

Transcript for Toolbox | Long-Distance Relationships (Episode 301)

Full show notes found here:

<https://theartofcharm.com/podcast-episodes/aoc-toolbox-long-distance-relationships-episode-301/>

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So, long distance relationships here with Kim Seltzer from The Art of Charm and I just got called out on some guy stuff because I said that -- how did that even start out? I was saying -- oh, because I'm in a long distance relationship right now, regardless of people going, "Oh, L.A. to San Francisco doesn't really count," but it does. I was talking to my girlfriend and I was like, "Well, you're not going to be up there for too long. I'm going to import you back to L.A. and I didn't want to say move

in with my girlfriend so I was telling Kim, I was telling you --
what did I say? I said --

KIM: It was classic.

JORDAN: Instead of saying move in with my girlfriend, I said, "And then I will be living in the exact same place as her," or something like that.

KIM: Right, like a business transaction.

JORDAN: Right, exactly. Because I was all being shy about it.

KIM: Right, right. Well, and I think that just goes to show, especially when you're in a long distance relationship, the pacing is always different.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: So that'd be almost too intense to say, "Oh, we're moving in together."

JORDAN: Right because it sounds like an announcement and I'm like I don't want that announcement.

KIM: Right, you already just committed. Let's not get a little more than that.

JORDAN: Yeah, I put it on Facebook, that counts.

KIM: That's right, yeah.

JORDAN: That's good enough.

KIM: You're off the market, that's good.

JORDAN: Yeah but now it is kind of necessity based because again, she's long distance and if she moves to the same city as me, it's kind of like, why? Why is she just going to live in a separate place in

the same city as me? It seems like it would make sense but especially in her situation where's she's still studying -- she's not working as much anymore because she's studying for certain exams, CPA exams, that she's like, "Oh, it's going to be kind of tricky to make ends meet." And then, here's the real deal though, you know what's going to happen if she gets a place here. I'm going to just be there six nights a week if not seven or if I get a place and she gets a place -- a separate place outside AOC headquarters, because I live in the annex to AOC right now -- I'm just going to go to her place six nights a week or she's just going to come to my place six nights a week and there's going to be one vacant place that's going to cause her to work a crap ton more.

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: And then all of our stuff is going to be in separate places. So it just seems kind of dumb.

KIM: Well on a practical sense, yeah.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: But then there's the psychological stance --

JORDAN: Right.

KIM: -- of still having your own place, quote unquote --

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: -- versus you guys actually doing this together.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: And your announcement didn't sound like you were moving in together.

JORDAN: Yeah, because I didn't say that. Because I felt like I'd get judged.

KIM: That's right.

JORDAN: I felt like I'd get judged. You better believe there's a walk in closet at AoC headquarters that I'm keeping. I'll be like, "This is my personal space." I'll have a storage unit with a bunch of crap that I never touch.

KIM: Yeah, well there's a lot of issues here and this kind of speaks to what we were talking about today because not only -- you have to navigate that whole thing, the living situation, but you've been used to travelling back and forth, she's a student, you're working, there's different roles --

JORDAN: She's a student again. Just to be clear, she's not in college. She's already had a job for several years but she's back in school getting a professional degree.

KIM: But it's a different mindset. She's studying, she has a different thing going on in the day than you do.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: So now you have these things that you have to grapple with and it's a lot.

JORDAN: Yeah, we should do a whole show on, "Should I move in with my girlfriend?" not me personally but a lot of guys are going to ask that.

KIM: It's huge.

JORDAN: Here's another thing. I work from home, she studies all day, and then after she's done with that, she's probably going to work from home too. Two people in the same place all day --

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: I feel like there could be some tension there that wouldn't be -- or even if there's no tension, how am I going to be sure to get a ton of work done or how's she going to get all of her studying done because we're going to be distracting each other?

KIM: Exactly.

JORDAN: I have to deal with this stuff that I've never had to deal with before.

KIM: Do you want to talk about this?

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: I think maybe we should have a little session here.

JORDAN: I think we can have a session.

KIM: Do you want to go on the couch, because it's fine?

JORDAN: I'm already on a futon.

KIM: I know but you might need to lay down. I am a therapist.

JORDAN: That's true, you are a therapist.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: Well, okay, let's ditch long distance relationships part two and do it later or move into it in a few minutes, depending on how much time is left.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: Because now I'm -- yeah, okay.

KIM: Okay, lay down.

JORDAN: Is that a requirement that people lay down? What's up with the lay down thing?

KIM: I don't even know where that came from, honestly. And I should know the history of that but I think in the old days with Freud and all and the [00:05:49] and all that. They actually laid down on the couch and talked about their problems.

JORDAN: All right, I'm going to lay down on this dirty ass futon.

KIM: Yeah you'll be more relaxed. You'll be able to think.

JORDAN: I should have gotten a pillow from one of the AoC beds.
[00:06:03]

KIM: Yeah, the beautiful beds. You can sit up a little bit, it's okay.

JORDAN: I'll be fine. All right, so you lead because you're the therapist and I'm your patient.

KIM: Well yeah, so we have a lot of issues here. We have this long distance relationship that's about to become not a long distance relationship. She's moving here.

JORDAN: Yep, back here. Yeah.

KIM: Yeah, back here. But you guys didn't really date though, when she was here before, right?

JORDAN: Not very long, no.

KIM: So it started really when she actually picked up and moved.

JORDAN: We had a weird relationship, yeah. Because we met right before she moved and had clicked so well that it was like, "Aw crap, now we're going to have to do this long distance thing," because I was hoping to just -- I was just hoping to hook up and then have a friend in San Francisco.

KIM: Uh-huh.

JORDAN: And visit. But she was awesome so I was like, "Ugh, okay."

KIM: And she was hot?

JORDAN: And really cool, super cool person. And she was like, "We're clicking really well," and then she postponed her move for a little while and stayed as long as she could, because she was just moving back to her parents' place and selling her condo.

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: And then she came down to get some of her stuff in air quotes the next weekend, and stayed for like six days, and then I went up there for a wedding that wasn't a wedding that I actually went to -- I drove a friend up there for a wedding and stayed there for like four days. So, back and forth, back and forth, and now we don't have to lie about why we're going there because now it's just like --

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: So, that's what's been happening for the past several months.

KIM: And I was going to say, and how long has it been?

JORDAN: It's been a few months.

KIM: Wow.

JORDAN: So, it's really fast, so --

KIM: Fast and furious.

JORDAN: And I'm not like that at all. I'm slow play McGee, where I'm like a typical guy. Not afraid of commitment but like, "What's the rush? Come on."

