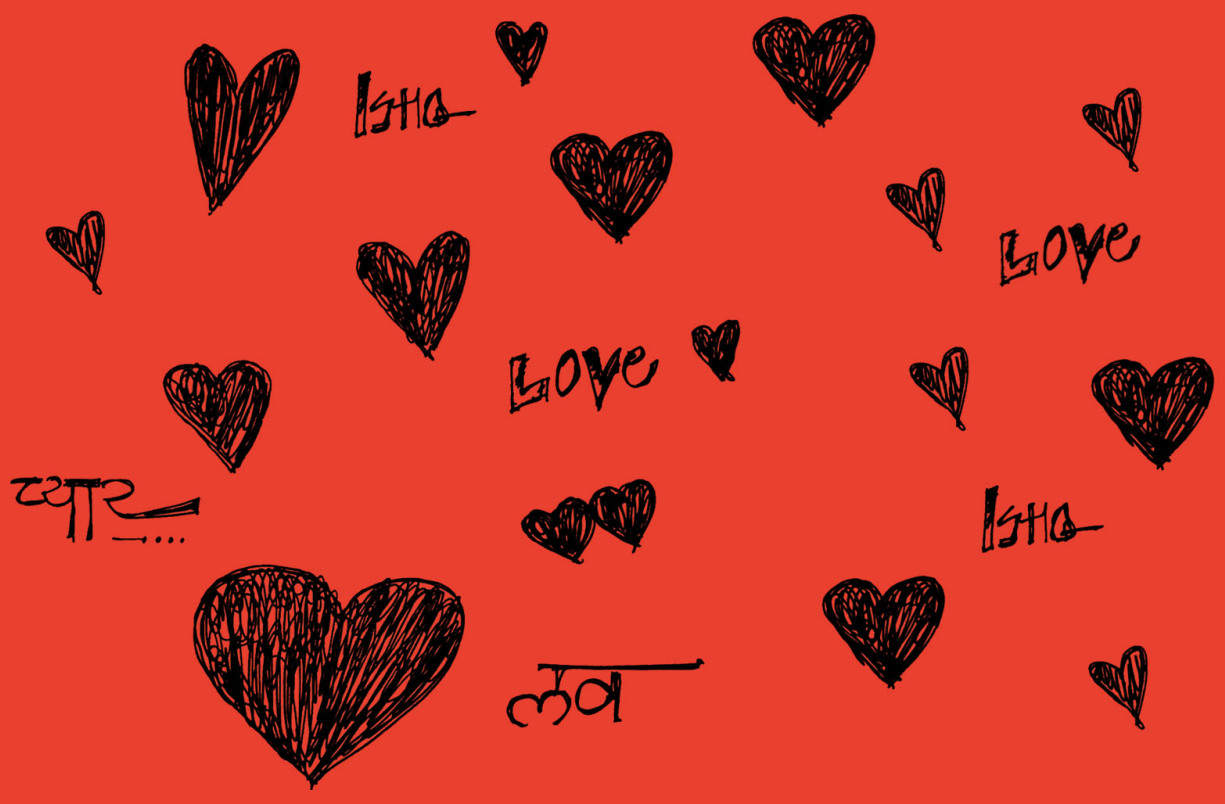




oh!!!  
wo-(man-ia)

[woo-m-uh-nia] noun, abstract most of the times, raw, unadulterated, ridiculously suave

edition 11 - february 2015



## unfolding edition 11

- When I fell...and rose in love..
- the donut story
- Love Sex & Dhoka
- how to kiss
- Open letter to Honey singh
- Osho gyaan
- The unreal depictions of Love
- of love & other drugs
- To all the girls on Valentine's Day!
- Innocent Love ~ Betty and Ken
- Some Love stories
- In just 99 words!
- Different Pictures of Love!
- Who are we?



DIBA  
YAMINI  
**editorial**

Love in the time of Cholera was one the most poignant and famous novels by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. This novel is, in essence, a love story and the lovesickness depicted by the protagonists is metaphorical to a physical disease. But is this edition about the classics? Or about diseases which are not eradicated? Or is it about Cholera in particular, the symptoms? Or is it about how people die with deadly diseases? Or is it simply about Love and other metaphors?

Indeed it's about love! It's February, the only month when love is overrated. Oh! Wait! Love is always overrated, but it is colored red in February along with being overrated. It's kinda decorated, if you know what we mean.

Red roses, red balloons, red clothes, hearts throbbing - they are red too and everything in kind and spirit is Red! Everything! That's Valentine's Day for you folks.

