

Introduction

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

In high school, very cliché, I already found my gym teacher somewhere interesting. However, at that time I could not express my feelings places. I thought I just looked up to her because she taught gave in my favorite subject. During my college days, it gradually became clearer to me that I was attracted to women. On a At one point I wanted to come out of the closet. But before that, I wanted to kiss a woman.

That didn't finally happen until I was 26. I was with a roommate at an alternative party in some kind of squat. There was a relaxed atmosphere and we were sitting cozily at the edge of the dance floor drinking a beer. At one point, a woman looked me and she asked if I wanted to dance with her. I looked around me around to make sure she wasn't talking to someone else and thought: *huh, with me?* I joined her on the dance floor and felt somewhat uncomfortable, but soon somewhat attracted. *What did she really want from me?* We danced some, until she spilled beer all over me. I said, "Hey, no spilling beer huh," and with my mouth removed the beer from my arm. Then I spilled 'per accident' some beer over her, then I put my mouth on her arm. This led to beer spilling near her mouth. And then... my first real kiss with a woman! I know remember feeling very different than I had ever felt before

During a kiss. Hugely attracted. Tough. Animal even. A day later, I realized it was time to come out of the closet.

WHY I AM WRITING THIS BOOK

After my coming-out, which actually went very smoothly, it was time for more action. Healthily tense, I entered the gay bar one Saturday night. As a heterosexual, I had quite a bit of pull with the men, so it would be okay with the women as well. Full of expectations

I went in and waited for all these women to hit on me. And waited. And waited. Nothing happened ... nothing. There I didn't understand anything; I had put on nice clothes and my hair was fine. Disappointed, I tried again a week later. And then ... again. At all. Nothing. Apparently, like in the straight world, I couldn't just stand around being pretty somewhere and dance lasciviously until I would naturally get hit on. I had to into action! I just had no idea how to do that because, as an ex-hetero, I was not used to it and just fumbled around.

After many failed attempts, I thought: *I'm going to look into this.* I began a search for information about flirting and dating. I Found dozens of books for straight men, for straight women, and for straight men and women collectively. And for women like me? Nothing. Yes, a website here and there or once a stray blog. But no book or anything else substantial. Eventually I found that the tips for straight men worked best, because, like straight men, I am now women wanted to decorate. I devoured books, blogs and videos about it, put them into practice and began to see patterns. Gradually, I started having more and more fun interactions and dates with women.

Yet the lack of good information for women like me continued to gnaw at me for a number of reasons. First, I felt simply not addressed by the advice because I was always addressed as a man. Second, the advice was often specifically about the polarity between men and women. Third, the advice for men was sometimes woman-unfriendly, sometimes even with homophobic jokes. Last but not least, I needed answers to specific questions like

- + How do you know if a woman is into women?
- + As a woman, how do you step up to a woman?
- + As a woman, how do you avoid being directly in a woman's mind? friendzone ended up in?

I noticed a similar need in other women.

Girlfriends of mine who wanted a friend but didn't have a dared to take the initiative, simply because they didn't know how. Thus, a lot of beautiful opportunities are lost in love. A shame! After all, having a fine love life is one of the most beautiful things out there. That's where I'd like to help you. You deserve a book of your own, so you don't have to discover what works in dating and love like I did through trial and error.

CONTENTS OF THIS BOOK

In this book, you will learn how to be a woman (lesbian/bisexual/gay/queer/curious) get better at flirting, decorating and dating women and how to become the most attractive version of yourself. Plus everything that comes with that. In doing so, it doesn't matter if you're already

experience with women or not. In this book you will find concrete and practical tips including examples, recognizable situations,

common problems and personal anecdotes appropriate to the particular section. In addition, the background of the tips is also included, because you can apply tips better if you know the understands its operation.

To begin, I explain to you the basics of flirting and decorating and how attraction works. Then, in chronological order, I take you through the entire decorating process: meeting places, making contact, fun conversations, physical contact, phone number arranging, phone contact, dating apps and sites, dating and openness about your (relationship) desires. Then are chapters on attractive traits and turn-offs plus corresponding behaviors. In the last chapter you will find some other things that are useful to know, such as setting standards, commitment anxiety, relationship forms, dealing with dabblers and ending contact. Read

the book from front to back or use it as a reference book for

specific situations. As a straight man, do you secretly have a copy of this book? Congratulations, eighty percent is also for you relevant.