KIM: Right and actually I'm going to pause here because this is a good issue to bring up with not just your situation but also the

long distance thing. I think there's two things that also are happening here. One is, when you find somebody you really like and you click with and you mesh in all aspects, which obviously you did --

JORDAN: Mm-hmm.

KIM: -- it's easy to just get hot and heavy fast.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: And if you were local, it would be an interesting thing to see your pacing of it but because she went away, there was this intensity that happened that doesn't happen when you're in the same city. It's almost like a ping pong --

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: This intensity that happens but they, "Okay yeah, but then I'm going back and I can chill."

JORDAN: Right, yeah. Because I often wonder, I'm like, if she lived in the same city would it be magnesium hot and fast and burn out really early?

KIM: Exactly.

JORDAN: Or, would it be like, I wouldn't let that happen. One of us, and probably me, knowing myself, wouldn't let it happen. I'd be like, she's great and I kind of want to see her all the time but she lives so close that I can see her all the time. Let's see each other two to three times a week instead of every day.

KIM: Exactly.

JORDAN: I feel like I would probably put the brakes on it a little bit.

KIM: Right, so you would have to self-motivate to do that.

JORDAN: Right.

KIM: You would have to almost create a plan for yourself, like, "Ugh, this is getting too hot and heavy, too intense," --

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: -- it's almost built in when it's long distance.

JORDAN: Right.

KIM: So then, on top of it, when you go to visit her or she comes and visits you, it's like a mini honeymoon --

JORDAN: Right.

KIM: -- and a vacation, right?

JORDAN: Yes.

KIM: So, you have no problems of the work week, it's stress free, you clear your schedule so that you guys can spend time with each other --

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: -- and it's magical and it's like a drug.

JORDAN: Exactly, and so I'm a little worried about that because I'm thinking, **** has never gotten real and never will get real as long you're in a long distance relationship, except for something doesn't typically doesn't get to me like some jealousy issue because I'm not there.

KIM: Ah, yeah.

JORDAN: That I don't really worry about because I expect those. I've had long distance relationships in the past, I understand that jealousy can crop up because --

KIM: Oh, my God, totally.

JORDAN: -- you've got , "Who are you hanging out with," and stuff like that. I don't worry about that as much. But otherwise, **** never gets real. No one ever goes, "Why do you always throw your clothes on the floor," or, "Why do you always da, da, da?"

KIM: Totally.

JORDAN: That never actually happens because even if you do annoying stuff, you're like, "Oh, I'm only here for three days."

KIM: Exactly.

JORDAN: And we're staying at a hotel. It's not a big deal. Sure, throw your clothes on the floor, we're at a hotel. Little does she know that I always throw my clothes on the floor and that's going to drive her effing crazy or like --

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: -- that I buy stuff and leave it in the fridge too long or whatever stupid thing that gets annoying after a while.

KIM: Totally.

JORDAN: Being late for stuff or going to bed too late or just little stuff that can get to people that all piles up when you're in a real relationship never ripens --

KIM: Yes, well put.

JORDAN: -- when you're long distance because one of you is always in vacation mode, even if she comes down here and I have to do tons of work, I'm like, "Ooh, I've got my friends in town," It's like when you have your parents in town.

KIM: Exactly.

JORDAN: You're at work but you're like, "Whatever, my parents are here. I'm going out to dinner later," I'm kind of mailing it in at work because I'm just trying to kill the day, stuff like that. And you try to focus and it's a little bit harder. But if that person lives in the same town as you, all that goes away. So, my fear is -- I can't really wrap my head around it so I'm not too worried about it but a fear, I guess, is what happens when that excitement dies down and **** gets real and the day to day routine becomes a thing? How much work is it going to be to not let that affect the relationship or not kill the relationship?

I don't think it will because I'm a grown ass man and she's an adult too but I feel like if I was younger, and I was in a similar situation, I'd be like, "Oh, this isn't as exciting anymore because now we're in the same place and, oh, well." You see that crap happen all the time with people who meet on vacation. They go back home, they date for a few weeks and they're all excited and then they're like, "Ah, whatever. I've got **** to do," and then it just dies.

KIM: Exactly, yeah. Well and obviously you've got a good head on your shoulders and we can sit here and be intellectual about it but the truth of the matter is, it is what it is.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: And I don't care how smart you are --

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: -- and what age you are, you're going to be dealing with these realities.

JORDAN: Yeah, yeah. It's going to come about.

KIM: Totally, totally.

JORDAN: The way I look at it is, I haven't had a girlfriend that I've cared about in so long that the reason I chose her was because I can understand how we would be compatible outside of just having fun when I go to San Francisco and when she comes here. But, I could also be wrong, I don't know.

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: What if I'm wrong and I don't want to be?

KIM: Right, exactly. So, these are good things to talk about. Also, if you look at just the phases of dating, they get sped up.

JORDAN: Mm-hmm, yeah.

KIM: So here's my theory, I believe that there is three phases in dating.

JORDAN: Three phases of dating?

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: Interesting.

KIM: Yeah, so this is how it goes. So the first phase is the courting phase. It's kind of like the cat and mouse chase, it's guy gets girl, girl wants the guy to chase her -- it's all the stuff that people a lot of times say games, but it's not, it's just human nature.

JORDAN: Sure.

KIM: The bottom line is that guys like to chase and women like to be chased.

JORDAN: Yes.

KIM: That's just it. So that's the courting. Then the second phase is what I just call pure dating and that is maybe you're dating

somebody for a while and it's three months in, you're not committed yet but you're trying to see if this is the person you could really --

JORDAN: What does that mean, committed, from your perspective? Exclusive?

KIM: Well, not dating other people.

JORDAN: Okay, okay.

KIM: Yeah. Is that -- what about you? Is it different?

JORDAN: That's what that means, I guess. But I feel like three months of dating is a long time to date one person and also be like, "Oh, also I'm going out with a ton of other girls."

KIM: Well, that's true too.

JORDAN: That's weird.

KIM: But I think it depends on the situation. It depends on the age of the person.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: People who are over 40, that's not such a weird timeframe because maybe you don't see each other as often.

JORDAN: That's true because you guys have other **** going on.

KIM: We've got a lot of **** going on.

JORDAN: People my age -- I'm 33, for the guys just tuning in and haven't heard that a million times. I'm 33 right now so the idea of dating somebody for more than a month or something like that and also being like, "I'm not sure, maybe I should date other people," is -- unless you're -- well, I guess there's two ways to look at it.

KIM: Mm-hmm.

