Why Wouldn't You Just Leave?

Amber Williams

First, fall in love. Fall for his gleaming smile, his quick-witted yet corny pick-up lines, and his promises to treat you like royalty. He loves you! He said it on the first date! In fact, you are everything that he has been looking for in life. Ignore the whispers about you two. He may have been a player when he was younger, but he is different now. Nevermind the snarky remarks he sometimes utters about his former lovers. All of his exes were crazy. You are different just like he told you. Don't ask him how they were crazy; that makes him angry. He could never joke about how unattractive and stupid you are. And when he does, laugh it off. It doesn't mean anything; it's just good fun. And when he spits venom at you, understand that sometimes he will call you a bitch when he's angry. Don't be a bitch. Don't make him angry. And when you do, duck when he hurls the Precious Moments angels that you inherited from your grandmother. He didn't intend to throw it so close to your head! He was aiming for the wall! It was probably your fault anyway. He will accuse you of cheating, so give in to every demand he has to show you that you weren't. Stop talking to your friends just like he asked. They could never understand how sweet he is when he is happy. When was the last time you made him happy? Let him control your bank account so he knows you're not spending money on another man. Don't question the sweet, nutty perfume radiating off him when he stumbles through the door while he should've been sleeping. You are still the only girl. Buy some opaque foundation; you'll need it later to cover up the bruises from what is left over after his drunken nights out. Tell the doctors at the ER that you just fell. Why was this flyer in your discharge papers? Sheltering Wings? What kind of sorry soul would need that? If he ever gets that bad, just leave. Or don't. It was your fault anyway.