DISCLAIMER

To explain certain things more clearly, I occasionally generalize and thicken things up a bit. For readability, I keep the term "woman(s)," although I realize that this may not be the proper term of address is.

The base

DECORATING IS TO LEARN

Many people think you are naturally good at flirting and decorating or not. Indeed, some people seem to be born a natural flirt. They decorate "everyone" with the greatest of ease. Perhaps it seems That may seem unachievable to you, but it certainly isn't. Flirting, dating and decorating are simply skills that anyone can learn. So do you. Although sometimes the opposite may seem true, superficialities like looks are hardly relevant for this. Sure, it can help if you have a cute face, but with good decorating skills, you will win out with whatever face nine times out of ten over someone with just a cute face. Just think of that person around you who is always having a fling but is not particularly handsome.

I had just come out of the closet, and I just couldn't manage to have really nice interactions or dates with women. When I complained about this in the pub to a friend, he said, "Just start flirting. "Flirting?" I asked. 'Just flirting? How to do that? I really had no idea. He said, "You do know how to flirt, don't you? Ehyyyy, so no. Fastforward to a few years later, with the same friend in the pub. I was telling him for the umpteenth time in a short time about one of my adventures with women. He said, "Remember that time you came to me for flirting advice because you had no idea how to flirt? And then he laughed hard.

When I told those around me that I was actively developing my decorating skills, some thought That but crazy. Love should come naturally, shouldn't it? And on dates you only have to be yourself, right? Some of those people had been single themselves for years and could not find love. Well... You can, of course, wait until love arrives. comes your way by chance. But love is far too important to leave to chance, and the problem is precisely that on dates are often not yourself at all. Or you choose to take responsibility for a great dating or love life yourself. You have already taken the first step toward that, for which *props*, by reading this book.

Another common response was, "Oh, but then those are Of those tricks you learn, I don't think that's acceptable. That's manipulative. I do understand where that reaction comes from. There are many bad decorating gurus who are annoying and unfriendly to women. promote behavior. Behavior that mainly benefits the decorator himself. In this book I focus precisely on decorating tips from A giving intention, where you become the most attractive version of yourself. Not just for nice ladies, but for your entire environment. Besides, what is manipulative? A friend of mine regularly says she finds decorating tricks manipulative and hates it when men "influence" her with them. The same girlfriend puts on a sexy dress when she goes out. She does this in part to attract men, in which she often succeeds gloriously. *Who is influencing here*, I think. *Why doesn't she just go out in a burlap sack, if she doesn't want to influence?* If you want to attract someone you will always have to influence them. Influencing is however, is different from ignoring or manipulating boundaries.

APPEAL

Attraction. It is the absolute basis in flirting and decorating. But how does attraction actually work? Two types of attraction are important in flirting and decorating: Sexual Attraction and Emotional Attraction. Sexual attraction, also called physical attraction

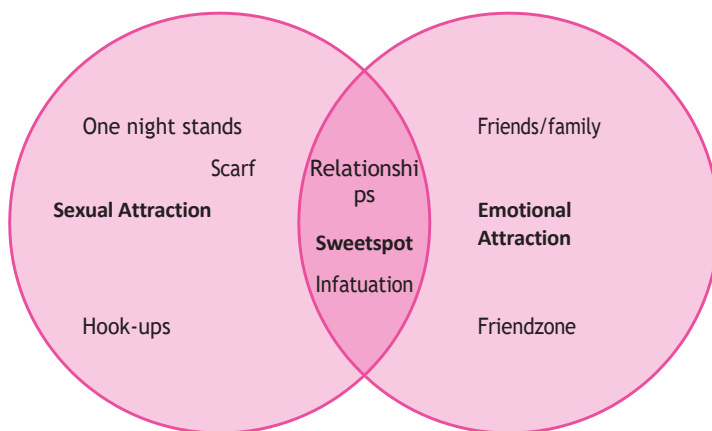
called, is simply the desire to get into the trunk with someone diving. You are sexually attracted to a woman when you want to kiss her, have sex with her, or fantasize sexually about her.

