations.

For some of the couples looking to spice up...