# The Six Guys to Avoid Dating in Improv Class

Part of the appeal, as a girl, of taking an improv class is that every magazine tells you it's a great place to meet guys; and that's true. Yes, you want to be the next Tina Fey or Amy Poehler or a hybrid of the two; Amy Fey, but you also want to meet a cute guy who makes you laugh. Luckily, in most improv situations you are outnumbered by guys, but notice I said guys… not men. Now, let me preface this by saying that some of the most amazing gents I have met in the world I have met in improv class. However, when and if you are looking for someone to date you need to be wary in an improv situation. You may think that you have met your Will Ferrell prince charming, but you could be horribly HORRIBLY wrong. Here are the six different types of guys to avoid dating in an improv class:

1. **The Expert:** He is a comedy nerd to the extreme, but his area of expertise seems to extend far, beyond which Arrested Development episode is the best (Season 2 episode 4, before the whole series fell apart with that whole Mr. F plot). He is the voice of authority when it comes to everything and is legitimately upset when you don't agree with him. He will make you feel incredibly guilty for having never watched *The Wire*, "I mean it's a great show and it's almost an atrocity you wasted your life not watching it". And notice that when he introduces himself he will always say that he is a "writer" even though he has never been paid to do it. He is not interested in acting and thinks its bourgeois that you booked a Pepsi commercial.

   In class, you notice that most of his scenes revolve around pop culture references like the "freaks and geeks is not as good as Undeclared," which doesn't apply to your scene about kids at a birthday party.

   After a few dates you grow tired of his plaid shirts, boat shoes, and constant need to ridicule your love of *Anchorman*. Besides, the sex isn't very good. If you hear about his college bespectacled girlfriend one more time you are going to kill yourself. And shouting out the major breakthroughs that the show *Community* has made while he cums just creeps you out.

   Duration: 2 months

2. **The Quiet One:** He doesn't talk a lot in your class, but when he does it is hilarious. His one liner about moose playing volleyball made you laugh so hard you peed a little. You can't get a handle on him. What is hiding under that mysterious stone face? So you pursue him: friending him on facebook, sending him cheeky messages about yes anding, and stalking him to his favorite coffee place. Finally, you guys set a date to see Edward Sharpe at the Echoplex and you could not be more excited. But the thing is…. He doesn't say anything. You go on the date and a few more without learning if he actually likes you. You are basically dating the comedic Don Draper. And the

awful thing is that you start to worry that maybe what is hiding under his chocolaty shell is nothing; he might be empty.

In class he is distant, but that is nothing new. You start to realize that he is not a genius, but a lazy scene partner. He lets you do all the work while he waits to say something funny; that's not how life works.

There is no sex life with the quiet one. Since you seem to be the aggressor and you can't tell if he's into it you never invite him up. He kisses you goodbye once, but it's on your cheek. What does it all mean?

Duration: 3 weeks

3. **The Douche:** On the first day of class this guy made three weed jokes after only getting up to improv once. He reeks of Ed Hardy cologne and the jewelry around his neck jingles more than your chandelier earrings. He's obviously a Neanderthal and way below someone you usually date, but he asks you out. You're not dating anyone right now, so why not get to know this guy. What if underneath all the hair gel and cargo shorts he's a really good guy? So, you start dating him after your third class and quickly reaffirm your suspicions that he's a total misogynist. When he catches you reading jezebel on his computer he tell you that he, "hates that feminist bullshit." And when you try to put on *Bridesmaids* he asks if, "that's supposed to prove to me that women are actually funny?" You are really pissed and tell him that you are a female comedienne and he says, "Oh really." Why are you dating this douchebag? Are you working out daddy issues with this guy?

   In class, you start avoiding getting up to do improv with him because you don't want to be faux raped in a scene. He always seems to be doing drugs or referencing poop in the most innocent of scenes. You begin to resent him and realize he has no actual comedic talent. You know it has to end, but it doesn't…

   Because the sex is amazing!!! Something about this cave man mentality makes you so angry that you want to show him what's what, in bed. It's hot and is probably the only reason you are in this thing. The most infuriating thing is his giant poster of Andrew Dice Clay that stares down at you as you guys do it.

