

Five things you need to know about women, according to...

Joy Bryant

Dressing too trendy is a turnoff.

"I know men who always wear T-shirts and jeans and sneakers, and they look fresh. You know what you like, you know what looks good on you—so stick to that. Not too many dudes can pull off skinny jeans."

If you trash your ex, you look bad.

"There's always that guy who says, 'Oh, that bitch is crazy.' But dude, you dated her! What are you doing that's drawing all those crazies? You're the common denominator. And you're not crazy?"

We'd rather fight than fester.

"If you have something to say, speak up. It doesn't matter if she's going to get annoyed. Don't put your relationship on cruise control—there might be a turn, or potholes, or rocks, or something like that. Guys understand car references, right?"

Your girl is like a personal groomer.

"I have so many grooming products, I'm like Sephora. There's no reason why you should have an itchy scalp or a dry face. I have every cream you could possibly need, so why are you walking around with ashy skin? Let's handle that."

We wish you liked a little hair.

"Where did the whole landing strip, Brazilian, waxing yourself to prepubescence come from? I'm not asking you to wax your balls! I used to go totally bare, and I looked like a child. I'm not doing it anymore. I'm not single, but if I was, I'd be like, 'Listen, you're getting '70s bush.'"

THE JOY OF DATING

Once, on a date, a guy took Joy Bryant to a parking lot to skateboard. Sound like a bad idea? It wasn't—she ended up marrying him. And now she describes a day at home like this: "We make cocktails, talk shit." What a lucky dude. Even though she's taken, you can still check her out in NBC's *Parenthood* and her latest flick, *About Last Night*, costarring Kevin Hart.



photograph by Steve and Mada, styling: Jonathan Lawhorne, hair: Mara Hozak, makeup: Gregory Art, Rachel Zoe shirt and skirt