

It's A Man Magnet! By Carmen Leal

Ok, so maybe that's not the real reason why people buy the Alphasmart portable keyboard, but it sure is a benefit of using one in public.

Of course, my husband of three months might use a different word than "benefit" when talking about how many guys talk to me when I'm using my Alphasmart.

Today I went to a salad restaurant for a quick, hopefully nutritious lunch. I like this place for writing. Well lit, low music, and it empties out around 1:30. There's free soda, tea and coffee refills to quench the writing thirst too.

I finish my salad and half turkey on rye and settled in for a long afternoon of writing.

In under a minute I hear a well modulated voice ask, "What's that?"

"This? It's a portable keyboard. It's called the Alphasmart."

"Well, what do you DO with it?"

"Duh!!" Ok, I didn't really say that. I wanted to! "I type on it." I replied.

I patiently explained about the weight, price and the features of this priceless toy.

"Wow! That's so cool. Man, I go to a lot of meetings, that would be great. Can I see it?"

Without waiting for an answer this 40 something, well groomed, not bad looking man reaches over and begins to type.

His lunch partner chimes in from the other side. "How much does it hold?"

I gave up and did the Alphasmart sales thing. Of course then they wanted to know what I was writing.

"A screenplay."

"Wow! Like a movie or something?"

I smiled and answered, "Yeah. Or something."

Before long they know my plot, have suggestions for which actors to tap for starring roles, and, more importantly, are ready to buy my keyboard from me.

Of course I told them how easy it is to get a keyboard and that if they hurry, their wives can pick them up for Christmas.

Wives? Oh no! They're not married! Do I want to meet them for a drink after work? Or, whatever?

I told them I reserve "whatever" for my husband, but thank you very much.

They were actually really nice men and we had a fun time. Of course I got no work done but I did

meet two eligible bachelors in the Orlando area. Anyone want their numbers?

Oh, 40 something too old? I was at Starbucks last week. College boys love the AlphaSmart too. Of course I'm getting no writing done but I am meeting men. Maybe I'll start a dating service. Or, whatever.

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