

Chapter Ten

The Bottom Line

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The exercise that follows is designed to give you a final jolt of encouragement. Use a piece of scratch paper to calculate your responses. Instructions on how to score your responses can be found at the end of this exercise.

Give yourself 100 points

Give yourself 10 points if this is your first marriage

Give yourself 5 points if this is your second marriage

Subtract 3 points if this is your third or fourth marriage

Give yourself 10 points if you had a church wedding

Give yourself 5 points if you were married at the courthouse

Subtract 3 points if you eloped

Give yourself 10 points if you are fifty years old or older

Give yourself 5 points if you are between thirty and forty-nine

Subtract 5 points if you are younger than thirty

Give yourself 10 points if you graduated from college

Give yourself 5 points if you are a high school graduate

Subtract 5 points if you dropped out of high school

Give yourself 10 points if you are still living with your spouse

Give yourself 5 points if you are separated

Subtract 5 points if you have never been married

Give yourself 10 points if you have children

Give yourself 5 points if you don't have any children

Give yourself 10 points if you are Caucasian, African-American, Asian or Hispanic

Give yourself 5 points if you are a member of another ethnic group

Give yourself 10 points if you were raised in a two-parent home

Give yourself 5 points if you were raised in a single-parent home

Subtract 3 points if you were not raised by your parents

Give yourself 10 points if you self-identify as upper middle class

Give yourself 5 points if you self-identify as middle class

Subtract 5 points if you don't fall into either of the above categories

What's does your final score mean?

Nothing. The bottom line is that whether you scored high or you scored low on the above scale, you are in the same place — no better and no worse — as every other woman reading this book.