

Is your partner a sociopath?

Look for the warning signs. Check all that apply:

Early in the relationship, he or she:

- Seemed to be head-over-heels in love with me
- Shared my values and interests
- Proclaimed we were soul mates!
- Called and texted me frequently
- Wanted to be with me all the time
- Showered me with affection
- Promised to make my dreams come true!
- Made me feel sorry for him/her
- Swept me up in a whirlwind romance
- Hurried the relationship along — in fact, I felt pressured

He/she exhibits the following traits:

- Charisma and charm
- Magnetic energy — seems so exciting!
- Glibness — is never at a loss for words
- Sexual magnetism
- Always looking for excitement — gets bored easily
- Irresponsibility, even recklessness

Unbelievable sense of entitlement

Yes, I've seen these nasty behaviors:

- Lies and gaps in the story
- Disparaged prior love interests
- Blamed others — including me — for all problems
- Secretly into pornography
- Manipulated me to get what he/she wanted

Eventually, he/she:

- Switched love on and off
- Showed a Jekyll and Hyde personality
- Threatened to commit suicide
- Hurt me — then acted like nothing happened
- Cheated on me — then denied that it happened
- Showed no empathy
- Showed no remorse
- Showed no conscience

These traits and behaviors are typically exhibited by people who have exploitative and manipulative personality disorders. The more of them that you see in your romantic partner, the more concerned you should be. For more information, read *Red Flags of Love Fraud — 10 signs you're dating a sociopath*, by Donna Andersen, author of Lovefraud.com.