

Life After Love – Intro
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Life After Love

He's gone now. That man that held your heart for so long, isn't coming back. The front door has shut behind him for the very last time. It's over – but your life isn't. What are you going to do now?

And, is there, really, life after love?

Yes, there is.

But, whether you are widowed, divorced or separated – even if you're the one that called the whole thing off –there's no denying that it is hard to handle everything all alone. But you can do it. Millions of women like you, and me, are coping with the same issues everyday.

How they are coping – and succeeding – is a matter seldom discussed. The silence isolates all 11.5 million of us from one another and the world. As of today, the silence ends here in this corner of the newspaper where we'll meet every week. Welcome to *Life After Love*, a column just for you...about all of us.

Together we will hear from the experts on everything from managing money to raising kids. We will learn how to best select a banker, attorney, and stock broker – and it isn't from the yellow pages. We will solve the puzzle on how to hire repairmen without paying full price. We'll learn how to make simple repairs and improvements ourselves. We will learn how to beat car dealers at their own game. Learn to protect our credit rating from the dear old ex-husband, and our kids from feeling unwanted in Dad's "new family." We will learn how to flirt and date again. And more, so much more, to elevate ourselves beyond mere existence and back into the world of the living. We will learn from each other and professionals right here on this page.

In a nutshell, we will finally discover everything that's never taught to little girls, but is expected from every single woman.

We will hear the stories of celebrities and everyday women on how they coped – and won – over obstacles we all encounter and fears we all face. Readers' questions on the real problems women face everyday will be answered here as well. Mail or email your questions to the address below. Through our interaction in this column we will know that we are not alone.

We will see that it's normal to rejoice in our newfound freedom one moment, and tremble in fear of the unknown the next. Each of us will understand that we are not alone in the world's toughest balancing act in juggling laundry, grocery shopping, taxes, medical care, PTA meetings, guilt attacks, and job performance.

When we are at home, we think we should be at work. When we are at work, we worry about home. We may lose our sense of self in the process of daily life, but we seldom lose our sense of purpose.

This column is about the no-nonsense means to achieve that purpose and rediscover ourselves. Welcome, keep reading, keep writing to me, and keep trying.

As to fashion tips, so sorry. I'm proud if I can just get the laundry washed. So, here's my only fashion statement: Look at what the skinny models are wearing in the magazines this month – and then don't ever wear that!

See you next week.