



Be My Valentine



The Courting & Dating Rituals of Different Cultures

Stone Age Love

- Endogamy vs Exogamy
- Woman as spoil of war

- Polygamy vs Monogamy
- Man as provider





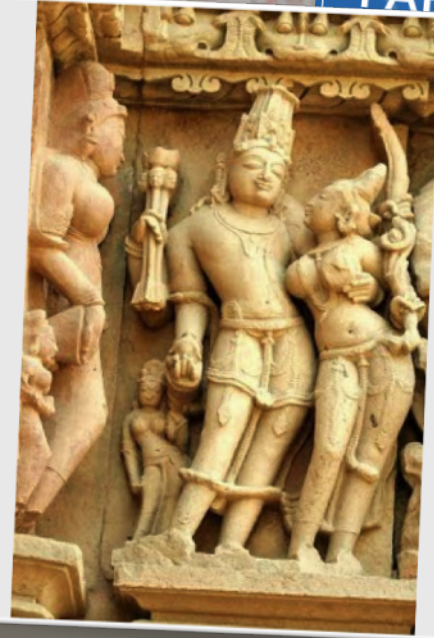
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- ✦ Buying a bride
 - ✦ Nomadic tribes
 - ✦ Royal alliances
 - ✦ Infant betrothals
 - ✦ Arranged marriage

Eros & Agape

Love is composed of a
single soul inhabiting
two bodies

Aristotle





Gods of Love

- ✦ Aphrodite
- ✦ Venus & Cupid
- ✦ Kama
- ✦ Radha
- ✦ Ishtar/Astarte
- ✦ Freya



Other National Celebrations of Love

- Israel – *Tu b'Av* on 15th day of 11th lunar month
- Wales – St. Dwynwen's Day on 25th January
- China – *Qi Xi* on 7th day of 7th lunar month'
- Brazil – *Dia dos Namorados* on 12th June
- Egypt – *Eid el-Hop el-Masri* on 4th November



Elopement vs Betrothal

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆
“We will have rings and things and fine array;
And kiss me, Kate, we will be married o’Sunday.”