Shhh! Let us not make fun of it. It is a pious day. A saint's birthday. A day when couples exchange genuine tokens of loouuuuvvvee.

Ok, whatever, let's make fun of this most overrated topic! LOVE.

And if Mr. Marquez were to write the same novel set up in recent times, it would be called, Love in the time of Dengue. Or Love in the time of Ebola. Or Love in the time of Swine Flu. Or Love in the time of Air-crashes-and-missing-planes.

Or love in the time of Religion-Conversions. Or love in the time of Installing-Godse-Statue-and-Ghar-Wapsi

Or Love in the time of Modi. Or love in the time of Obama-visiting India. Or love in the time of Religious spats.

Or love in the time of you-say-I-love-you-on-FB-we-will-get-you-married.

Or love in the time of Religious-hatred.

Or LOVE IN THE TIME OF HATRED!

Yes!

That's the metaphor for love. HATE! Today if we were to write about love, it would be about hate. There is no other way we can put it. Because that is how it exists today. To Love is to Hate! Or to Hate is to Love!

Any one disagrees? If yes, we are elated at the little hope that you show. And those who nod in agreement, yes, we are on the same page. And there is no good happening around.

The most overrated, misunderstood and unacceptable topic today is LOVE. And that is the sad truth of humanity!

**Happy Valentine's Day Folks!**

# When I fell...and rose in Love..



Many famous writers and philosophers have quoted that one shouldn't fall in love, one should rise in love. I, for the longest time did not understand the meaning of it. How can one rise in love? I had fallen in love with her irrevocably. I did not know anything else apart from loving her. I say "fallen" in love, because I indeed I fell – BAD!

They all have different definitions of love. Love at first sight and all. How can one fall in love with someone at the first sight? I did not know until I experienced it. Her limped advances, with a crutch in one hand and other resting on the door, swept me off my feet. She was one of the most amazing experiences I ever had. Was she pretty? Yes, most definitely. She still is. But I did not fall for her beauty. Her hair did something though. She hugged me as we met for the very first time. I fell for that warmth. She was that missing piece in my life and finally I felt that everything was in place.

Like everyone, I had a concept of love too. Romantic outings, writing letters, talking on phone for hours together, singing song, buying things for your beloved, listening to stories, celebrating occasions, posing for cozy pictures, updating on Facebook, making collages and proving how amazing our love was. We were everything that ever defined perfection.

*But then, love is not all this. I had fallen in love, quite literally too. So had she. We became each other's weaknesses. We would yell at each other, take the liberty of demanding each other's time. She would dictate me and I would dictate her. Expectations started soaring high and that slowly led to suffocation and frustration. I couldn't bear the fact that she could have another life and nor could she tolerate that I could be friends with different people. We had indeed fallen. Fallen deep in the dungeon from where there was no coming back. We both lied there, in dirt, in crap, helpless, looking at the world crumble down on us, our love disappearing into thin air. Finally we decided to let go of each other. We broke up. It was a mess. A big big mess.*

You are hit the hardest when you are at your weakest. There are times when every bad thing out there happens to you, and you blame it on love. Blame it on "Falling" in love. The scores in the college get affected, the performance at work deteriorates, and your life which was centered around one person, suddenly becomes pointless.

For many, this is usually the end of life, an existence. But for me, it was a phase where I decided to rise up. I had become this horrible person. I hated myself. I never hated anyone in my life before, I never yelled, my life was always about cordial relationships and happiness. But here I was struggling to find that good side of my identity. I had become this person that I started to hate. Why wouldn't anyone else hate me too?

Slowly, I practiced forgiveness. I forgave myself to begin with. When I forgave, I could start loving myself. I had never done that before. I had no love for myself, no respect. I developed that. I started living for my own dreams and realized the importance of having a life centered around my progress and happiness. Slowly, everything started falling in place. I became patient. I could think of the better times I had with her and reminisce. I appreciated the good things she did to me. I became a better person. There was no bitterness anymore. Some people perpetually live in that bitterness, I am glad I could come out if it. I had given myself a chance. All for rediscovering that exact feeling of warmth that I felt when I first saw her. I was capable of love, in feeling and action, without having an object. She was out of my life, but I could still feel immense love, for even my worst enemies. Something had changed. And I was this whole new person.

## **I had risen in love!**

She called me last night after 7 long months. Her voice had the same radiance like it did the first time I met her. Falling in love is not an option again. Rising is!

Love lies in the deepest stashes of our heart, we just need to wiggle it and allow it to surface. It's always beautiful.

