

Take the Time to Do Things Right

Certain pressures can just naturally tend to mount on a fellow who's dated a girl for over three years without proposing. His friends start asking, "When you going to pop the question?" Future in-laws start asking, "When you going to pop the question?" The girl starts asking... well you get the drift. It can make a man a mite jumpy.

Marriage is a big step, and it shouldn't be lightly entered into. One would be wise to think things through. Admittedly, the thinking process just takes longer for some of us. That's why I... I mean this certain guy I know, determined he would not be roped into making a move just because of a few subtle hints. Of course he quickly caved when those hints turned into vague threats, and his own family threatened to disown him. Finally he conceded, "Maybe I do need to come up with a plan?"

Soon the potential young bride's birthday arrived, and the air was thick with rumors and speculation. The Las Vegas odds makers were banking two to one on a proposal. Her close friends waited by the phone, at least those who hadn't already passed out from holding their breath. The young girl was absolutely glowing with excitement that night as her beau took her to a fine restaurant. I can't tell you how hard it was for that young handsome rascal to stare into those beautifully expectant green eyes after desert, burp and say, "Whelp, let's go."

As intended, his aloofness only thickened the plot, and added a new twist to his unfolding plan. Returning home, the sly dog pulled out a gi-normous cardboard box topped with a bright red bow. It was unusually weighty. The girl's eyes roamed his face like it was a grocery store tabloid. Finally, sensing what she perceived to be a guilty glint in his eyes, she tore into that box like a starving coon about to enjoy a sack of stolen Salmon steaks.

Cleverly, within the big box was another. Huffing, to feign the required annoyance, she continued on, practically levitating with excitement. I wish you could've been there to see her surprise when she opened that second box to find a beginners set of lady's golf clubs! I mean ahh... I'll bet it was something to see.

Needless to say, things were a little chilly between the two love birds the next few weeks. Poor fellow- How was he supposed to know she didn't play golf?

Now before you go writing mean letters blasting me for being sympathetic to this Guy's plight, let me pull a Paul Harvey, and tell you the rest of the story.

According to his plan, the young man had covertly arranged a meeting with the girl's dad before leaving on the couple's upcoming Gulf Coast vacation. Having satisfied proper protocol, he was then able to confidently take her for a stroll along the star lit beach that first night. Where, to her surprise, he romantically fell to a knee. From his pocket he produced a one carrot diamond solitaire. With the waves crashing against the shore and a gentle breeze stirring her red locks, he asked her for her hand in marriage. She accepted. Last I checked she liked his plan just fine. They've been happily married for over 13 years now, growing more madly in love each passing day; SO THERE!

You'd think the word 'Wait' was a four letter word these days! We want what we want, and we want it *NOW*! We're like the I.G.G. people- The **I**mmEDIATE **G**ratification **G**eneration. I'm just worried we might go down in history as the clowns that put the IGG in iggnert!

Sure, it's hard to wait on the Lord. He almost never works on our schedule. But I'm learning it's wise. You see, we're concerned with our comfort. He's concerned with our character. We're itching for a quick fix. He's determined to do things proper. We'll never get God's best by rushing out ahead of Him. If we'll just hold out for His will, in the end we'll be so glad we did. (*The LORD is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him.* **Lamentations 3:25 KJV**)

Faith and Patience must've said their vows a long time ago, because it literally takes a miracle to separate them.

But anyway... Do you know anybody that needs an unused set of ladies golf clubs? Somehow I ended up with a set in my garage.

-Guy Sheffield 2-09-07