



LADY KILLER

**Charming beau
was monster,
friends say**

It seems Earl Stevens (left), 41, charmed her as a Los Angeles party, was "very much a charmer," says his ex-girlfriend. "But he might deal friends of his former girlfriends, Sarah Lee (right). "I know he was going to kill her," a neighbor on the Los Angeles side said. "He was very mean."



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PULSE

I HAD REVENGE SURGERY!

NYC's jilted divorcees give themselves a lift — and stick it to their exes

By BETH LANDMAN

DIANA Solomon is having a damn good time, sipping a glass of red wine at the bar of Don Camillo on Park Avenue South. Nearby, there are three men shooting her admiring looks. The male attention is nothing new; with a slight Truman rwing and dimpled cheeks, the pretty brunette has been attracting men since she was a girl.

The fact that she's now 34 hasn't changed that at all; there's light in her eyes and tummy a line on her face.

Moments later, she waves to her new boyfriend, a strapping athlete, 10 years her junior. The other men disperse.

It's hard to tell by looking at her, but last last year Solomon was in a very different place. When her 20-year marriage collapsed last spring, she was heavy.

"I kept thinking, 'This isn't how the fairy tale is supposed to end,'" she recalls.

"I was crying every day, and I couldn't get out of bed."

She had modeled over the years, doing both catalog work and fashion.

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BEFORE

Alicia Hunter neglected her appearance to focus on her marriage and was 60 pounds heavier.



AFTER
Hunter, 43, slimmer down, got better and a new job and now looks absolutely fabulous in a bikini. "There's no reason to be in Sunnyland," she declares.

Don't get mad—get even sexier

REVENGE from Page 33

shows, and heard about the cosmetic dermatologist Marina Paredo from fellow models who encouraged her to make an appointment.

She headed to Paredo's Southtown, LI, office for TruLaser treatments that eradicated wrinkles on her face, filler that plumped her lips and Botox that smoothed her brow. In the end, she felt so good she started an anger-consulting business. "After 27 years of being with one man, it was like I had come out of a time bubble," says Solomon. "Suddenly I had 25-year-olds asking me out, but I put the limit at 35. Thank God for Dr. Paredo, she was there for me physically and emotionally."

Solomon is one of a number of women who have taken post-divorce revenge with plastic surgery. Driven to feel better about their looks after the devastation of a failed marriage, they seek cosmetic procedures, which can erase years—and build self-esteem. "At 31, I not only feel better, but I look better than I ever have," says Solomon. "If you are smarter, wiser and you can look younger, don't you have it all?"

Indeed, more women are bouncing back from divorce with so-called revenge surgery; a recent study by the Transform Cosmetic Group in Britain showed that 26 percent of plastic-surgery patients are newly divorced women.

And New York doctors such as Paredo recognize that their role with newly single women often goes beyond the medical.

"It's not about vanity; it's about sanity," she maintains. "For some through divorce myself, and you feel unattractive and unlovable. A lot of these women say, 'You gave me 10 years back,' and if they look in the mirror and like what they see, it really helps get them out of a slump."

Maria Sheffield, a children's book writer who lives on the Upper West Side, admits she would have recovered emotionally without surgery. She had gained about 30 pounds due to depression after her 15-year marriage ended in 2007. About a year later, she went to Alan Matassar, a Manhattan plastic surgeon who performed liposuction on her stomach, flanks, jaw and neck.

She looked great—and the surgery did more than fix her figure. "I have to tell you, it changed my whole outlook," says Sheffield, 50. "My ex-husband even told me I look great. He took my power away, and this gave it back. Now I'm in a relationship with a man I met on a business trip."



BEFORE

AFTER

Diana Solomon's transformation attracts guys in their 20s—and inspired her to start a new business.

Ellen Sawyer (who didn't want to use her real name, as her divorce is ongoing) is a 44-year-old mother of two whose husband of 20 years now lives with a 37-year-old Brazilian woman. "I am a stay-at-home mom who is single, and my husband is with some exotic hottie," she sighs. "I felt that whatever I could do to feel better about myself was OK."

A few sessions with Howard Sobel, a Park Avenue cosmetic dermatologist, eliminated her face's wrinkles and made her butt more firm—tight and lifted. "Thanks to technology, I'm me, but better," she asserts.

Alicia Hunter, a 49-year-old aesthetician and mother of two, always struggled with her weight, but finally managed to lose nearly 60 pounds. "My husband didn't even blink; he just wasn't supportive of it," she maintains. "I never felt comfortable in my own skin, but losing the weight gave me the confidence to end my relationship."

After her divorce last year, she took more drastic action. "My

SHE'S 51!

"When I see my [ex] husband, I have anger, and it's like, 'Ha, look what you are missing now!'"

— **Divorcee Rachel Parks**

chest would like two walnuts in a pair of socks. Pregnancy does a number on your body," she says. "I was embarrassed, and I knew if I was going to get intimate with someone again, I had to do something." Botox and a boob job followed, giving her the body she always craved.

Nora Novick, a home-care agency nurse, felt less adventurous after the end of her marriage. "My husband used to say, 'So what? You are beautiful,'" she sighs. "Now it's like, 'ugh, I have to start over again.'"

Cosmetic dermatologist Neal Schultz renewed her confidence. "I am 38, but now I look about 43," she



BEFORE

Author Maria Sheffield, 56, gained 38 pounds post-divorce, then lost them via liposuction on her jaw, neck, flanks and stomach.

AFTER

JOHN WELSH/REUTERS

says. "I feel great about myself, and that translates through my power."

Being back on the market is a definite motivation.

Joe King, a 50-something Upper East Side realtor-to-be, just separated from her husband of 12 years. She has decided to use her spousing summer break to get a necklift and lower-face-lift from plastic surgeon Steven Pearlman.

"Dating again is my incentive," she says.

Frustrated husbands, understandably, tend not to be supportive. "It always gives me a little anger for a husband because he figures the procedure is being done to attract a new man, and he's right," says Arnold Rutkin, a divorce attorney. "In one ill-fated case, the husband's lawyer was going on about the wife's breast implants, and the judge, who didn't see the relevance, quipped, 'Does somebody want equitable distribution of this lady's breasts?'"

In acrimonious divorces, some women get satisfaction out of reclaiming their bodies.

"After having kids, my body wasn't that hot, but now I look good and I feel better," says 42-year-old Upper East Sider Rachel Parks, who ended her 10-year marriage last summer when she caught her husband cheating.

Plastic surgeon Norman Rowe removed fat from her stomach and added small breast implants to restore her shape and self-image. "When I see my ex-husband, I have anger, and it's like, 'Ha, look what you are missing now?'" says Parks.

It certainly doesn't hurt that for some women, their husbands are unwittingly footing all or part of the bill with their alimony payments.

"He deserved to partially pay for me to look good—I feel I earned it," says Sheffield. "There was a certain satisfaction in his seeing me sew me with my new boyfriend."

The women who have chosen the cosmetic doctor's table over the shrink's couch are feeling no pain. "They say that beauty comes from within," smiles Solomon. "But it also comes from within Dr. Paredo's office."



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