JORDAN: It's a little weird to not do the exclusivity thing unless you're just not going to do that for a really long time. I often talk about on this show how if you're -- let's assume you have to date 50-100 -- let's assume for the sake of math, you have to date 100 people before you find the one you want to marry.

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: You can either do that by dating one person at a time, which is going to be really slow, or you can date three people at a time and speed the process up three times as fast.

KIM: True.

JORDAN: Or four people at a time and do it four times as fast --

KIM: True.

JORDAN: -- in 25 percent of the time. So I'm a big fan of dating people, not serial monogamy --

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: -- unless it's required. But after a few weeks or months, it seems like you'd be like, "Okay, I'm interested in this person enough where I'm not interested in other people and if I were, I wouldn't still be with this one."

KIM: True, however -- so, for all you listeners, I'm 44, so dating in our age group when you're navigating the kids and your job and all this stuff, it's really dependant on what it is you want. Maybe we don't necessarily want to have a boyfriend or girlfriend right now.

JORDAN: Yeah, okay.

KIM: Maybe we just want to date and have a release and have fun. A release.

JORDAN: A release.

KIM: A release in so many ways. So, honestly, it depends on what you want. If you're wanting a relationship, I totally get where you're coming from.

JORDAN: Yeah, because I'm trying wife up over here.

KIM: Yeah, you're trying to wife up.

JORDAN: I don't have kids. I want to get on that.

KIM: Yeah, which is a good thing. Anyway, going back to that. It doesn't matter the timeframe, I think it's different for everybody but you're just dating somebody consistently, let's just call it that.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: Then that moves into the third phase which is the full blown relationship. You're committed, you're moving towards whatever that is, partnership, wedding, whatever.

JORDAN: Right.

KIM: So, in a long distance relationship, going back to what we were talking about, all those phases get sped up with intensity.

JORDAN: Totally.

KIM: You don't have time to do the cat and mouse chase, it gets into relationship mode really fast.

JORDAN: Yeah. Yeah, exactly. Our courtship phase was pretty quick.

KIM: Right?

JORDAN: And granted, we clicked really well right away but if it were up to me, circumstances wise, it would have drawn out a little bit more.

KIM: Oh, yeah.

JORDAN: There would have been a little bit more.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: But instead, it was kind of like we both had to make a choice real fast because -- she even told me -- she's going to kill me. She even told me in the beginning, she's like, "I didn't want to hook up or do anything the first couple of dates but I didn't have a choice because..." she was leaving.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: So she was like, "Either I'm leaving and we never figure out if it's going to work or I just go, '**** it,' and let it happen, and then take it from there."

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: So three weeks of dating got packed into 72 hours.

KIM: Exactly. Well and see, the other thing is, on a practical sense, financially when you're going back and forth, you want to make sure that this is going to be something worthwhile. So, that's the other thing is that there's more full disclosure --

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: -- at the beginning.

JORDAN: Yeah, that's true.

KIM: Right?

JORDAN: There totally was and is.

KIM: So things that you would never tell a girl in the courting phase here in L.A., suddenly you're telling her everything because you want to make sure it's real.

JORDAN: It's so true because stuff I -- I remember, I went out with a girl for like -- that you hooked me up with --

KIM: Yeah, I remember that.

JORDAN: I went out with her for like three months and we never talked about the stuff that I talked about with Jenny on like the second quote unquote date, where she like came over.

KIM: And nor should you.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: I wouldn't recommend that.

JORDAN: Yeah, and I remember being like, sitting at the freaking Cheesecake Factory in Beverly Hills, and being like, somehow I mentioned -- oh, it was like, my friend had this huge wedding and it was super expensive and she was like, "I don't really want a big wedding," and normally any guy in that situation -- my asshole would have clenched up on any other date. Talking about kids, weddings, I would have been like --

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: But instead I was like, "Okay good, I'm glad," -- I was glad we were talking about this and then I was like, "What is wrong with me?"

KIM: Mm-hmm.

JORDAN: But it's because it was like, "Listen, if I'm going to freaking schlep up to San Francisco for a thousand bucks for the whole weekend, staying at hotels and all this stuff, I don't want to be surprised by anything," so then I was like, "Hmm, what other crap can I get off my chest or get out of the way? Kids, let's talk about that." Not that that will happen at the Cheesecake Factory but it happened throughout the next few times that we hung out and I was just like, "What is going on right now?"

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: But on the other hand, it's been pretty cool because now nothing is off limits.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: So I'm like, "What would you think if, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah," weird scenario or dark secret from past, and she's like, "Yeah, I get this, that's fine or whatever," or, "I don't like this but I'll deal with that." It's been pretty open.

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: It's been pretty open and unfortunately the flipside to that is you learn a lot about somebody that you should probably assimilate over a year --

KIM: Uh-huh.

JORDAN: -- you learn it all in two to three months, so you know a lot about someone's past that -- imagine if a girl walked up to you and was like, "I've had sex with this many people and then this guy did this and this thing happened to me and it was traumatic and then this thing broke my heart and then this thing was bad and then my parents hated that guy," you'd be like, "You're insane. Don't ever talk to me again."

KIM: Right, but in this instance, you're like, "Oh, great, I know it all. Now, I'll come back."

JORDAN: But then you also wake up in a cold sweat and go, "I don't really want to know that but I needed to know that."

KIM: You had to, mm-hmm.

JORDAN: But I think about my ex that I dated for four plus years --

KIM: Mm-hmm.

JORDAN: -- I knew all that stuff about her, it's just that I found out over the first year and change of the relationship. It wasn't like, "Everybody write down all your dirty laundry and put it on a piece of paper," which is not something we literally did but I feel like I just got the download from Jenny.

KIM: That's exactly right. And to this point, all the rules of dating goes out the window.

JORDAN: Out the window.

KIM: Out the window. And so, here you have two people -- and by the way, I believe that you're strong usually in one phase and your strength is usually your weakness in the next. So the guys who are really good at the courting phase --

JORDAN: Mm-hmm.

KIM: -- and the game and getting the girl, fall short when it comes to committing in a relationship.

JORDAN: Very, very true.

KIM: And people who are really good at relationships are too much too soon too fast in the courting phase and people run.

JORDAN: Yes, people run.

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: This actually suits me pretty well because I feel like I'm pretty good in the relationship phase.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: Courting phase, I've obviously worked a lot on. It's the whole business here.

KIM: This is what you do.

JORDAN: But, I think I'm in my element in the relationship phase, which is good because -- not that I'm normally too much too soon in the relationship phase or courting phase but I feel like I toe the line.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: So for this long distance type thing where everything is sped up, I'm like, "I'm cool with it."

