

50! The Life, Loves & Psyche of a Male Mid-Life Crisis



Cory Y. Standby

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Tags

/ women/ love/ sex/ lust/ dates/ flirtation

Edit

This is the story of life. It is about love and relationships; about the importance of family; about how real life and human emotions invariably mess each of these up. It looks at death, divorce and dating; losing loved ones; family feuds and other intertwined issues; grief and stress & so much more

Introduction

"Everyone makes mistakes in life, but that doesn't mean they have to pay for them the rest of their life. Sometimes good people make bad choices; it doesn't mean they are bad. It means they are human" (Anonymous)

As Cory sat at his desk staring out of his window observing the beautiful autumnal landscape of the southern English countryside, he smiled wryly to himself. Here he was entering his 50th year; he felt more empowered, free and generally just content with life than ever before. That is to say inner contentment was finally his, after years of striving for the perfect life, but is that just an illusion? What he had come to realise as he approached his half century in this world was that the old saying was so true – *"The less you give a shit, the happier you will be"* (Anonymous).

This book is an exploration of his path through life. The ups and downs and where it had now brought him. He had first thought of writing a book many years ago, having been told by his lovely, mad, eccentric English teacher decades earlier that he had an eloquent writing style that should be explored further. He doubted that she had meant this much later, but real life kind of got in the way in the intervening thirty-plus years. Mind you, she was also full of praise for his stylish handwriting back then too, but that (like so much else) has been destroyed by real life grinding it down over the decades ever since. It has descended from beautiful calligraphy then to an illegible scrawl now. That really is a true metaphor for life!

Women & Love

She is the only woman he is still in love with after the relationship has ended. Despite his decades of experience with women and relationships, this is a new one to him and he's still trying to work out how to cope with it! Hopefully writing the book has helped. As he has said to her innumerable times over the past five years since they first met, she is clearly his punishment for all the wrongs he has done to every other woman in his life. His dream girl, in every way, but who will never quite commit to him fully enough; who is too emotionally scarred, scared and mixed up because of her past, and therefore runs away whenever their incredible connection and amazing chemistry becomes too strong; and who can't (currently) decide what she wants from life, so they are no longer together. Heart-breaking.....

Discretion being the better part of valour won out for once (very unusually for him). The other piece of inspired advice his wise stress counsellor had given him (the second, proper one who got it, not the text book clichéd first one he never saw again) was that people often unburdened much on their minds seeking peace and tranquillity, believing that telling the truth will somehow set you free. It doesn't always. He maintained that often the act of telling a partner, (particularly an ex in a fraught divorce situation especially) about something was actually selfish, done for the protagonist's benefit alone. Rather than clearing the air it hurts the recipient of the news and causes a whole new raft of anger, resentment and issues. Cory had no doubt he had been guilty of that during the previous months with Lisa. He had undoubtedly fanned the flames at times, but at least not on this occasion. Cory had no idea how long things would last with Susie, he wasn't even thinking like that. He was just enjoying it. Women though think differently to men, almost always about almost everything! He has grown to realise that, as an indisputable and universal truth over many years; our conflicts can never be resolved as the way we approach them, think about and analyse them are so alien to each other. It's like two people trying to argue in different languages, each not understanding a word the other says! Or like one person seeking to illustrate their points through complex mathematical formulae, while the other responds with creative poetry and prose. There is no connection, no mutual comprehension, just bewilderment that the other doesn't get it. Our minds are just so different; a world apart and we simply have to accept it!

“ one particular stunning Latino/Hispanic blonde who Cory spotted and really liked.... This was Anna. The fine line between jealousy and excitement had clearly been crossed. Cory understood why, as Anna was beautiful, she had the most amazing body and looks and appeared to be a pretty nice person too. She was indeed. Cory has now known Anna for almost a decade and they remain good friends, long after Zara has gone. In fact a year or so ago Cory took a group of work colleagues to the club, and one of his female colleagues (whose background included years in the fashion industry) described Anna as the most beautiful girl she had ever seen, with a supermodel's body to die for.Anna was also his dream girl, not only beautiful in looks but personality too and what could be better than such a gorgeous girl loving football.

She and a friend joined Cory and one of his mates in their Club Level seats at the Emirates for an Arsenal v Liverpool match. Cory's mate was a local playboy, but out where they lived not on a London scale. He admitted he was blown away by how beautiful Anna and her friend were, but said he quickly realised they were way out of his league when they started talking about which of the players on the pitch they had dated, and even in one case one of the world's top players. This was something Cory was to come to realise as his relationship with Zara died and he was back out on the party scene in London. The very sexy, beautiful younger women he liked were not only all very popular with every other man (he was used to that with Zara), but particularly with every footballer, gangster, playboy and any other player in town. A whole new league of opponents for him!

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