## Love Sex & Dhoka

Yes yes, enough said about the real definition of Love and the truth of life and the beauty and all that. But a human being has to live. Doesn't he? And by human being I mean man. A man ought to live. And he lives by instincts. And the strongest instinct that a man has is .....Lust... when he sees a woman, and the anatomical variations that happen, that leads the both of them into the copulating act, hence leading to the beginning of what is called as Loovvee! More so on Valentine 's Day!

Oh Well!

There is no need of exaggerations. Let's face it. We all know the specifics. Sexually, men are more dynamic. And emotionally- women. The men were made the way they are for the sole purpose of multiplying his kind and the women were made in a way, so that they would condition the mankind in the way she thought was right. But between all this, where did LOVE come from? It was one simple act of having sex and procreating. And now weirdly, many people call it "Making love".

### So is there, or isn't there any love?

If you were the last man/woman on the earth and you find another last woman/man seeking you, like you were seeking it, and you have no attraction, no love, no affection for this stranger, would you have sex or not?

The answer is most definitely YES. You would. You would try, by all means to procreate! Where is the LOVE in this? Where is the emotional involvement that one relates to while having Sex? You are doing the most instinctive thing a human can do – procreate. And that's what we all do under the label of LOVE, even today.

But if there was no Sex in a relationship, would that last? Is there any couple out there who live only because there is LOVE between them and no physical intimacy whatsoever? And also it is not a compromise of any sort?

Would any relationship last only on the basis of Sex? If a couple has amazing sex every week, week after week, without any strings attached, without feeling love for each other, without being dependent on each other for anything, would that relationship last either?

Somewhere, you know the answer to the second question is YES or may be No, if you want to be politically correct.

Then what is Love? Is Love nothing but Sex or is Sex nothing but Love.

If Sex and Love are defined, then what the hell is Lust?



Do we really need definitions? Do we need to know how mutually exclusive Sex and Love are? No we don't. We don't need to know anything. Nor do we need to define either with the support of the other. Sex is the utmost way of expression a man can use. Our soul needs to be filled with something surreal, sublime and inexplicable. It is the way of releasing all the materialistic tensions and pain the body clenches and letting go of everything the cells in the body hold.

Love is no different! Love is the basis of everything that was ever there. A human being is made of love, but is overtaken by the detailed intricacies of something so subtle and naïve.

Man is born with nature of Love, and instincts of survival.

If you have your man giving you roses, gifts and expressing how amazing you are then that's not love, that's a way appreciating and getting back appreciation. If your girl wears a special perfume and seduces you into ecstasy, then that is not love that is Ego satisfaction.

Love is just as natural as breathing. Love is nature, and so is Sex.

And if someone tells you, Sex is because there is love, and love exists only because there is Sex, then that is a clear case of Dhoka!

It's like mixing oil and water. Both will be together, but oil will stay afloat. Separated.

If you want to see what oil in water is like, then it has to be subjected to heat. And that heat is a passion that helps you bare your soul. Call it Love, Call it Sex or Call it Lust. The definitions will change, with the capacity an individual holds.

This passion is only an inward journey and rest everything external is Deception!

That differentiates, the quintessential, LOVE, SEX and.... ;)

That's right!

## The Donut story



You keep a sinful donut in the fridge because you can't add on any more calories to the diet. So you keep it! In your fridge!

Then you go and perform your chores set through the day. All the while you subconsciously crave for just one bite of the sumptuous chocolate-filled donut. While cooking or cleaning or working or driving – it's always on your mind.

You know back there, in your own refrigerator - is your love, which you can't unite with. But it still tempts you, distracts you from living the moment. Even if you forget, your brain knocks on the temples and prompts "Hello, you need to feel bad about something. Try and remember the story!"

So you see what you've done? Created a matrix for yourself. If you love the donut, eat it! If you can't, then don't keep it, to torment you later.

That silly 2-inch-diametrically round thing made you lose concentration, made you feel bad, tempted you into thinking about it, and made you feel guilty!

Similar is the story of life, we first plant devils in our life, knowing well that they will ruin us, then we feed those devils by giving them mind space and top-most priority.

It's just like a petty donut, we know but in reality it is so much more. For instance, shopping for practically no reason, or just because there is sale, the excessive bitching, body shaming, insecurity, so many things.

So many tiny demons devastate our peace on regular basis. Some we plant, some are sown by others, and some don't even exist. But yeah we feed them all, consciously, subconsciously.... Creating so many matrices that our peace of mind, our soul, our own self gets lost in this ruckus!

