



TYPED (PART 2)—ALMIE ROSE

**D**O YOU BELIEVE IN HAVING A CERTAIN TYPE WHEN IT COMES TO DATING AND ATTRACTION? I DO. IT MAKES SENSE TO ME. YOU LIKE A CERTAIN TYPE OF MUSIC, OF FASHION, OF FOOD—SO WHY NOT SOMEONE YOU DATE?



Photo by Andrew Matusik; Dolls meticulously styled by: Dale Johnson / Artists by Timothy Priano

According to my friend Molly Lambert, my type is shaggy-haired boys who might be in popular VH1 bands. She has me pegged. How did I not see this? Can you identify your type, and if so, do you fight it? A lot of people want to deny their type. Perhaps it's something inside themselves that makes them hesitant about admitting what they want. I believe that those we seek (whether it's for friendship or more) are in some ways a reflection of ourselves. We don't exist in a vacuum, unless you're Patrick Bateman. If you're Patrick Bateman, you're probably not reading this, and that's probably a good thing.

When you go for your type, do you find it works out, or do you find yourself disappointed? I have another friend who tells me that it wasn't until she dated outside her type that she found a deep love and connection. But, just maybe, that was her type all along! INCEPTION.

She suggests I try an experiment to date outside of my type. But where's the fun in that? If I'm only attracted to a certain type of man, why fight it? Oh, right, because I wind up getting hurt every single time. So which is worse? Going after the kinds of people you're interested in, even though those people usually wind up being toxic, or going after people you would never look at twice in hopes of being happy but with the strong possibility of winding up hopelessly bored and forcing a connection? Isn't that just settling? I have to have hope that I'm going to meet the shaggy-haired VH1 rocker who isn't going to make the mistakes that so many others made before him. It doesn't mean that I have to

say no to anyone who wasn't in Matchbox Twenty or Train, but it doesn't mean that I should force something with someone I don't spark with just for the sake of trying something different.

A lot of women write to me, saying, "This guy likes me and he's nice and he's smart and kind of funny, but I don't know, I think he looks a little like Yoda and he's just not my type, but my friends say I should just go out with him and see what happens. Should I?" No. If you don't want to, why should you? Going out on a date with Yoda is the definition of settling. People say I'm too harsh, that you have to sit down with people and talk to them and give them a chance for chemistry to develop. No. That's how friendships develop. Not chemistry. You either feel something enough to explore or you don't. If the guy won a Nobel Peace Prize and donates millions to orphans every week, that's great, but it doesn't mean you have to date him. He's someone else's type, not yours, and that's fine!

There is no point in settling, ever. Life is too short. There's too much to do, too many people to meet, too many things to conquer. By all means, try something new, but make sure it's not out of fear that you're going to wind up alone. To quote Madonna, "Second best is never enough / you'll do much better, baby, on your own." It's unfortunate that fear can be a great motivator. Be fearless. Don't settle. Don't fight your type, just be smart. And if you want to try something new, do it...but again, don't do it out of fear or a sense of obligation to be nice. You don't owe anyone anything, except yourself.