The Taming of the Shrew Act 2, Scene 1



Bargain Bride

- Bride Price
- Dowry
- Trousseau

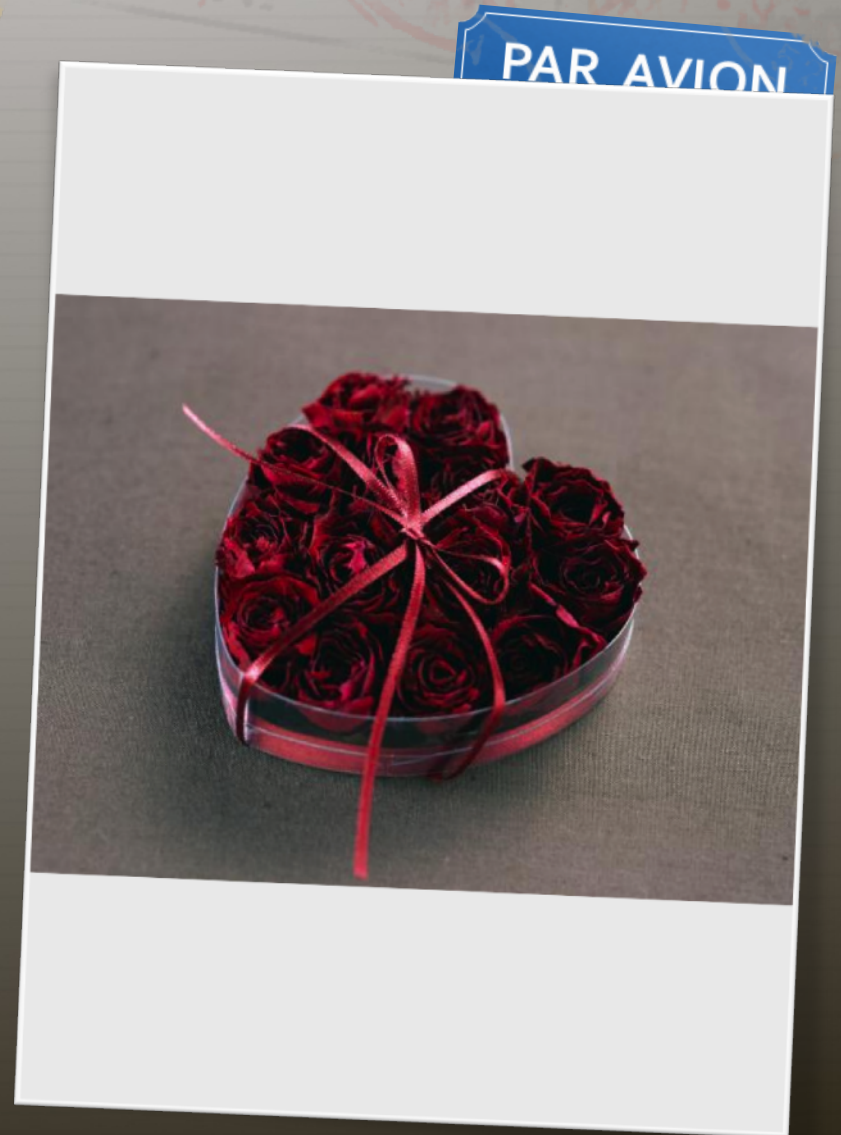
The Heart as a Symbol of Love



Say it with Flowers



- ❧ Symbol of love
- ❧ Meaning of flowers
- ❧ Russian superstition





S.W.A.L.
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Development of Courtship Customs: British Isles

- England – Gloves
- Scotland – Leap Year
- Wales – Love Spoons
- Ireland – Claddagh Ring





PAR AVION



PAR AVION

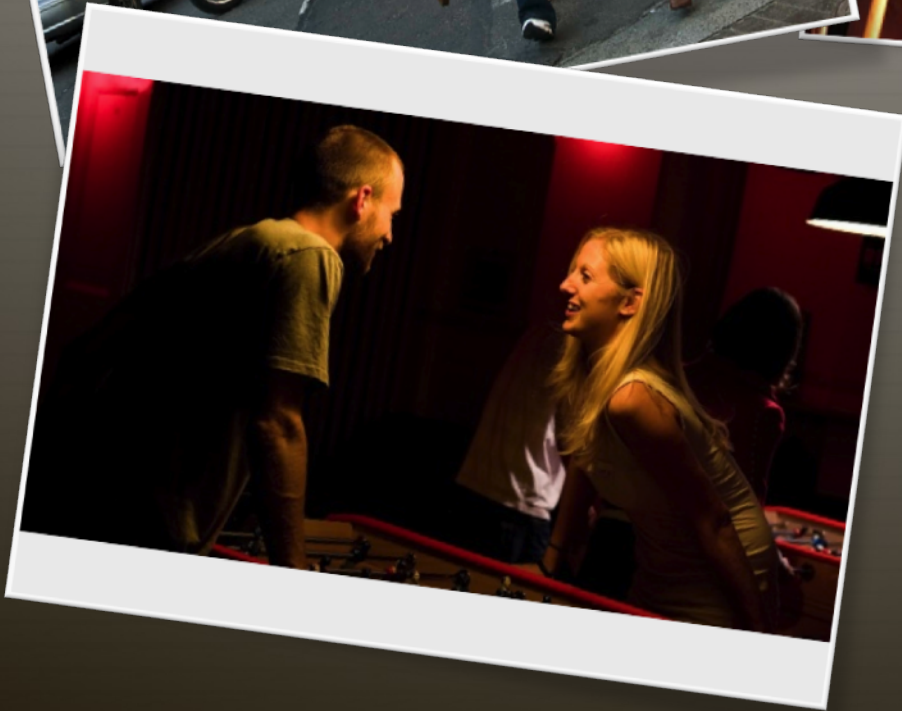
...and the rest of the world

- Japan
- Norway
- China
- Columbia
- India
- USA



Contemporary Courtship: Cultural Variations

- Australia
- China
- France
- Germany
- Italy
- Japan



- ❧ Kenya
- ❧ Korea
- ❧ Nigeria
- ❧ Russia
- ❧ Sweden
- ❧ USA
- ❧ Same sex couples

The Dark Side

- Groom Kidnapping
- Gender selection
- Bride Kidnapping
- Dowry Death



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A Gentleman about 30 Years of Age, that says He has a Very Good Estate, would willingly Match Himself to some Good Young Gentlewoman, that has a Fortune of 2 000 l. or thereabout, and he will make Settlement to Content.

When it shall appear that I am Candid, and no otherwise concerned than in bringing two Elderly Persons to a Treaty; and the Nine Days Wonder and Laughter (usually attending new things) are over, and that no body shall know any thing of the matter, but where I shall reasonably believe they are in good earnest; then 'tis probable such Advertisements may prove very useful.

A Young Man about 25 Years of Age, in a very good Trade, and whose Father will make him worth 1000 l.

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Lonely Hearts

- Lonely heart classified ads
- Cyber Love: internet dating



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A Hallmark Holiday?





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21st Century Valentine's Day

- A billion cards exchanged each year
- Flowers, chocolates and a candlelit dinner for two
- For singles or for couples?

Love is...

Love is...



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2/14

...playing your trump card.

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