And then there is debris of things lying, all rotten, which once looked appealing. You can take it or leave it, because you have been feeding it all this while. It is now stuck. It is slowly consuming you. The little worries, tensions, unnecessary details about other people's lives, pessimism – everything has been feeding on the energy you provide it. That energy is called attention.

So just let it go. As long as we attend to it, it feeds more and becomes stronger. Why not feed the positives thoughts? If the Matrix is unescapable, we might as well create a positive matrix which empowers us.

That one donut, is all it takes. Take it or leave it. If it is left behind, forget it! If not, do not let it feed off your attention.

## Some Love stories



**Ours was an arranged marriage. She came from a very small town in Tamil Nadu. But she was so smart for her age and education. I got married, because my father asked me to. Love was not a criterion. When we got married we had nothing. No house, no cupboard, no bed. I used to work in the Railways. Slowly, we built everything. With love. It wouldn't have been possible without her support. I have known only one support in last 54 years. Your grandmother! I married her in 1956.**

*It's almost impossible to deal with his annoying innuendos. He asks everything twice. Why won't he get the things straight in the first go? I've been handling his irksome ways since we were 10. And 30 years later, he refuses to change, knowing that it is so so annoying. The other day, he was talking to my father, telling him how he loves pulling my leg, how much he loves troubling me. We've been best friends all along. But things change when you marry your best friend, don't they?*

*I had no strength! But the nurses asked me to push harder. I gave up, asking them to take me to the operation theatre, cut me open and take out the damn baby. I gasped another puff of air, and saw my father come in. He asked me to try it one more time, and assured that everything would be just fine. I found all my lost strength and resolved to give one more push. I did. I tried my best. And that was it. I held him in my arms. That little piece of joy. I never felt so happy, relieved, disgusted, tired and in love...at the same time. He was the One! And my love at first sight!*

**She walked with her camera on her shoulder, flicking her hair. She hummed her favorite song, as she loaded her screen to show me the images she had clicked. She was a master-artist. She would capture the beauty so exquisitely. And just the same way she had captured my heart too. As she sat next to me, I looked at the pictures and was mesmerized by the beauty. She gave a peck on my cheek and went for the next round. I sat there, embarrassed, looking if anyone had seen a girl kiss a girl. Like, I cared! I was in love!**

# How to KISS

Many times, we do not know what to do in situations like...  
*when you've had a fight with your partner*  
*when you want to watch a certain movie and your partner suggests another one*  
*when your parents do not approve of your togetherness*  
*when caste and religion becomes a barrier in your relationship*  
*when certain habits of your partner annoy you*  
*when you are living a long distance relationship and do not know how to make it work*  
*when there has been a misunderstanding and your efforts do not suffice*  
*when your partner talks all the time, and you are always at the receiving end*  
*when you feel you are not getting enough from the relationship*  
*when you have yelled at your partner and are too proud to say sorry*  
*when your partner refuses to accept his/her mistake*  
*when your partner avoids you*  
*when you are not sure, if this is really love*  
*when you want to breakup but do not know how to go about it..*  
*when you want to say something without being hurtful!*

**Love is a very easy job! Relationship isn't! And most of the Relationships work when we KISS...  
When we....Keep It Simply, Silly!**

If you've had a fight, apologize. Even if it's not your fault. Because when you want to prove that you are right, then you are trying to satisfy your ego. And where there is Love, there is no ego!

If you want to watch a certain movie, and your partner disagrees, plan to watch both or neither. Relationship is two way street!

If your parents do not approve of your togetherness, analyze if it is worth sacrificing the relationship with your parents? Try and tell them how important it is to you that they are happy as well. With time, patience and Love, everything falls in place. If nothing works out, listen to your heart. It always guides you.

When caste and religion becomes a barrier, believe and know that every religion, every caste has propagated and taught Love. There is nothing bigger than that!

When certain habits of your partner annoy you, always know.. People are not perfect.. Love is!

When you are in a long distance relationship, understand that proximity only allows intimacy. Love can survive across distances too. Things get better with acceptance!

When there has been a misunderstanding, give it some time. Then communicate. With all earnestness. Honesty, patience and communication can set any situation right. There is no point in losing temper over failed efforts.

When you are always at the receiving end, try and change the means of communication. Write letters. Write emails. Talking and listening is not the only way. When you write things down, it gives a chance to the other person to grasp it in their own time and capacity.

If you feel you are compromising a lot in a relationship, if it is abusive, or you are not being respected, then walk out. There is never any good in staying in a relationship which consumes your energy and life. Love

and relationships should empower you, make you appreciate life and love more. Be strong, and walk out if it doesn't work.