Emotional attraction is the emotional connection that you feels with someone. If all goes well, you are currently already feeling emotional attraction to several people around you: your family, friends, and maybe even your colleagues. These are the people you like to see, with whom you can have good conversations

conduct, but also have inside jokes with her. You are emotionally attracted to a woman if you enjoy doing fun things with her

undertakes, enjoys having good conversations with her and when you fantasize what it would be like to do typical relationship things with her, such as a weekend getaway or vacation together.

Below you can see the relationship between the two types of attraction:



+ **Emotional attraction only:** if there is only emotional attraction, a piece of sexual tension. It's all very nice and cozy together, you're having the greatest fun and maybe even deep conversations. But: you don't want to tear each other's clothes off. Here you can be firmly in the friendzone. Want to get out of that? Then shift your focus to sexual attraction.

+ **Sexual attraction only:** if only sexual attraction exists, you can have sex with a woman

Without too much emotional connection. Focus on only sexual attraction when looking for hookups/onenightstands. This way you reduce the chances of feelings developing. Note: Of course, even with a fling, especially a long-term fling, there is some emotional attraction.

Surely many women want to feel some connection with their bed partner. However, it should not take precedence. If you want more than dabbling, invest in generating emotional attraction.

+ **The sweetspot:** if there is both emotional and sexual attraction, you are in the sweetspot. Here fall in love and relationships arise.

Are you dating but not getting along? Chances are one of two types of attraction is missing, or maybe both. Consider: what is missing and why? How can you strengthen it? Tips for this you can read below.

FACTS VERSUS FEELING

Buying a house. Quitting your job. Choosing whether or not to having children. The most important decisions in our lives we make primarily based on our feelings, although many people think not. For example, before buying a house they make a wish list in advance. Then, during a viewing, they decide within two minutes whether they want to live there, purely instinctively. Only then do they check whether the house meets their

wish list satisfies. If not, they come up with all sorts of arguments to back up their feelings. *Ah, that third bedroom that I did I really need it? And well, there is no garden, but I can get by with that cute little balcony, right?* They keep fooling himself a little bit, therefore.

I was looking for a new home in Utrecht and stepped into yet another house one day. Within three seconds after entering, I thought: *this is going to be it*. The house was bright and spacious; I immediately had a good feeling about it. I could see myself living there. When I looked a little longer I thought, *hmmm, flat roof, lots of windows facing south. Will be a sauna here*. And there were a few other points like that. But yes, I had already decided instinctively. In fact, there was nothing more that could keep me from my decision, unless I *really* discovered something crazy yet. Here's to all the reasons not to do it, I came up with a counterargument. I have since lived there for two years with great pleasure, although I sometimes melt from the heat.

Especially in love, people act primarily on feelings and much less on facts. This also explains why people come home with a person who is actually totally doesn't fit the extensive wish list they secretly have on their nightstand. Therefore, there is no point in rationally convincing someone how nice you are. So don't go on a date regurgitating your entire resume to make yourself prove, unfortunately, a common mistake. A beautiful life is nice, but will not be the deciding factor. After all, what matters is not what a woman *thinks about* you, but how she *feels* about you.

So focus on the exchange of emotions, rather than the exchanging factual information. During dates, people mainly do the latter. They ask each other questions such as:

- + "What did you study?"
- + "What kind of work do you do?"
- + "What are your hobbies?"

Most women don't get hot or cold from this kind of factual questions. They don't feel anything. Whereas you want a woman to feel something when talking *to* you, so she can feel something *for* you, too. So in your interactions with nice women, both live and on your phone, focus mainly on the exchange of emotions. This is how you create *emotional* appeal. More on this later.

SPACE

Attraction requires a certain amount of tension. Unfortunately, many women have a natural tendency to tension precisely to avoid or break it. This just feels more comfortable and safe. For example: if a nice woman gives them just a little too long, they look away again to release the tension break up. A shame, because without tension there is no attraction. It is better to embrace the tension and, on the contrary, embrace it too create. Of course, this is literally a bit exciting at times, but it is for a good cause, just think. Here are some practical examples.

