**Ashley Tuckett**

**Chapter 5**

**Prototypes**

Here is my list of the 15 most important things that I look for in a mate:

1. Sense of humor \*
2. Honesty \*
3. Openness \*
4. Respect
5. Encouragement \*
6. Support
7. Attractiveness
8. Education
9. Trust \*
10. Sanity
11. Caring
12. Motivated
13. Fiscally responsible
14. Neat and clean
15. Willing to compromise

Of all 15 traits that I have listed, the five that I have put asterisks next to I feel are the most necessary in my search for a permanent mate. Honesty and openness are traits that I think need to be present in any relationship, especially when it comes to dating and marriage. Trust, another of my top five, comes from having honesty and openness, and I think that if you don’t have those three things in your relationship it won’t be healthy or long-lasting.

Encouragement is an important trait to me because I want someone that will push me to do better and be better just as much as I will push them to do the same. I want someone that will help me to become the best person that I can be, and that will help me to achieve my goals in life, because I try to do the same for those that I am close with.

The last trait of my top five, a sense of humor, is important to me for a couple of reasons. One of the reasons is because sometimes I think that a sense of humor is important when it comes to dealing with me and my many personality quirks, and because there are many things that life throws your way that I think having a sense of humor about makes them a little easier to deal with or handle. Also, a sense of humor is important to me because I enjoy laughing and having a good time, and especially giving people a hard time and being a smart-ass in general.