There is only one mantra for a successful relationship. "Say what you mean and mean what you say". Apologize only if you mean it. Or apologize if you feel it is important for the relationship to work. Sometimes, peace of mind is more important than proving who is right and who is wrong. Power of love makes everything very easy. Even forgiveness.

Many times, we do not accept our mistakes because we are too proud. If you know your partner has done something wrong, give them some time to own it up. If they don't communicate. Tell them how you feel about it.

When your partner is avoiding you and you are not sure what is happening, ask. Ask if you would like your partner to have some space and time, if yes, give it. Ask if there is anything troubling them, and if they want to talk.. If they do talk, support them, if not, tell them you are always there and they can take as much time as they want to sort their things out. Be available, but let them be on their own. Some battles are personal!

When you are in love, and want to be in a relationship with a person, you will know it. There is no way of finding that out. If there is an iota of doubt, do not fool yourself. A relationship without love, trust care is not worth it. For the fear of staying single, do not commit to anything you are not sure of!

When you know you want to breakup, and you have all the valid reasons, do it. There is always a way of telling that you want to walk out. Hurt is inevitable. But the process can be made easier when you know what you want. Make sure you do not leave your partner in a pathetic state. Breakups needn't always be gory, like they are supposedly.

Love makes everything easy. When there is love, you would never feel like hurting the other person. Sometimes it becomes impossible to avoid hurts, but watching what you say, how you say will make the hurt ten times lesser.

**All the answers are always very easy. You just have to pause, reflect, think and act! If we give some time to responses, instead of instantly reacting, things would be very very easy.**

Above all that. Just Love.. That's the simplest and easiest thing! That's why we say...

When things go wrong... K I S S  
Keep It Simple, Silly! :)





## open letter to honey singh

Dear Yo Yo,

*How are you? You've come a long way as a Punjabi rapper. And why won't you, when most of the Bollywood and major chunk of your audience is from the north and adjoining regions. Yes people from down south don't understand you. You did a Thailava and Lungi Dance for them, but they have their own stars to worship. That's a different story!*

*Apart from regional pluses you have really managed to ape Eminem well and how. From sheer abuses, to ridiculing, to objectifying women you've done it all. No, I am not the super-feminist who will have issues with your lyrics which show utter disgrace to humanity, nor am I a fashionista who will comment on the your weird sense of dressing or chide your appearance with disgust.*

*I am not a parent who will shut down or mute the TV when your songs play. I am just a normal person, who has to go through the pain of listening to your songs again and again. I go to a wedding reception and it has your songs, I go to a birthday party, I see kids dancing on Blue hai pani pani.. Well I like the beats but I can't ignore the lyrics.*

*Since when did music become exclusive of lyrics, that they started allowing such raunchy, indecent words in a song?*

*I can't ignore when my little brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews sing your songs about making out in the car and taking pills later, or eloping with a girl and being excited about your honeymoon. Yes it's normal to talk about these things, but damn! You make songs out of it, and everyone sings them. There are people who become famous by making people laugh, making fun of people, but you dude, you objectify the entire fairer sex, you open up your lusty, lecherous self for all to see, hear, admire and copy. You subtly put lust in your lyrics and sing as if that is all to life and nothing more!*

*You can rap in a good way too, Yo Yo, yes you can say we are Ambara di queen.... You can be lil less demeaning if at all. I know abuses sell, AIB and roadies taught me that. But now that you are famous, you can keep that TRP technique aside and give us semi decent lyrics, please honey :)*

*P.S: You once compared your 4 bottle of vodka to a melodious "Chhalkaaye jaam", bragging it's the same. Darling that's Mohd.Rafi, don't compare.... Just, plain, don't!*



## Of love and other drugs....



### Love is...

It's not an adjective like it's reduced to today; it's not a metaphor for something divine. It's not sex, it's not lust, and it's not shallow. Its deep maybe, because you fall in love, yes you do. Love is not an act, an emotion, reciprocation.

Love is...

*Love can't be anything; to name it is to demean it. Love is neither straight nor crooked nor wicked or mean. Love is not pretty paintings, roses, songs or poetry.*

How can someone define what love is?

How can someone point what to love, whom to love?

Isn't it weird when it's dictated that a girl can love a guy, who has to be of same nationality, same social status, same financial match, within a set age limit, same caste, race, religion, gotra? Your beloved can't be of particular sun sign, moon sign, and all the planet blahness. If your love has so many parameters it's not love.

