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Funny Business

Category: Celebrity Divorce

After decades of waffling, I recently popped the “big” question to one of my (several) childhood sweet-hearts. Her name is Veronica, and she’s a babe. (She’s also worth 8.2 billion dollars), while I don’t have a pot to... (well you know the story). Veronica accepted my proposal, but there’s a big problem, it’s her dad, (Mr. Lodge). He’s told me in no uncertain terms, “there’s no way you’re marrying my daughter, unless you sign a pre-nup” Just what kind of funny business is Mr. Lodge trying to pull?

ARCHIE A.

Here’s the scoop, (but I’ll save my best advice for last). Mr. Lodge is obviously no Jughead. He’s concerned, (and who can blame him, considering your utter lack of motivation, substantive work experience, and future career prospects), that the only curriculum you’re seriously committed to, is the “marry it or bury it” school, of “how to strike it rich”.

And, in the not so unlikely event, (considering your prior skirt chasing ways, and wandering eye), that your marriage to Veronica doesn’t last, Mr. Lodge wants to do his very best to ensure that you can’t touch Veronica’s ample, er...financial, assets.

I’m unfamiliar with the family law rules that apply in Riverdale, but here in BC, there is a general rule that family assets in a marriage are to be divided on a 50/50 basis, in the event of separation, or divorce. As a result, Mr. Lodge would no doubt insist that there be a provision, in any so called pre-nup (which we call a Marriage Agreement (compliments of Divorcemate) that specifically excludes Veronica’s substantial global, business, investment, and trust, assets, including any future inheritance, from any such division. Of course, you could also exclude your own Model A clunker, and used wardrobe.

But we’re not done yet. There’s also another critical element in any Marriage Agreement, namely the matter of spousal support. Here in Canada we have the Spousal Support Advisory Guidelines,

which calculate spousal support based on a variety of factors, including the income of each party, the length of relationship, etc. To illustrate, using a very rough calculation, and based on a measly income of only 20 million dollars a year for Veronica, and a 5 year marriage, the calculation would result in a range of spousal support of between 125,000.00 to 166,667.00 dollars per month! Just think of all the sodas you could buy with those bucks! That’s obviously why Mr. Lodge will also insist on a provision which specifies that you will waive the right to receive spousal support from Veronica.

So it appears pretty certain that Mr. Lodge will use every legal maneuver possible to essentially “write you out” of any financial windfall, should you and his daughter separate, or divorce.

Notwithstanding, there is the possibility, at least here in Canada, that an agreement which is considered too unfair, (or which is made without proper financial disclosure, or at the last moment, as you are walking up the aisle), could be set aside in the future. But don’t simply rely on that happening.

I strongly recommend that you take any such agreement proposed by Mr. Lodge’s lawyer, to an experienced family lawyer in Riverdale, for independent legal advice, before you sign it. If you choose not to sign it, (which will likely be the advice of your lawyer), you will soon find out whether Veronica is prepared to marry you nonetheless. At least, you can be certain; Veronica is not marrying you for your money.

Of course, you could avoid a whole lot of future grief (legal and otherwise) by taking my best advice, which isn’t legal advice at all. Her name is Betty! .