

Polyamorous love for four

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"Sometimes just two of us like to do something that the third one doesn't like to do," Jim says. Situations involving favorite TV shows, movies, hobbies or other activities two might have in common, leaves the third partner alone and feeling left out.

Finding a time for Jim, Thomas and Chris to spend together as a family is a large part of the battle. Recently unemployed, Jim doesn't work. While he's at home, Thomas works a first shift job and Chris works second.

The wonky work schedules create frustration, Chris says. By the time he comes home, Jim and Thomas have already had their together time and are settled watching a movie or already involved in some other activity.

The relationship is definitely an odd-numbered juggling act, and Jim had just the solution.

Poly dating

Thomas wasn't too keen on the idea when Jim broached the topic of bringing a fourth partner into the relationship.

"They were more open to adding a fourth person than I was," Thomas says. "I didn't want it to be like a brothel."

Jeremy Eudy, 22, from Midland, has known Chris for years, seeing him out and about around town. Jim met him recently and told him about his two boyfriends and asked if he was interested in dating them.

"Well, part of me was like, 'Okay, this hot,'" Jeremy laughs. "But the second part of me really liked the trust thing. This is a closed relationship and they are all honest with each other. That's the main thing that kills me — I've been screwed over a lot in other relationships. The last guy I dated for two years was sleeping around behind my back and I didn't even know it."

The three guys say they have a sense, so far, that they can trust Jeremy, too.

Thomas still has his reservations, but he's working through them.

"I was very against it at the start," he says. "We are still going through it though. We're almost like dating, you could say."

His initial rejection of the idea turned around when he met Jeremy. "It all depended on the person," he says. "If it had been someone else maybe it would have been different. But Jeremy has a good personality. He is line with us, with what we have in common. He more meshed with me."

Jim, Thomas and Chris hope Jeremy can

solve some of those third wheel issues.

"It is all about simple, everyday things," Chris says. "Going to bed, now there is two and two. Going to a restaurant and sitting in the booth, now there is two and two. Going to an amusement park for two-seater rides, now there is two and two."

Family

The guys' relationship is still growing. Jeremy's addition will serve a challenge, but it isn't anything they can't overcome. All four say there are certain qualities to the relationship they love.

Chris and Thomas say they enjoy the variety. "What you can't share with one person, you can with another. Everyone has different qualities and personalities," Thomas says. "It isn't always one or the other. It is collectively sharing with each other."



Jim, Thomas and Chris have been in a polyamorous relationship for about a year.

Jeremy says the relationship just works. "They have this going on and they have so many qualities. I think it just fits together like a puzzle."

He admires the group's commitment and honesty with each other. "That's one of the main things I value anywhere," he says. "I hate being lied to."

Jim's parents have grown since the day they told Thomas to leave. Having his "second family" in Charlotte is important to him. "Everything is good. The sex is good, the friendship is good, but they are more than just my lovers. They are my family."

Family is really all that counts. ▀

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See more photos of Jim, Thomas, Chris and Jeremy, and hear audio from the Q-Notes interview at www.q-notes.com.

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