

To celebrate the launch of LIVING'S new show, Dating in the Dark, Wednesdays at 9pm, we sent two of our readers to Dans Le Noir restaurant to find out if personality can win over looks.

Sanjay and Jo arrived separately at the Clerkenwell restaurant, where people literally dine in complete darkness. They were kept apart until they met at their table, where it was then too dark to even see each other. Here's how they got on...

**Sanjay**, 33, is a Flight Lieutenant in the Royal Air Force and is from Harrow. We spoke to him after the starters and here's what he had to say.

#### What is it like so far looking for love in the dark?

I'm really enjoying myself. I've never done anything like this before. I didn't know what to expect because I've never seen Jo, but it's been fun getting to know her. I'm finding out about Jo the person, without any inhibitions or knowing what she looks like. You just have to get to know the person and if you like them, bonus!

#### How is the dark affecting the date and are you more or less nervous?

I'm probably not as nervous as I would be on a typical date, it takes some of the pressure off and you can just concentrate on getting to know the person without any inhibitions. Although it's difficult not being able to see her face or gauge her reaction while I'm talking. I'm trying not to act any differently, apart from trying to find my food! So far, it's going ok and we're asking each other the usual type of questions you would ask when getting to know someone.

#### Do you usually go for looks or personality?

Without wanting to sound too shallow, I would say looks. But it's good getting to know Jo without seeing what she looks like.

#### What do you think of Jo so far?

She seems lovely and very pleasant. If the night continues as well as it has so far, I would definitely meet her again – going on her character and her personality. Although I'm not sure if I could actually fancy her without seeing her!

# METRO DATES IN THE DARK

Personality score  
7/10

#### After the reveal...

Jo, after seeing Sanjay:  
He's different to what I imagined because I did have an idea in my head. He's lovely though, really nice and I'm pleasantly surprised.

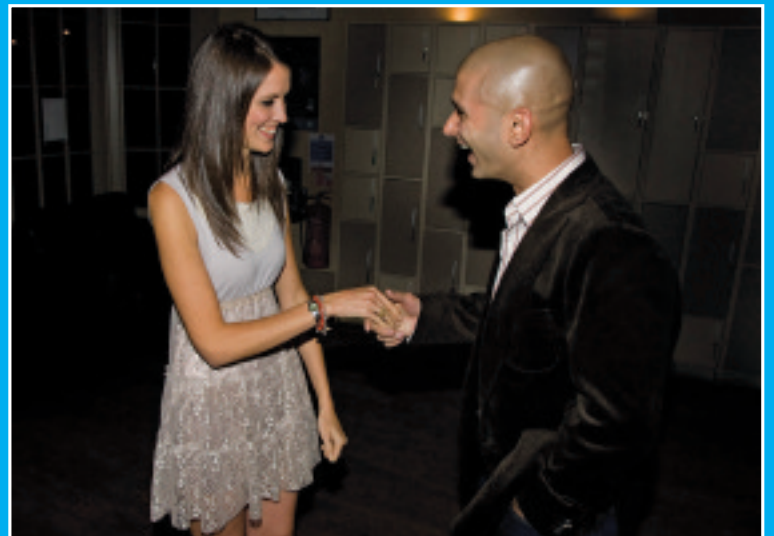
I think we'll continue the date in the same way now too because we got on just chatting anyway so it shouldn't make much difference.

Looks score  
6/10

WHAT JO THOUGHT HE LOOKED LIKE



WHAT SANJAY LOOKS LIKE





**Jo**, 26, works in advertising and is from London. We spoke to her after the starters too and here's what she had to say.

**What is it like so far looking for love in the dark and how is it affecting the date?**

It's very unusual, but really interesting. You don't realise how much you actually rely on your sight. It takes you away from what you're used to. It puts everything in perspective because you have absolutely no idea what this guy is like. He's cool though and we're getting on well.

**Are you more or less nervous in the dark?**

I think I might be acting a little bit more ridiculous than normal, being an idiot and giggling loads because I find the whole situation so unsettling. Even little things like trying to pour some water – you're completely out of your comfort zone. I'm stabbing away at my food too, trying to get hold of something and then it escapes me so I've just given up and am using my hands to just go for it.

**Do you usually go for looks or personality?**

I usually go for both looks AND personality, neither is more important in my opinion. Although I think things might change when I see him – obviously if I like him it's good but if not I'll be quite disappointed. I know that sounds really fickle... taxi for one!

**What do you think of Sanjay so far?**

It's been good fun and he's really nice. I don't know if I could fancy him without seeing him though. He does have a lovely voice – I think my sense of sound has been heightened in the dark. So then again maybe I could fancy him because of his voice... I can't wait to see what he looks like!

WHAT SANJAY THOUGHT SHE LOOKED LIKE



WHAT JO LOOKS LIKE



**Personality score**  
7/10

**After the reveal...**

Sanjay, after seeing Jo:  
Wow! I was imagining something completely different – definitely better than I ever expected.

It has made a real difference getting to know each other in the dark. If there's going to be a rest of the date – I think it will be great. I'd definitely recommend this to anyone.

**Looks score**  
8/10

**Want to try it yourself?**

Win 1 of 5 dinner in the dark experiences at [www.looksorpersonality.com](http://www.looksorpersonality.com)

**“I've never really had to have a conversation before. It's nice.”**