### Love is...

Love is not a vegetable, that you go around and select the most healthy, green and fresh stock? Such nose holes need a rod without Vaseline. Why are there conditions on the status of the other person to fall in love with? That's not even human. When you say you love a person, you don't love the sizes, you don't love the hourglasses, you don't love silk smooth skin, you don't love acne free cheeks, you don't love pouted lips, and you don't love six pack abs. That's not even lust, its treat for the eye. Well nothing wrong with being human, but that's momentary and that's not at all love.

### Love is...

To list down what love is, is condescending, to expect a lot from the one you love, isn't love I can assure you. To compare, to nag, to be over critical, to expect compromise, to bound, to restrict, is not love, oh well that's marriage

### because love is....

And well infidelity is not necessarily end of love; it's just human polygamous nature. So don't bind your love in chains of trust, loyalty, promises, honesty....

**Because love isn't all that.**

**Love simply is...**

## OSTHO gyaan

The basic fallacy that you are carrying within you is that you always loved somebody.

This is one of the most significant things about all human beings; their love is always for somebody, it is addressed – and the moment you address your love, you destroy it. It is as if you are saying, “I will breathe only for you – and when you are not there, then how can I breathe?”

Love should be like breathing. It should be just a quality in you – wherever you are, with whomsoever you are, or even if you are alone, love goes on overflowing from you. It is not a question of being in love with someone – it is a question of being love.

People are frustrated in their love experiences, not because something is wrong with love...they narrow down love to such a point that the ocean of love cannot remain there. You cannot contain the ocean – it is not a small stream; love is your whole being – love is your godliness. One should think in terms of whether one is loving or not. The question of the object of love does not arise. With your wife, you love your wife; with your children, you love your children; with your servants, you love your servants; with your friends, you love your friends; with the trees, you love the trees; with the ocean, you love the ocean.

### **You are love.**

Love is not dependent on the object, but is a radiation of your subjectivity – a radiation of your soul. And the vaster the radiation, the greater is your soul. The wider spread are the wings of your love, the bigger is the sky of your being.

You have lived under a common fallacy of all human beings. Now you are asking, “Am I able to love you?” – again, the same fallacy.

Just ask: Am I able to become love?

When you are in my presence, you need not think of loving me; otherwise, you have not come out of your ordinary fallacies. Here, you have to learn...just being loving. Of course your love will reach me too; it will reach others too. It will be a vibe surrounding you, spreading all over; and if so many people are simply broadcasting their love, their song, their ecstasy, the whole place becomes a temple. There is no other way of making a temple. Then the whole area is filled with a new kind of energy, and nobody is at a loss – because on you is showering the love of so many people: on each single person, so many people's love is showering.

Drop that fallacy. And because of that fallacy, another question arises in you: “...or has life brought me to the point where happiness in love does not happen anymore?” Life is nothing but an opportunity for love to blossom. If you are alive, the opportunity is there – even to the last breath. You may have missed your whole life: just the last breath, the last moment on the earth, if you can be love, you have not missed anything – because a single moment of love is equal to the whole eternity of love.

## Innocent Love ~ Betty and Ken

"Care for a cup of coffee?"

"I cannot walk all the way to the coffee shop now!"

"Care for a bike ride then?"

"You will ride a bike now? I don't want to die so soon."

"Alright then, let me show you something nice"

"What?"

"Let me put on my iPad... there are some snaps that I wanted to show you"

"Ohhkay... you can do that without coming closer.."

"You are looking exceptionally beautiful today, have you changed your hairstyle?"

"No, it's the same... nothing much can be done about it, you know.."

"Your eyes look prettier than ever before....."

"Don't do that... what if someone peeps in..."

"Nobody will.. Just one kiss.. And I'll set you free..."

"Please.... No...."

"Grampa are you trying to kiss Gramma?"

"Arrgh...Umm.... No kid... I was just trying to find out whether your Gramma has more teeth than me.."

"I lost one today, and I will count Betty's tomorrow. I am sure she has 2 less than me....."



## In just 99 words!

### What is Feminism?

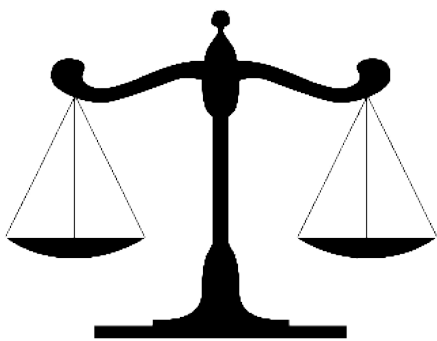
Feminism is nothing but Equality. There shouldn't have been this term "feminism", primarily. After years of putting up with the patriarchal society, when "dominance" was evaluated and found that men had the upper hand, it was essential that women got fair chances too. Hence, there was a drive for Female Equality. In this process if anyone developed beliefs, which showed that men should be bogged down, and women should be put on pedestals, then it's undeniably wrong. We believe in equal chances to both. Men who support their women are Feminists & women who are against men are not.