NO TENSION = NO ATTRACTION	WELL TENSION = WELL ATTRACTION
Looking away quickly after eye contact	Looking at each other just a little too long
Letting her know right away that you like her	Leaving aside for the moment exactly how much you like her
Directly throwing your whole life story on the table	Staying a little mysterious
Discussing safe topics	Talking about exciting topics such as sex
Trying to fill all the silences	Dropping a silence now and then
Always being available to her	Having a full schedule, where she does not come first

Always responding directly to her apps	Not responding immediately to her apps, variation in response time
Always being sweet and kind to her	Teasing and challenging her
Telling her why you are such a good match	Listing ridiculous reasons why it could never work between you
Meeting often and/or in quick succession	Don't meet too often, give her the chance to come to you. desire
Always agreeing with her	Daring to go against her, countering

HUNTERS AND COLLECTORS

In the time of the saber-toothed tiger, you had hunters and gatherers. By "hunters" you probably think of hairy men who clubbed a mammoth to death before dinner, and by "gatherers" to women who picked apples to make delicious apple compote to go with the mammoth. However, even in love, the man traditionally hunter and the woman collector. The man steps up to the woman, takes initiative and decorates. The woman allows herself decorating, where she can entice the hunter to decorate her by giving the hunter a "cross" that he can head in. Today, more and more women are taking on the role of hunter. By default, or as an "occasional hunter. Nevertheless, on average, traditional roles in the straight world still remain pretty persistent existence. For example, a friend who had had more than a hundred Tinder dates told me, "I have never had a man addressed on Tinder. Why should I? They do appeal to me.' Classic case of collector.

As a straight man, I was also always the collector. I kept that role after my coming-out because I wasn't used to anything else. There were however, quite little when I went into the gay bar to be wooed. I soon found out that even in the gay world most

women are collectors. But if both parties wait for the other to take the initiative, not a whole lot of collecting is done I can tell you. It happens regularly that women spend the whole evening in the pub looking at each other but taking no action. Both Women then go home disappointed. Sin! I realized that I had to break this impasse. I had to take action myself! I became a hunter and noticed a huge difference.

In this book, you will read mainly how to improve your hunting skills. develop. After all, as a hunter, you have a much greater range. In Basically, as a hunter you can hit on just about anyone, while as a collector you will miss a lot of opportunities because women are just not so quick to take initiative. I advise you to get into the generally set yourself up as a hunter. If, however, the lady you like is clearly a hunter type, set yourself up as a collector instead and Let her make a little effort for you. Hunting a hunter is counterproductive: hunters do not let themselves be caught. Hunter types can be recognized as follows: they are often dominant, leading, initiative taking, charismatic and have a lot of decorating experience.

My dabbler told me about her dating history with women. With one woman she had already had five dates without kissing. It was clear that the ladies had each other liked. After all, they went on a fifth date for a reason, and there was clearly some tension, according to my date. Finally, on date six, one of the two had the nerve to initiate kissing. Both ladies indicated that they enjoyed kissing. On subsequent dates, however, once again neither took initiative, my date told me. And so a nice contact between two nice ladies bled to death. A clear case of two collectors.

seven-headed dragon. Maybe you dream about the *princess* on the white horse. Or maybe you dream that you yourself are the princess on the white horse who hooks a fair damsel. Why is the attraction in this classic love story so great? And what can we learn from it?

LESSON 1:

If you have to make an effort for someone, you often find them more attractive.

We human beings, on average, place more value on things that we have to put effort into, than on things that just fall into our laps. If you spent a year saving for a new sofa set, you probably enjoy it more than a millionaire who suddenly decides to buy a new sofa set. For the millionaire, the sofa set is not *special*. When the princess suddenly decides to buy a damsel in the lap, the damsel is for her not special. Because the princess must first trudge through the swamp and defeat the fire-spitting dragon, the damsel is much more attractive. The princess must (literally) go through fire for the damsel! Besides: the princess is in fact a hunter, and hunters often enjoy the hunt at least as much as the prey.

LESSON 2:

In love, people want to feel feel special and worthwhile.

The damsel feels very special when someone goes to the trouble of defeating a fire-spitting dragon for her. That is quite what, but apparently the damsel is literally worth *it*, and she will feel that way. In general, that is exactly the feeling that women consciously or unconsciously get hot in love: feeling special and worthwhile. Of course, the opposite is actually unattractive. Suppose you want to date a woman, but there's an obstacle. No seven-headed dragon,

but difficult-to-match agendas, for example. Then suppose you say to that lady, 'Well, maybe we shouldn't agree. How attractive do you think that is to her? Apparently you don't really find her interesting, otherwise you'd be more make an effort. Show that you find her worthwhile by coming up with a concrete solution. For example, play sports together If her schedule is consumed by sports. Some women unconsciously, or even consciously, put obstacles in the way of not meeting up. In doing so, they test whether you are willing to make an effort for her and whether she is special enough for you. Be her princess on the white horse, overcome the obstacles and conquer her!