KIM: Yeah, right? So, now you're almost -- it's actually better for you.

JORDAN: It's a little better for me.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

KIM: Okay, so since you're on the couch, let's go back to you.

JORDAN: I am literally on the couch.

KIM: Everybody, if you could see him, he's literally lying down. So, since we've talked about all the issues at hand, now imagine she's coming here. And what's going to be interesting is everything got sped up with all this intensity, you guys almost have to work backwards and you're going to have to pace and slow down and almost renegotiate things.

JORDAN: Yeah, I don't really know exactly what that means but it's true because -- for the guys just tuning in, if somebody missed it, she's thinking of moving back to L.A. in October to work a little bit, study for her exams, otherwise I'm going to have to keep schlepping up to San Francisco and she's going to have to keep schlepping up here. But all she does is study all day, so there's no point in missing each other all the time and not being in the same place and spending all the money, especially when I'm getting a new place outside here or she was going to come down here anyway. We were going to get separate places but then I was like, you know what's going to happen is that I'm going to be at her place six nights a week or she's going to be at my place six nights a week plus and we're going to have this added expense. So my guy brain, my practical brain is like, "Yeah, this is a great idea. Let's just move in together," or as I phrased it earlier, "Live in the exact same place as one another," or whatever I said.

KIM: You're like get a place --- I don't know, you didn't even use the word together.

JORDAN: No, it was a euphemism. Together was not in the vernacular.

KIM: It wasn't even -- right. That's exactly right.

JORDAN: I said live in the same place -- at the exact same place or something like that.

KIM: Yeah, live in the exact same place.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: I'm like, "Does that mean you're going to move in together?"

JORDAN: And I was like, "Um, shut up." Yeah.

KIM: Yeah, so now you have a big change and decision to make coming up.

JORDAN: Right. Yeah.

KIM: When is this supposed to happen?

JORDAN: Like October. October.

KIM: Okay, so we have some time.

JORDAN: Yeah, there's time.

KIM: We could do a couple more shows to get through this.

JORDAN: Yeah, there's time. And nothing is definite. But it's just one of those things where it seems to make a lot of sense but I also -- if it were up to me, I would say, "Sure let's do that in like six months," but the problem is, she's got to choose where she's going to work. You can't live in San Francisco and work in L.A.

KIM: Yeah, no.

JORDAN: And if she gets a job up there, that pretty much puts a nail in the coffin of -- either of the whole relationship or of the idea that we're going to see each other that regularly, because then I have to schlep up there to see her because she's going to have an office job that ends at 5-7 pm on Friday and starts again on Monday and possibly goes over the weekend because she's an accountant.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: So, that's really going to screw things up. And if she works from home, great, but why work from home in two separate cities and spend a crap load of money trying to visit each other all the time? So, there's a timeline on things for me.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: For us. And so that makes things a little weird.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: Because it's not a timeline I would have chosen.

KIM: Exactly, yeah. Again, everything is more intense, it's sped up than normally. If she was here, you wouldn't have that pressure.

JORDAN: There would be no pressure. I've got a buddy who married a girl from England, in fact he did the Long-Distance Relationship part 1. He married this girl and they talked forever before hand for a long time. Three days after he met her, he proposed. But, they had known each other for a long time online. But the reason he did that is not -- because at first I was like, "You are an idiot."

KIM: Uh-huh.

JORDAN: Like, "What is wrong with you? You're a moron." But he told me, he was like, "Listen, I can either not marry someone that I love and then they go back to England and the relationship can maybe last a long time while each of us is freaking miserable missing the other one, or fail outright. Or, I can marry this person, get her a visa to stay in the United States." My first thought was, "If it's meant to be, it'll work out," and then I was like, "No, that's dumb," because it's not really true. If you really love each other it won't necessarily work out. You're going to get frustrated with long distance. That's what happens with long-distance relationships.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: That's why marriages fail when people are in the military and they go to Iraq.

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: It's not because they weren't meant to be, it's because one dude is stuck in ***** Iraq and the other one is back home in America, growing at two different paces, having two completely

separate lives. It has nothing to do with their compatibility or anything.

KIM: Exactly.

JORDAN: So, only a naive person would fall back on that. So, I'm like, "Oh, crap. Now I get why he did that." Because he had to freaking use Skype every night to talk to this girl that he loved in another country. Luckily for me, I've got technology and she's in the same time zone and I could drive there and be there by tonight if I really, really, really, really, really wanted to.

KIM: Yeah, it's not Iraq.

JORDAN: It's not Iraq, yeah.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: So, there's a lot less pressure and stress involved but it's still not a timeline that I would have chosen.

KIM: Yeah, yeah. Well it will be interesting to see what happens. I don't know, I think that living together -- do you want to talk about living together?

JORDAN: Yeah, we can. I don't know anything about it.

KIM: Dive into that one. Not to scare you, but statistically people who move in together before marriage is a high, high rate of divorce.

JORDAN: I talked about that and I think it makes a little bit of sense to me because marriage doesn't change anything other than what's on paper, unless you also move in together at the same time.

KIM: Exactly.

JORDAN: So, when you get married and move in together -- and this is just my theory, but when you get married and move in together at the same time, you go, "Okay, this is totally real. All of our

stuff is in one place, we're married in paper, our families know about it, it's a big deal, it's forever, this is what's up," massive change. If you start to break it down into baby steps like, "Oh, I'm sort of at has place a lot. Oh, now we're living together," and then you get married, it's like, what'd you do? Get a ceremony?

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: And you signed a piece of paper. It's not the same impact as also moving your lives together at the exact same time.

KIM: Mmm.

JORDAN: And so, it's easier to disassemble something that you've assembled over a long period of time than it is to take that step really seriously.

KIM: Yeah, well and there's also -- when you're married there's a sense of you can't get out. When you're not married, there's always this underlying notion that's, "I can book."

JORDAN: Exactly.

KIM: I can leave.

JORDAN: You can book because you're just breaking up and moving crap out of one person's apartment.

KIM: Yeah, yeah. Marriage is supposed to be permanent. It's supposed to be. So, it's a difference. So things like money, possessions, all the different things that go into merging worlds, is just different.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: You're sharing things versus actually supposed to be doing things together like shared accounts and all that. So, I don't know, that's why I think a lot of people end up breaking up

because when the going gets tough, instead of working on it, they get going.

JORDAN: Yeah, they bounce.

KIM: They bounce.