### What is Freedom of Expression?

When I know that you don't like olives, and I do and we say it. When I know we both love Pizza. When I say I want Olive toppings on it and you say you don't. We order a Pizza anyway, with Olives and Jalapenos. You pick out Olives and pass them on to me. I put away the Jalapenos on your side. We both relish the Pizza. We call for the cheque. And we both yell at the guy for charging inconsiderate Service Tax and VAT and blame the Government for senseless inflation! That is freedom of expression!

### What is the greatest form of love?

People say the greatest form of love is that of a Mother for its child. But that gets adulterated when the mother expects her child to do things her way. There is a lot of love but seldom freedom. Love of a Guru for its disciple is greater than the love of a mother. It is an entirety of a mother's love along with freedom. Freedom to seek the ultimate truth of life. If a mother becomes a Guru, then she would be the definitive epitome of Love. There is no love without freedom and no freedom without love.



## The unreal depictions of

In real life love is just routine. Unless there are portions of expressions, expenses and efforts put in, it doesn't appear gaudy as it is imagined to be. It appears normal. It's just a feeling that exists and we live with it. On certain occasions love takes different forms and becomes something else. Like, show off, self-appreciation, ego-boost, publicity, marketing or just plain feast. Or sometimes it becomes boozing, singing, solitude and poems.



**But love is beyond all that. There will be no guy who will lean out of a moving train and give a hand to a girl running towards a certain compartment. The train will pick up speed and the girl with all the paraphernalia wouldn't be able to run fast enough to catch his hand. Certain feminists might say why a girl can't run that fast, if Rajnikant can.**

If someone is heartbroken in love, the sad songs do not play on their own to edify the mood.. Nor does the friend or another happening young girl or guy walk by you in your troubled times and give you any comfort. One has to face it all alone. Eating alone, crying to sleep alone, and pretending to text on the phone when there is no one on the other end, walking alone, everything – alone. Anyone else's company is sheer illusion. It never happens in real life. If it does, it means you have only given a cognizance to something that always was!

Real life is full of crap. Actually it really isn't. We just have a lot of things put on a pedestal to compare with, so we think its crap. It really isn't. Love is routine. So is heartbreak. And only thing that makes most sense is take everything as routine. There are no galas in life, unless you decide to spend a few lakhs and feed people you don't even know and marry someone so that you have a license to sleep with him/her. Until that moment – show off moment, life has no gala. It is sheer routine.

There are many people who think that love means constant playing of violins and pianos. It means flowers and messages. They think its proposals and dinner dates. Well, it isn't any of it. Then comes the heart break phase. Lucky are those who don't have to face this, because they are self-sufficient in more ways than one. Then again people think this phase is all about sad songs and sulking. They think it is about non-kohled eyes and jaded look. Pastel colors and crooked smiles, sad smiles! It's about alcohol and addiction!

**But that's just in the movies. We all are living a real life. No one is watching us or giving a damn about why one smiles less or wear pastel shades or wears less makeup. No one would rather even care about how happy you are because you went on a romantic dinner date the previous night! How influenced are we? Blame it all on the unreal depictions of love on celluloid as well as on Facebook! That's the latest trend!**

When we accept that the real life is neither on the computer, TV, movie or telephone screen, we begin accept the other truths of life. And then, slowly everything is set into its routine. Rationality creeps back and things fall in place.

This is what happens. Rest everything that you perceive love to be is nothing but an illusion. Life, as they say, goes on, with or without any drama!

# To all the girls on Valentine's Day!



Dear Ladies,

*The understanding of love is totally different for girls and boys. I don't know why books like Mills and Boons were written in first place. I appreciate the pragmatic ladies who are like Ayn Rand, and believe in self-love more than anything else. There is nothing like a self-respecting woman, who has her own ideologies and whose*

*world doesn't revolve around her man. Yes, I, a man, am saying that! I speak for all my brethren when I say this.*

*We believe in Live and Let live. The expectations rise when people misconstrue what love really is. Love is nothing but appreciating the fact that life is so beautiful, that humans are capable of loving each other.*