LESSON 3:

Tension increases attraction

It is quite exciting to face a seven-headed dragon. must defeat. Would the princess succeed or will she die in harness? As you have read, tension is essential for attraction. So actually that seven-headed dragon is your best friend! The appeal would be a lot less if the princess does not have to defeat a dragon but meets the damsel pleasantly over a pint at the local tavern.

USE YOUR EXPERIENCE

In my I-want-to-be-better-with-women quest, I secretly kept a flirtation diary for years. Often after a date or a night out that went well or where I just completely lost it. Then I brought the lessons *learned into* the practice, which made me much better and more relaxed at decorating. You don't have to become a fanatic like me, of course, but it doesn't hurt to reflect on your interactions with women (or men). That way you can learn from your experiences and you'll be able to apply the tips in this book better understand.

Analyze your dates: when did you start liking someone and why? What were you less happy about? What dates work well

for you? Use this as inspiration and feel free to go on the same date more often if it works well for you. Also, check your phone. By What messages from the other person were you triggered by? When did you say 'yes' when you were asked out? When did someone suddenly stop responding, perhaps you were asking too many boring questions? Naturally, not all women are triggered by the same thing, but you can figure out some common denominators here. Obviously, you don't want to become a womanizing robot who mindlessly sends the same message to every woman, but You can use funny jokes again. After all, that's what you do with your friends, and they won't go afterwards in triplicate a file a complaint if they find out that you told a particular joke to your great uncle before, too.

KEEP IT RELAXED

With great power comes great responsibility. If you actively work with this book you can seduce many women. Hooray! That will however, does not mean you should. Don't decorate a woman at any cost, even if in theory you could. Your pleasure and fun are important, but not as important as the feeling the woman gets from interacting with you. Keep it a little relaxed. Of course, no is no. In that case, be relaxed, Understanding and listen to her. Do not use 'decorating tricks' with a negative slant. An example is to say something negative about her so that she will like you ('negging'), such as: 'Nice dress you have on, but those shoes underneath can really not.' This really seems to be able to work, but it is not at all necessary and, moreover, just plain stupid to insult someone in order to decorating that person.

When flirting and dating, don't attach too much value to the outcome either. Often during flirting and dating you have a certain desired outcome in mind. Maybe you want to kiss, have sex with her, or go on a date. If that doesn't work out, don't see that as a problem And stay relaxed. Don't get pushy and don't try to get the result you want. Women are already approached enough by people with certain expectations who get frustrated when the women don't go along with that

GO. Thank a woman who rejects you for her honesty. Move on to the next woman. Flirt because flirting is fun, speak women because addressing women is fun. Let go of the outcome. This is called freedom of outcome.

WHAT DO YOU ACTUALLY WANT?

Why did you buy this book in the first place? Yes okay, you want to learn how to get better at flirting and decorating, but what do you want now exactly?

- + Want a nice friend with four kids and a labrador?
- + Do you want so many dabbles that you have to create an Excel sheet To keep track of them in?
- + Just want to experience dating women?

Choose a goal so you can take targeted action. If you would like a relationship, it is not so useful to look for it in a bar where mostly straight women come. If you like to have a one-night stand, that "straight bar" is actually a fantastic option. There you have after all, little competition from other women, plus most straight women do fantasize about an adventure with a woman. More on that later. Keep your goal in mind as you read this book. Some tips will help you get of dabbles, other tips focus on finding a girlfriend. Of course, your goal may simply be to brush up on your flirting and decorating skills.

THE PINK BRIL

Love makes blind. For this very reason, before you start dating seriously, it is important to think about what you are looking for in a woman. Of course, you don't want to compile a list of 10 minimum requirements that your future partner *must meet*, because then you'll be stuck forever single. Do think about what you *really* value about someone with Who you want to share your life with. Ambition? Humor? A positive attitude? Animal lover? Family man? Try, even though it's hard, when you're in love to take off your rose-colored glasses and check if she fits

At your most important desire(s). Am willing to let a woman go if not.

This is all the more important if you have little experience with women. After all, then there is a good chance that you will fall in love quickly.