   Duration: 5 months

4. **The Hot Idiot**: What is a model doing in your improv class? His agent probably told him to do this, so he would get cast in more commercials. Thank God for that agent because you spend every single class drooling over his angular jaw, broad shoulders, and baby blue eyes. Suddenly, when he gets up to do his first game of zip, zap, zop, you realize that he is without a doubt

the dumbest person you have ever met. He cannot comprehend the rules of improv or being in a scene. But he looks just like Bradley Cooper, Josh Duhamel, and Ryan Gosling rolled into one so you decide you can get over his sadly low IQ. After four weeks into class you finally work up the nerve to ask him for a drink. He meets you at a trendy bar where he used to work bottle service. His stories of modeling are boring as shit, but you stare into his eyes envisioning the amazing bone structure your children could have. On your second date he confuses Pakistan for Palestine, which you rationalize to be a mistake anyone could make. But then, later in the date you have to explain that Margaret Thatcher was a real person and not just a character played by Meryl Streep. How can he be THIS stupid?

In class, you start to feel bad for him. He's like a lost lamb when he gets onstage. The sad thing is that even the teacher takes pity on him. He's in the bubble! Just like Jon Hamm on 30 rock! If Liz Lemon couldn't deal with that, how can you?

But, ok you'll admit it. You slept with him after your first date. And you don't regret it. Just the sight of his washboard abs makes your whole improv class worth it. (Are you becoming as bad as "The Douchebag?") Again, he's not very good in bed because he never had to be. But then while cuddling he makes some remark about you being like the teacher he never had and you eye the window planning your escape.

Duration: 2 dates

5. **The "All In" Guy**: This guy is the star of your improv class. He is funny, well liked, and super sincere. This guy is boyfriend material. He even has a professional job as a writer's assistant on one of your favorite shows. He's perfect and gasp he starts pursuing you. He asks you on a real date to go rock climbing. He actually planned a fun date. Oh My GOD! Your first date is amazing. You are ready for this and it's only your first week of improv class. The next day he texts you to come hang out. This guy isn't playing games. But then it starts to become obsessive. What are you doing? Where are you going? Do I know the girls your going to see *The Artist* with? Why don't you want to see it with me? Wait, hold up. You've been dating this guy for a week and when did he get so needy? Plus, he is not your boyfriend yet, but he sure is acting like it. You hang in there because he was amazing on your first date. That guy is in there somewhere, right?

   In class, whenever you guys do a scene together he brings up some really intimate emotional baggage. "Why don't you play with someone else's heart like a toy!" he wails. It stops being improv and starts to be a scene from *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*; you did not sign up for this. Midway through the class everyone goes to get drinks and you talk to another guy. "All In" Guy is so upset he tells everyone in your class that you are cheating on him. Again,

you have only been dating two weeks. By the end of the class you can't even talk to him. He stares daggers at you whenever you get onstage and leaves Emily Dickinson poems at your door to describe your lovemaking.

The sex started off ok, but then it became way too emotional. He told you that he wanted to "know your soul" while already being inside you. When you start to distance yourself he cries like a baby and says that no one will ever love him. You hold him and look at the clock.

Duration: 4 weeks

6. **The Weirdo**: Why is he wearing a Davy Crockett style hat and pink nail polish to improv? This guy is trying way too hard to be edgy, but surprisingly he is good at improv. What is it about him that intrigues you? Maybe you too want to be different, but you don't know how. This guy has mastered it. One day he comes to class in a kilt. The next day he shows up wearing a full Native American Headdress. And by the fourth week everyone is placing bets on what he is going to do next. If nothing else, this guy is committed to being different. In fact, even the way he asks you out is novel. He makes a scavenger hunt for you that ends at a duck pond and you then go on a date. It was so creative you don't even mind that he has bits of breadcrumbs stuck in his beard. But is a relationship really built on a rejection of mainstream values? His weird vibe starts to get annoying fast. No, you do not want to pierce his tongue before you go to that party or have him bite you like a vampire. And when he slips ecstasy into your coffee on the way to work, so that you can truly experience the day, you know that this has to end.

   In class you remain mesmerized by his offbeat choices. Why can't you be this creative? Oh yeah, you don't smoke pot and do mushrooms every other minute.

   The sex is good, but you don't understand why he has to yell African tribal chants into your ears. It's not erotic.

   Duration: 1 month and a half

Now while I have mentioned avoiding these people in all honesty I haven't. I have dated versions of all these guys and love dating improv guys. They are secretly the best type of guys; a little bit sensitive and a little bit rock n roll. So, go forth and make all kinds of improv/boy mistakes.