JORDAN: It's always going to happen. You're always going to run into some **** in a relationship.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: So, that's another thing that worries me. On the other hand though, I looked at -- and it worried me for a minute, but then I thought to myself, "Odds of me getting married before I move in with somebody, pretty slim." Just because, does anybody do that anymore?

KIM: I don't know your generation. What would you say? Your friends?

JORDAN: I don't know if anybody --

KIM: It wasn't common.

JORDAN: I feel like if you get married before you move in with somebody in my generation, people go, "Why did you do that?"

KIM: Really?

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: Interesting.

JORDAN: In my family -- everyone in my family has lived together for a long time before they got married. All my aunts and uncles, my parents, I believe -- everybody. For like a decade. Because they're like, retardedly long serial monogamy type of people.

KIM: Yeah, like the other extreme.

JORDAN: No joke, my aunt and uncle were dating when my parents met and they got -- let me put it this way, before I was born or before my parents met, they were dating, and I drove myself to their wedding.

KIM: Oh, my God. Oh, wow.

JORDAN: So, that puts that in perspective.

KIM: Yeah, different times, different people, Midwest too.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: Total Midwest.

JORDAN: I was explaining this to somebody and I was trying to be like, "It was like 20 years they were dating or longer."

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: And I was like, "Wait a minute, I drove to their wedding myself in my own car."

KIM: Oh, my God.

JORDAN: I know.

KIM: That's funny.

JORDAN: Yeah, that's a long dating period.

KIM: That's really long.

JORDAN: That's ridiculous. Because my parents were married for a while before they had me too and it wasn't just the marriage, they met before my parents were dating.

KIM: I was going to say, when did they meet, at like 13?

JORDAN: Dude, they must have met as teenagers and got married when they were like freaking 45.

KIM: But see, that's what people did back then. We just don't do that now.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: There are parts of the country people still get married I think, on the younger side.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: But the most part --

JORDAN: My family is a bunch of weirdos up in Michigan, I guess. But, I mean, I don't foresee -- well, I guess I'm trying to just make some bull**** argument that genetically I'm predisposed to move in before marriage, but that's a bunch of crap.

KIM: So you'll be okay because it's in your DNA.

JORDAN: Yeah, it's a bunch of crap. It's a bunch of crap. So, yeah. I don't know. I've seen it work but I've also -- it makes logical sense to me that it would also not work because easier to back out of something like that.

KIM: All I'm saying is that you're coming from a situation that you're bouncing all the time and then you move in with a person with a situation that you can bounce as well. So, I'm just saying look at that before you make the decision.

JORDAN: Yeah. No, it's tough. I don't know how to evaluate that because I have no experience with that.

KIM: Yeah, yeah. Well, and what I was going to ask you, have you guys ever visited each other during the work-week instead of the weekends?

JORDAN: No, because --

KIM: That might be an interesting thing for you to --

JORDAN: I mean she's been here during my work-week.

KIM: Oh, okay.

JORDAN: Yeah, a bunch.

KIM: So she's seen your everyday routine --

JORDAN: Oh, yeah.

KIM: -- where you didn't stop your life to just be with her, do you know what I'm saying?

JORDAN: Yeah. No, I still had to do work.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: And she could go to the cafe and study and do her own thing.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: Yeah, so -- well that's good because if she ends up moving here, that's what it's going to be like.

JORDAN: Yep.

KIM: I think anybody who is thinking about changing locations for that person they're dating long distance, it's really good to get a sense of people's everyday life.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: Because, yeah, you clear your schedule, you do all these things, you take these little vacations.

JORDAN: Yeah, you go do all this fun stuff and then when they move in with you, you're all cranky because you've got day stress and they're like, "Why are you so different?" and you're like, "What are you talking about? I'm always like this."

KIM: Yeah, and then going back to your point about the clothes on the floor and the toothpaste cap off and all that thing that you could just bounce now, it's almost like picking your battles. Those battles so don't matter to you now.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: Because it's like, "Whatever, I'm leaving. I have my thing." But yeah, what's that going to be like when you're together? So these are good things to just think about --

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: -- not that it couldn't work or not work but it is good to map out.

JORDAN: Yeah, not it's an interesting set of concerns. I would be curious to know what sort of factors you should evaluate when you're looking at moving in with somebody and also what red flags to look for in your behavior and theirs, to know when you need to fix some ****.

KIM: Yeah, that's really good. Well, I think the number one thing is A.) being on the same page of what you guys want, because -- and it sounds like you two do --

JORDAN: Yeah, we talk about that all the time.

KIM: -- which is great. But that's huge. Some couples have this kind of fantasy and there's no communication. So communication, communication. That's huge.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: Always. I think the other thing is -- I don't know. I think -- you were talking about the practical sense of things.

JORDAN: That's just the guy brain thing.

KIM: No, but even a woman might say that too.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: Practically, that makes sense. It would save you guys money, you're going to spend time with each other anyway, but there's also something to be said about -- even if you had an apartment next door, you still have your own space while you're getting used to the transition. The thing that you have to ask yourself is, how long the relationship has been? To what nature? Are you wanting the same things? Where do you see yourself in six months? Financial reasons. There's all those things. And then, maybe this is not your case, but for some people who are thinking about children and biological clocks and that kind of thing --

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: -- that's a practical [00:35:11]

JORDAN: Luckily she's young enough to not be freaking out about that, yet.

KIM: But not everybody has that, yeah.

JORDAN: Yeah, yet, also.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: Because she's all like, "No, I have so much time." I'm like, "You're 27, you don't have that much time."

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: "You think you have all the time in the world right now, wait until you turn 30 and that uterus just detonates into your brain chemicals or whatever."

KIM: Yeah, and the bomb goes off.

JORDAN: And it's just like, "Babies!" and it's like the third Exorcist --

KIM: Totally.

JORDAN: -- and the head spinning around and you're like, "Babies!" and I'm like, "Okay."

KIM: It's like Shrek.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: You saw all those babies around, it was hilarious.

JORDAN: Luckily, I also -- I'm old enough -- one of the reasons our lives are compatible in this way is that I'm 33, I'm going to be 34. I'm already thinking about marriage and kids, not right now but --

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: -- that's on the horizon for me. So I'm not like, "What are you talking about? We're going to keep doing our own thing." I had 10 years of that.

KIM: Yeah, that is good. And then on a practical sense, taking a look at your values. Do you guys see money the same way? Religion? Work? Work is huge. I know this is not your case with her but there are some women who aren't working at all or working towards a career and then they just move in with the guy because financially it's better for them.

JORDAN: They want to get taken care of, yeah.