Perhaps dating women turns out to be so much more fun for you than dating men, or you have been so eagerly awaiting your first date with a woman that you are quickly impressed with her. It doesn't hurt to date several women first and find out what you now find important in a woman, before you make your opens up to a relationship.

Mindset: I'm going to find out whether this woman is good enough for me.

Which celebrity do you secretly have a crush on? Scarlet Johansson? Katherine Moennig? Laura Preppon? Imagine being allowed to go on a date with her. How would you behave then? You might feel a little intimidated and therefore start trying to prove that you are really really cool too, by telling all kinds of things about yourself. As you have been able to read (section 'Facts versus feelings'), however, actually convincing someone to like you makes no sense. But above all, why should you go and prove yourself to her at all? Okay, she's a beautiful woman and she can sing/act/play the triangle nicely, but what else do you know about her? Maybe she's a bitch or immensely boring. You don't really know anything about her, which is why you want to explore whether this lady is a bit of fun and whether she is a good fit for you. Poke through her celebrity and/or pretty appearance and try to find out who she really is.

Compare it to buying a new refrigerator. Imagine, in your search for a new refrigerator, you walk into a store. Suddenly you see among all the boring gray refrigerators a beautiful bright red refrigerator. You're actually sold immediately. So do you buy the refrigerator right away? No! You research first critically if the refrigerator suits you. You check what the technical gadgets and whether the refrigerator is a bit durable. The salesperson will have to work hard for a while to get you to convince. In other words, you are *enthusiastic* but not yet *sold*. That is exactly the attitude you want to have during a date; *enthusiastic*

but not *sold* yet. In other words, you have the mindset *I'm going to once Investigating whether this woman is nice enough for me/suitable for me*. This makes you much more relaxed during your date than when you are trying to prove yourself. You are also more likely to come home with a woman who actually suits you.

Moreover: if you have an inquisitive attitude instead of a demonstrative one, she will start to behave more like a "salesman" and do her best for you. And as a result, she will automatically find you more attractive (see lesson 1 of the 'princess on the white horse' section). As soon as she notices that you are completely 'sold' before long, you are suddenly a lot less interesting. She no longer has to make an effort and all tension is gone. You can actively express this mindset by making positive-critical comments. For example, if you are looking for an epicurean, and she turns out to be a health fanatic, you say, "Really cool that you are so into your health. But you're not one of those people I can never take to my favorite Mexican restaurant with unlimited dessert buffet, are you?"

Mindset: I WILL GIVE THIS WOMAN A GOOD SENSE AND A FUN TIME DELIVERY

Many people in love are primarily focused on taking. They want all kinds of things from the other person, such as attention, affirmation, a date or sex, and go out of their way to get it. By focusing on their own needs, they have little real regard for the other person. Instead, I would ask you to focus primarily on *giving* rather than *taking*. Don't think about how you can get what you want, but how you can make her feel good and have a good time. This is a more enjoyable endeavor for both of you, and it will benefit you in the end. After all, people fall in love with someone who gives them a can make them feel good about themselves. So they don't fall in love with you as a person, but with the feeling you can give them. I know, Very selfish of those people. But that's just the way it works.

Think: how do I organize a nice date/how do I have a nice conversation/how do I give her the best sex? The important thing is not to

to expect in return. So don't give a massage because you might get a massage in return. Remember that the most important thing a woman is looking for is to feel special and wanted. That does not mean, by the way, that you should shower her with gifts or give yourself away; that is not attractive.

FLIRTEN

Become a flirt

Flirting arouses emotions in the other person and creates tension, both important ingredients for attraction. Flirting is the easiest way to have more fun interactions with women to have. Many people think of flirting as something you do mainly in certain circumstances, such as at the pub or on a date. The tricky thing about that, is that you then have to turn on your "flirt mode," so to speak, at that moment. You've been at the office all week Sat with your head in all sorts of boring Excel sheets, and then suddenly you 'have' to start flirting. You think in the pub *oh yes, flirting...*

how to do that again? Should I start winking at someone now? If you normally never flirt except with the woman of your dreams, that's asking for trouble. You suddenly have to do something that you are not used to and that too with the woman you like. Mission Impossible.

