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'When she saw me her face fell, as if she'd drawn the short straw': We play matchmaker to two forty-something singletons

By URSULA HIRSCHKORN
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Two singletons, three dates, one aim - to see if they're a match made in heaven. Ursula Hirschhorn meets this week's potential soul mates...

Name: Samantha Cuminsky

Age: 43

Lives: London

Occupation: Nanny

Relationship history: Last relationship ended a year and a half ago, single ever since

Ideal man: Alan Cumming

Name: Andy Isaac

Age: 47

Lives: London

Occupation: Property manager

Relationship history: Single for five months, has ten-year-old twin girls from a previous relationship

Ideal woman: Pocahontas

DATE ONE: Lunch at a brasserie

Andy: I've never been so nervous as I was before this date, and when Samantha walked into the restaurant her face fell. She looked disappointed, as if she was thinking, 'I've drawn the short straw.'



No spark: Samantha says she found Andy easy company but he wasn't her type

She was wrapped up in a coat and hat and I wondered what was underneath. But once she'd taken them off I thought she was gorgeous.

Our waiter was a bit like Mr Bean, which helped break the ice. We talked for so long we were the last to leave. But I'm still pretty sure she doesn't fancy me.

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Samantha: When I first saw Andy, he didn't look like my type - he's not very tall and his suit made him look square. But he was chivalrous and made me laugh.

The conversation flowed and it was easy to be in his company. I told him the date had gone better than I'd expected. I'm still not sure he's my type - but next time I might see a different side to him.

The Brompton Quarter Brasserie, Brompton Road, London, tel: 020 7225 2107, www.bqbrasserie.com. All Star Lanes, Holborn, London, tel: 020 7025 2676, www.allstarlanes.co.uk. Souk Medina, Seven Dials, London, tel: 020 7240 1796, www.soukrestaurant.net

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