KIM: So that would be a huge red flag, for guys.

JORDAN: I agree. That would be a big problem. Now, luckily she's probably going to end up making quite a pretty penny being a CPA.

KIM: Maybe even more than you.

JORDAN: Probably. I think for a while, probably she will be. Plus, she can stash all my cash too in the Cayman Islands, or whatever.

KIM: Nice.

JORDAN: So, that's a bonus. But, yeah. There's a good chance she'll -- especially because she's going to be doing a lot of accounting for small businesses and she's specializing in taxes.

KIM: Oh, yeah.

JORDAN: So that's a big -- that's a good field to be in.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: And being able to do something like that reliably -- I know what we pay our accountant here at AoC, and it's like -- if you had 10 clients like that, just 10, you'd be freaking loaded.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: So I'm like, doing pretty well for myself over here.

KIM: You are. Oh, my gosh.

JORDAN: So get your boot camp because I might not be around up in this piece for very long. I'm marrying into some money.

KIM: I know. Everybody sign up. Hurry. He's going to the Cayman Islands.

JORDAN: Yeah, I'm going to the Cayman Islands with my rich accountant fiance that's not my fiance yet. No, I'm just kidding.

KIM: Oh, my God, listen to you.

JORDAN: I'm just kidding.

KIM: Well, another thing too -- and it sounds like, from what you told me but you can share it with the listeners, about social life, that's another thing that's huge. When you move into somebody else's home town, they have their social life all going --

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: -- and their set of friends, and then that person doesn't know anybody, how that can affect the relationship.

JORDAN: That's an interesting point. And luckily, I think it's a little bit muted because she moved from L.A. to San Francisco.

KIM: Exactly, it's different.

JORDAN: She probably has more friends than me --

KIM: Totally different for you.

JORDAN: -- knowing her.

KIM: But that's why it's good. These are all good things for you.

JORDAN: But, yeah. These are good things for me. But, yeah, if she was moving from San Francisco and had never lived here --

KIM: Mm-hmm.

JORDAN: -- she'd be all, "Why are you going out?" or, "Who am I going to hang out with? And then I'd only be able to hang out with my friends who are coupled up --

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: -- or she would be -- luckily she's as social and more social than me, which is one of the things I find attractive --

KIM: Mm-hmm.

JORDAN: -- and she's already got a social circle here. So, I'm less worried about that but man I was thinking about that before, especially with those guys that marry a woman from another culture or country --

KIM: Mm-hmm.

JORDAN: -- now she's like, "You're the only person in America that I know," and you're like --

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: --"Whoa man, this girl from wherever," -- I met a guy who married a girl from Thailand and she didn't meet anyone, obviously, and her English wasn't that great, so I'm not sure what sort of marriage situation they had. But, you know what I'm saying? That was --

KIM: Arrangement.

JORDAN: Yeah, some sort of arrangement. But I'm like, she's got to be lonely as hell. She's totally relying on this guy, so unless he gives her every ounce of attention, she's miserable. She's probably depressed anyways.

KIM: Yeah, it puts so much pressure on that guy to always take her with, introduce her, make sure she's feeling comfortable, and then she just totally feels isolated and she has no identity.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: See, that's the thing. Your girl, she already will have an identity coming here.

JORDAN: Yes.

KIM: That's a huge thing to think about for any of you listening, is that whole life that will end up merging.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: You've got to think about that. So, I don't know, you have a lot of things going for the two of you.

JORDAN: That's why I'm not running for the hells.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: Also because of the way that I feel but also the practical sides come together pretty well.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: She knows the area, she has a place, she's capable of earning her own money, has a social circle, is from here, has a car, can get around, has a job already that she had here that she's keeping, it's part time --

KIM: Oh, my God, great.

JORDAN: It allows her to study and work. So, I'm not like, adopting a baby, which is what a lot of guys do when their girlfriend moves in with them.

KIM: That's so true.

JORDAN: They adopt a freaking baby who's like, "Entertain me. Buy me everything."

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: "Hook me up with a job and a social circle and friends and da, da, da, da."

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: I'm not doing that.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: I don't have do that.

KIM: I feel good about it for you.

JORDAN: Okay, that makes me feel better.

KIM: Yeah, you have my approval.

JORDAN: Okay, good. Because like any dude, I get a little jittery, where I'm like, "Crap this isn't the timeline I would have chosen."

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: But I also think that that's been the case throughout the rest of this relationship as well and I haven't been that nervous about it. And also, I don't necessarily know if I'd feel any better, even if I was able to choose the timeline, just because, again, dudes aren't -- as a guy, I'm not really super hardwired to be like, "Lock it down, stop dating, da, da, da, da, da."

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: Don't get me wrong, I don't want to date other people, I'm in a committed relationship and I'm happy about it, but it's always a big step to be like, "It's time for the next level. It's time for the next level. It's time for the next level."

KIM: You know, you're saying something that's really interesting and actually a benefit of long distance relationships, if we can talk about that a little bit --

JORDAN: Sure.

KIM: -- is that people who need that almost, external motivation, to actually **** or get off the pot, so to speak --

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: -- this just naturally creates that.

JORDAN: Yeah, it does.

KIM: You kind of have to and especially here in L.A., and I'll just say, this is the land of noncommittal, and you see this.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: And we're always the 'what's next' kind of town.

JORDAN: Sure.

KIM: It's really easy to just not be in -- it's hard to internally motivate to commit and to look at all these factors, because there's so many options, people don't want to settle down, and it takes a lot of discipline, almost.

JORDAN: It does.

KIM: So, in this instance, and you really like her, you're willing to kind of work on it and it gives you that motivation to make it happen.

JORDAN: Yeah, don't get me wrong, I'm looking forward to settling down, I'm excited about that --

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: -- it's just that, as with anything, I'm like, "This is a big life phase change."

KIM: Oh, totally.

JORDAN: But I've got the the dating -- especially in L.A. -- I've gotten that crap out of my system.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: I'm over it. I don't need to date the next barista that makes my freaking latte, that's for damn sure, who's writing a screenplay. I don't care. I do not care.

KIM: Although I think your girl could do that too.

JORDAN: Great.

KIM: She sounds pretty talented.

JORDAN: She is. If she starts writing a screenplay, it's over.

KIM: Right, you're done.

JORDAN: I'm done. Once you start writing a screenplay -- actually, I shouldn't say that. There's plenty of people probably writing screenplays who listen to this. I'm just being a dick but there's just a lot of baristas that write that are 'TV writers' --

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: -- or aspiring writers and it's just like, "Dude, you can't even get my coffee order right?"

