



## OUR ONLINE PROFILE

Hi, I'm Clarence. I'm a 31-year-old importer/exporter who enjoys boating, water skiing, shadowboxing, scrapbooking, finding my true love, puppetry, beat boxing, shape-shifting and poppin' 'n' lockin'. I'm looking for someone to take care of – to shower gifts upon. I'm very loving, and just haven't met the right woman to build a future with. I love my country and I look forward to introducing you to all it has to offer.

# From Russia with Postage

We're a lonely bunch here at Strut. That's why we were delighted to receive a special invitation to meet "some of the loveliest ladies on the internet" from the former USSR. Our "intern" Clarence was excited to hook up with a sexy Russian mail-order bride. Here is a transcript of his online conversations with her, um, keeper.

November 26  
 > From Strut

I'm so excited to have come across your site. In fact, my friend Wally guided me here. He found his current wife through this site!!! I'm anxious to talk to all these ladies who seem interested in me and are sending me love letters (I assume). But I'm blocked from reading any of them. How can I access these letters?  
 Clarence

November 28  
 > From the Russians

Dear Clarence Rutherford,  
 Thank you for using our services. We are very glad that your friend met his wife through our website. In order to open ladies' letters, you have to purchase tokens first. It costs two tokens to open an e-letter from a lady and two tokens to send an e-letter. The token charge includes translation and delivery of your e-letter by the lady's agency. The lady's response to you is also translated and sent by her agency. After receiving your e-letter from her agency, the lady composes her response e-letter in Russian and gives it to her agency. The agency then translates and sends the e-letter to your inbox.  
 Have a nice day!  
 Best regards,  
 Elena

December 1  
 > From Strut

Hey, thanks Elena.  
 Listen, my buddy's wife is really pretty. Really, really pretty. She's like... she's got really high cheekbones, and is big – really tall. But she looks kind of Asian. She looks half Russian, half Asian. Do you know what I mean?  
 Do you know what country she's from? What country in Russia has Asian people?  
 Clarence

December 11  
 > From the Russians

Dear Clarence,  
 Asian-looking people live in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, some parts of Siberia, Far East and etc. I suggest that you ask your friend's wife directly what part of Russia she is from. She is the only one who can answer your question.  
 Have a nice day!  
 Best regards,  
 Elena

December 15  
 > From Strut

Oh jeez, I thought it would be rude of me to ask her where she's from. Plus, my friend is very traditional and doesn't like her talking to other men. Even me! If I were to have a wife like his, I would want to show her off! Take her to my high school reunion and rub it in Tony Dupuis' face. My sister warned me that the women I would meet on this site are all looking to find a rich guy to fly them to North America, and once she gets here she'll dump me. Does that really happen?  
 C to the L-A-R-E-N-C-E

December 15  
 > From the Russians

No, they are just normal women looking for a normal man to lead a normal life. Most Russian ladies are simply seeking to get to know a good man. Their own men are poor prospects for companionship. Because there is a shortage of men over 30 – and 50% of them are alcoholics and they have a tradition of treating women very poorly. Please be aware that Russian and Ukrainian women are not eligible for regular US tourist visas. So, when a woman suggests that she can get such a visa to visit you, it is certainly a scam. Russian and Ukrainian women qualify only for K1 fiancée visas.  
 Have a nice day!  
 Best regards,  
 Elena

December 16  
 > From Strut

Hey Elena,  
 Thanks for getting back to me. I realize what the company line is regarding the women's intentions, but I thought I might get some more experience-based confirmation from you. Mais, en tout cas... Let's say that I do find what I think to be true *luv* through your service and I bring a lady over here – what is your return policy if she turns out to be a money-grubber?  
 C-Ruth

December 16  
 > From the Russians

Dear Sir,  
 Our company provides introduction services only. We introduce people but we are not responsible for their behaviour, actions or intentions. You are the only one who makes a choice of proposing marriage to a woman. We do not have any return policy. You get paid for the letters translation and delivery, and we can guarantee that all our ladies are real and all your letters will be translated and delivered to/from the ladies within 72 hours.

When you meet a woman at a local restaurant and then later marry her and things do not work out, you do not request a "return policy" from the restaurant where you met her. Right? So, we also provide a place where you meet people but we cannot guarantee a happy life together forever. Nobody can give you this guarantee.

December 20  
 > From Strut

Oh, dear Elena,  
 I feel I may have offended you. I don't want you to think that I don't think of these women as people. I just want to make sure that if I'm spending top dollar, I'm getting the goods.  
 C.

No response...