It is much easier and, above all, much more fun to flirt all the time. Flirting is not only done with cute women, flirting is basically done with everyone. With your friends, your colleagues and with your neighbor of 84. Flirting is really just a gift from you to the world: you bring cheerfulness, positive energy, lightheartedness and spontaneity. When you flirt with everyone, you become flirting is second nature to you. For you as a natural flirt is flirting at the times when it "matters" such as in the pub or on dates, then a breeze. You probably won't have even realize anymore that you are flirting; you have become *unconsciously competent*. Flirting, by the way, in the gay world is still more important than in the straight world. After all: when a straight man addresses a straight woman or vice versa, for example, in the

pub, the underlying intent is often clear. When you walk up to a woman, your intentions may not be as clear.

This is how to flirt

The most important thing is to flirt from a *giving intention*.

Don't expect anything in return from the other person, but flirt because it's fun and because you can. Here are some examples:

- + Use humor and self-mockery (see the humor section).
- + Touching (see the physical contact section).
- + Plagues.
- + Challenge.
- + Playfulness (see the playful section).
- + Being cheeky (see the "cheeky" section).
- + Give compliments (see the compliments section).
- + Eye contact. Look at the other person just a little too long, too often and/or sultry to.

Build your flirting skills slowly, starting in a way that feels safe for you. In what ways do you flirt most easily? For many people, it's giving compliments. And with whom do you flirt easiest? Perhaps with your best friends, or just with a stranger on the street who you never see again anyway. Start there and build up to people with whom you find it a little more exciting, until flirting with everyone falls into your comfort zone.

Flirting with a stranger sounds exciting, but if you pay attention you will find that secretly quite a few people do it. For example, the classic one where the bus driver sees you walk in with the flowers you bought for your grandmother, and say to you, 'Aaah how nice, you didn't have to do that now, y'all.' Or just jokingly say to a good friend who cooked for you, "Looks good! Oh and the food, too, for that matter.' Flirting is not that difficult. Don't set the bar too high for yourself and feel free to start with this kind of blandness. When flirting in the pub, the easiest way to flirt is with your eyes.

Most women find teasing and challenging especially difficult, even though these are excellent ways to flirt. Therefore, here are some examples:

- + 'Blame' her for doing something *especially for you*:
 - 'How nice that you have this beautiful dress especially for me attracted. How did you know red is my favorite color?
 - How nice that you came to this coffee shop especially for me.
- + If she brags about something, don't respond substantively but say, "You know what I find so attractive about you?" (Wait for her answer or read a breath). "Your modesty.
- + Someone stumbles around you: 'You don't have to fall for me, you know.'
- + Judge her (playfully):
 - 'Aah, so you work in healthcare. Nice, I could use a caring use type.'
 - 'Cool that you are so involved with your business. I do like ambitious women.'
- + 'Blame' her for hitting on *you*:
 - When she gets you a beer: 'Do you want to get me drunk or something?'
 - If she does something that you could with some creativity interpret it as an attempt at seduction: 'You really need to work on your seduction skills, you know.'
- + You stood in the pub chatting with her for a while. Later she stands and orders something at the bar. Then say to her, "How sweet that you're getting me a drink!
- + Challenge her to a certain action:
 - At the pub: 'Hey, your girlfriend and that guy she's with stands talking like each other, but they undertake but no action. Maybe we should demonstrate.

For that matter, the most important thing is not even what you say, but how you say it. Put a smile on your muzzle when you tease her or

challenges, that way it stays lighthearted. Even wrong/exaggerated flirts can actually be a lot of fun, as long as you leave with an extra-wide smile

turn out that you know yourself that this is very exaggerated. The point is to have a nice little chat.

I had just come out of the closet and would have my first date with a woman that day. I would meet her right after work on the terrace. That day, a colleague with whom I was going to hang out asked if I was going to do anything fun that night. I wasn't out of the closet at work yet, but I didn't want to lie, so I openly told her about my date, causing me to pardon my first office-coming-out to catch. I got a very nice response and went to my date feeling good.

I was still a bit nervous, but when I saw my date I immediately thought: *oh this is going to be fun anyway I think.* And fun it certainly was! We chatted a lot. After a few beers we said goodbye. I waved her off at the train station and then felt a little confused. *Was this a date?* I had actually felt like I had just been sitting with a friend on a terrace. I realized that I had also behaved exactly the same as I had with a friend on a terrace: just cozy, but without flirting or paying attention to attraction.