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: Good luck.

KIM: Oh, he's sitting up. I think he feels better.

JORDAN: I'm sitting up. I feel much better, yes.

KIM: Yeah. This is good, it was a good session. How did it go for you?

JORDAN: It went pretty well. It did go well.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

JORDAN: Okay, before we wrap, I kind of want to go back to the trust thing because I think that jealousy -- I was talking on another show about jealousy and possession and I think it's a pretty important topic because I've worked a lot on this area because I, in college, was insecure and really distrustful and like, "Oh, no, what's going to happen?" and I know that -- and I've also been doing the Art of Charm stuff for a while, and I see that most guys who are coming out of relationships or even novice guys that are in relationships that are -- and by novice I mean in your twenties --

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: When we're in our twenties, we don't know shit about relationships, generally. A lot of what screws things up is jealousy and stuff, and distrustful -- weird stuff that creeps up especially in long distance relationships, for example, Jenny has a lot of male friends and goes out with them all the time. I'm actually really cool with that and it makes me feel good because they're cool guys, I've met a bunch of them, which is important, I think.

KIM: Totally.

JORDAN: She hangs out with her brother and cousin, I'm obviously not worried about anything there. I'd be more worried about her going out with girlfriends who are irresponsible and drinking and going to a club and something happening, versus her going out with a bunch of male friends, who are probably super

protective of a five foot tall little Asian girl at a club, dressed provocatively. So I feel like, in a way, they're surrogate boyfriends who are like, "Hey, that guy's being weird."

KIM: Right, taking care of her.

JORDAN: Right. Put her in the protective circle of Asian dudes.

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: Which, you know, previously impenetrable circle of Asian dudes and girls, which every white guy has seen. So I'm cool with it but I think that eight years ago I would have been super uncool with it.

KIM: Mm-hmm.

JORDAN: I think that a few years ago, I would have been like, "Where are you?" and, "What are you doing?" and "Who are you with?" and, "Oh, do you like him? What's his deal?" because she's getting that about me. She's getting that from former guys she thought were her friends are all like, "Who's this ***** guy?"

KIM: Right, oh, that's interesting.

JORDAN: Because they're the orbiters who are waiting for their chance and now it's gone.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: So, she's getting some hate. But, trust is a big issue.

KIM: It's huge.

JORDAN: Jealousy is a big issue, because a lot of times, guys in a long distance relationship are like, "I'm not there to be a controlling a-hole. What's going to happen?"

KIM: Yeah, yeah. And then it gets heightened even more long distance because you each are going about your lives as you should.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: But, if you don't have that security within your relationship, it will just -- oh, my gosh. The couples can go wild with jealousy. Part of trust is being secure.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: And not just with you as a couple, but within yourself.

JORDAN: I think that's the key, yeah.

KIM: Like you were saying, years ago you might not have been there because you were --

JORDAN: I would have been insecure to the point where --

KIM: -- immature.

JORDAN: Yeah, I was immature.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: I would have been like 23 or 24.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: I would have been like, "What's going on? Who are these people? Wah."

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: I would have been worried about stuff and I would have been distrustful, not of her, because of anything she had did -- the

girl that I was dating back then. She didn't do anything to lead me to think that that would happen --

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: -- but I was just like, "I don't know what I would do." I don't even know why, it was just a maturity thing.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: Of like, "Whenever I'm not keeping tabs on someone, they're probably doing something against my interests." It's a childish mode of thinking.

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: But it happens a lot when you are -- and I've seen tons of grown ass men, I get letters all the time from guys that are like, "I don't know, how do I know if my girl is cheating on me? I'm in the military," and I'm like, "What makes you think she is?" And sometimes they're like, "Well, people say weird stuff on Facebook like they hung out with her and then they won't give me details," but then other -- and I'm like, "That's suspect." But then other guys are like, "Nothing. I'm just paranoid," and I'm like, "That's not good."

KIM: Exactly.

JORDAN: Because like, if you're just paranoid, when you get on the phone with her, you're going to be almost accusatory, and she's going to be like, "What's this guy's deal?"

KIM: And that's the kiss of death.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: But that is so important and in order to help with this, communication is huge, because you don't have that physical connection, so you have to maintain an emotional connection.

JORDAN: Yeah, you've got to ramp that up.

KIM: You have to ramp it up big time and so it's not just a text here and there like, "Hey, how you doing?" it's like, "I miss you." Have more emotion and passion when you're actually trying to communicate. And it should be on a daily basis, whereas if you're in a relationship in town, that's not as necessary, because you're going to see that person.

JORDAN: Right, you're like, "Whatever, I'll just go to her house."

KIM: Yeah, exactly. So, there's not that. But, you have to make a point of having that or yeah, people's minds start racing with stories.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: But conversely, and I'll just throw this out there, it's easy for people to stray --

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: -- because of that. So, yeah maybe there is reason to not trust.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: So, let's be real. There was a client that I remember. She was really struggling. She was like, "Well, I really like this guy and I see on Facebook he's with all these women. Should I be jealous?" It's like, "Sister, yeah."

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: "Run for the hills. A.) Did you even talk about what your relationship is? Are you guys committed?" She's like, "Oh, we haven't talked about it."

JORDAN: So he's like, "I'm good."

KIM: Hello! Yeah.

JORDAN: Yeah. And that's a problem. I know we said -- we leaned on a cliché and I always hate doing that. Communication is key, but what kind of communication is that? The vulnerable communication --

KIM: Mm-hmm.

JORDAN: -- where, instead of being like, "Hey, what's up?" like you said, a girl is going to feel that emotional connection that you need in order to make up for that lack of physical connection. If you write something like, "Hey, you know what? I feel alone out here sometimes and I just miss you a whole lot," and this is the stuff that I say to Jenny all the time.

KIM: Yeah, it's great.

JORDAN: Just blatantly, real, true, out of nowhere, even if it occurs to me while I'm at the gym --

KIM: Mm-hmm.

JORDAN: -- I'll finish my workout, or whatever, during my break I'll go to my phone and be like, "Hey, I'm hiking up Runyon and it's so cool. I love doing this with you. I can't wait to do this with you when you're back here," send. Done.

KIM: Love that. Because that shows her that you're thinking of her in daily life.

JORDAN: Right, in my daily life. And it doesn't have to be this poetic crapola --

KIM: No.

JORDAN: -- which I am also good at, by the way.

KIM: Oo, I want to hear.

JORDAN: Yeah, right. Sorry, reserved for one special lady only.

KIM: Oh, darn. I'm sure all the women out there want to hear.

JORDAN: Yeah, both of them. It's very true. And it's hard for us guys to be vulnerable because we either feel like, "I don't know, it's gay," right?

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: Or we're like, "Oh, it's cheesy and I don't really know how to do it." But if you're this big, bad military guy, you probably don't share your feelings that much. So, if you write a letter that's like, "I'm stuck out here with a bunch of sweaty dudes, but the one thing that really gets me through is knowing that you're back home thinking about me while I'm thinking about you," send. Good enough.

KIM: Love that.

JORDAN: Because she's going to be like, "Oh."

KIM: Okay, you just had me.

JORDAN: Had you? Had you at that?

KIM: I'm like, "Say more!"

JORDAN: Because what she's thinking is, "Oh, he's in Iraq, and he's all distracted," and meanwhile, you're trying to put on this brave face, like, "This is me and my dudes drinking and playing video games. We're having an awesome time."

KIM: Oh, God.

JORDAN: Because you don't want to be like, "I miss you," because you feel vulnerable and you don't like that.

KIM: Aw, but we love that.

JORDAN: So, she's all, "Well he's fine without me over there. He doesn't even need me. He probably doesn't even miss me."

KIM: Exactly.

JORDAN: Instead, just totally admit it. Throw it out there. And guys are like, "I don't want to be a wuss," but it's not the same thing. There's so much strength in that vulnerability. The ability to be vulnerable, there's so much strength in that. I'm telling this on a greaking podcast that 110,000 people are going to listen to.

KIM: And I'm sure you're melting a lot of women who are listening, because, as a woman, I'll just say how it gets received. Guys, we love that because not only that, you can sit and talk about stats all day long, about the game, what you're doing, that's on a very intellectual level. That's not what gets passion and connection and emotions going, especially with women. We don't care about that stuff. We want to know how you feel.

JORDAN: Right, and we feel like we can't share it because we feel like we're being weak or looking weak or being cheesy.

KIM: But that's not how it gets received.

JORDAN: It's not how it gets received, right. So, once she communicated how much that means to her, then you start going, "Huh, not only does it make me feel better, it makes her feel better," and that's sort of a good -- not sort of a good, it is a good positive feedback loop because you write a little lovey-dovey text and she's like, "That's great, I like that." Then you write a handwritten letter and send it out and she's like, "I love this." And you're like, "Not only does it make me feel better [00:52:39] and communicate like this, it makes her feel good to receive it. It's a really positive, virtuous cycle. Whereas, if you're trying to be tough guy who shows no emotions all the time, what she's receiving is, "He doesn't really care enough to show that."

KIM: Exactly.

JORDAN: And then she's going, "Oh, I met this other guy and he's all telling me how beautiful I am."

KIM: Mm-hmm.

JORDAN: And you're like, "She knows I like her. She knows I think she's pretty," yeah, but she needs to feel it all the time. It's like watering a plant.

KIM: Yeah, especially if you're not in the same city.

JORDAN: It's like watering a plant. I hate to put it that way, but it totally is.

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: It's like watering a plant.

KIM: It's true.

JORDAN: You can't just water the plant on the first of the month and then go, "What the ****? I just watered that thing like three weeks ago."

KIM: Yeah, that's a good metaphor.

JORDAN: It needs the constant love and attention. And it doesn't -- you just don't want to have one of those water growing -- you don't want a bamboo because then you've got to water that thing so often, you're like, "What am I doing? I'm just watering this thing constantly."

KIM: Right.

JORDAN: You want something reasonable. You want a plant that you can water at an appropriate schedule. Something that's not going to drive you crazy.

KIM: That's so beautiful, Jordan.

JORDAN: Isn't that just --

KIM: Wow.

JORDAN: That's Bill Nye the Science guy.

KIM: Oh, my God, what has happened to you with this girl? You're talking about flowers and love.

JORDAN: I didn't say flowers, I was talking about a cactus.

KIM: Oh, a cactus --

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: -- with pricklies. You just couldn't go there.

JORDAN: A tough cactus.

KIM: The tough cactus.

JORDAN: No, but seriously, I think that trust is caused by that virtuous cycle.

KIM: huge.

JORDAN: Because that communication is what breeds that trust and what breeds that communication is throwing yourself out there and being vulnerable, getting a little bit of that in return, and then, feeling confident enough in your relationship and communication skills to continue to do this. And once you can do that freely, and just be like, "Aw, I really miss you," one o'clock in the morning text, call, late night, "Hey, nothing in particular I need to say, just wish you were here, da, da, da, da, going to bed. Don't study too hard. Okay, cool, whatever. Talk to you in the morning." And we talked about that on our

technology show, sending -- part one -- sending those little videos in your iPhone.

KIM: Oh, yeah.

JORDAN: Like, "Hey, I really miss you. Good morning." Boom.

KIM: You know you just said something that was key too, and I don't know if the guys picked that up, but not only did he say how how he felt, like, that, "I miss you," but then he took it one step further and said, "I hope your exam went well," because that shows that he is into her life too.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: That you're paying attention. And that's also the thing that keeps the connection going. Just saying, "Hey, what's up?" It's like, "I just told you I had horrible day today," and the woman is thinking, "He's not even paying attention to me."

JORDAN: Yeah, no.

KIM: So, that's good.

JORDAN: Luckily, I got a little cheat code. Jenny has an exam every day, so I just go, "How was your exam?" and I always win. And if she didn't have one that day, I'm like, "Oh, that's unusual."

KIM: Yeah.

JORDAN: But, it's like every day, so I'm like, cool. I've got a little cheat code.

KIM: Cheat code.

JORDAN: Just throw that out there any time.

KIM: Yeah, but that's good.

JORDAN: Yeah.

KIM: It's a good thing.

JORDAN: Yeah. Well, good. Thanks so much, Kim. That was awesome.

KIM: Yeah, fun. Thanks for having me.

JORDAN: Solid show, as usual, if I do say so myself. All right, show feedback and guest suggestions. We rely on you guys to help keep our finger on the pulse. So if you know someone who's a good fit for the show, let us know at jordanh@theartofcharm.com. Boot camp details, that's our live training at theartofcharm.com and that's also where you can find links to us on Twitter, Facebook, and other social media. If you're listening to this but you're not subscribed in iTunes or Stitcher then that needs to change. Getting our shows delivered free to your phone or computer is the best way to make sure you don't miss anything. You can do that by going to iTunes and searching for The Art of Charm podcast or by going to theartofcharm.com/itunes and clicking subscribe. That's it.

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