*In the name of love, I have seen many women do extreme things. Like stay hungry. On days when they pray and fast for the men, and when they stay up hungry, late night for their husbands to come back home. No this is not love. This is stupidity. The body needs food at right time.*

*It doesn't mean your meal times should be dependent upon when your husband eats. That's strictly not love. If you want to show us how much you love us. Love yourself. Not to the point that you indulge in unnecessary expenditures!*

*Men usually are not very expressive. When we ask you, if you've had your food, or if you are doing ok, or if you have reached home safely, that means we are showing how much we love you. But you expect to hear those three words over and over to get an assurance about our love for you. Is that needed?*

*Dear Wife, if I go for over a year without saying I love you, or without giving you any flowers or gifts, that would not mean that I have stopped loving you. You should know we, men, have our ways of expressing.*

*Dear ladies, many times, the chauvinism does come in. It will. Because we are not yet programmed to accept the new wave of change. But when it comes to fixing tyres, lifting heavy things, changing the cylinders, or fixing a washing machine, we will have to do it. That by no means shows that we not in for equality. We are. But we love you too much to make you go through this trouble too. Leave something for us at least.*

*I would rather spend this day with my parents, who are in town. But sweetheart am there for you on all the other days of the year. Ain't I? Is love just restricted to this one day? Ok well, I will be busy for one more day after Valentine's Day...*

**It's India vs Pakistan!**

*And then I am all yours! I love you!*

Yours Truly,  
Mr. Guy!

# Different Pictures of Love!

## Infidelity

Allowing her to live the way she wants. Giving her the right to choose while she is with you. Giving her the path to lead. Leaving the same door open where she came in from. So that she can leave whenever she wants. If she leaves at all, loving her despite that... Knowing that she wasn't meant to stay. Letting her take the journey her way, if it's with or without you. If she comes back, allowing her to return. Or letting her belong to where she deserves to be. Loving her for whatever whoever she is.

Will your love change based on what she does? Love is a very personal business which doesn't depend on how the object of love behaves. Will you still love her if she left you for someone else? Will you still love her if she has a fling with someone else and comes back to you knowing that you are her solace? Would you let her be who she is, whatever she is, wherever she is set to go? Can you be that person who lets her pursue her journey, and do whatever her Karma demands? And despite all that, can you still, in your capacities feel that love for her. The same love, perhaps, you felt for the first time? Would you?

vs

## Loyalty

Does love means holding her back? Expecting her to love you your way? Knowing that she wears that ring and she is bonded in an unbreakable bond. Does it mean asking her to explore places with your permission. Does it mean that she has no right to look other men or does it mean that she should commit a sin by thinking about being with another man? Does love mean being loyal, despite unhappiness, suffocation and digression? Does it mean fights or pretense or putting on a shabby exhibition in front of society? Does it mean confining your heart and minds within a box where life becomes mundane and your soul – a prisoner? Does love mean binding someone when it is desperate to sneak out, soar and fly to unexplored places? What is love then?

Is love all about living and following the seven vows you took together and when individually you break the hundred vows of life? Is loyalty love? Is love loyalty? What would you do, if you found out that your partner is an extra marital affair? What would you do, if you find yourself falling love with someone else and falling out of love with your spouse? Would you still adjust, live on, compromise and try to find love where it doesn't exist?

## Space

Knowing that you have to stay away from your beloved. Knowing that he his jobs demands him to travel and go to places and attend meetings. Realizing that in the free time that he gets to be at home, he would like to do things that please him, and not please you. Would you still live with a man who asks for space, who enjoys watching TV more than going about in malls with you? Despite his preferences, he loves you so much that you have never felt lonely in your life. Would you give him that space? Would you allow him to have a game of cricket with his buddies, without waiting for his attention? Is he allowed to have a few beers with his friends while he leaves you home alone to pursue your hobbies and not complain about his absence? Is it love, when you allow your partner to pursue his likes and dislikes? Or is it about holding his hand all the time. Being the valid asset that he has attained after saying "I do" at the altar.

What is love then? Would you say she loves him, even if she doesn't accompany him to the parties he goes to. Is it love, when he is allowed to watch television or cricket matches with his guy friends while you are allowed to take up your interests? Is it not love, when the partners are encouraged to have a personal life, which doesn't include the spouse? Or does love go for a toss the moment couples start spending time apart? Is love so petty?

vs

## Bondage

Is love bondage, then? Is it being with your partner all the time? Is it eating, drinking, waking, and sleeping together? Is love all about sharing the laptop passwords, having no phone locks, sharing every little detail? Is it so much about trust, that you keep a check on your partner, rather you drop them and pick them up! Is it about being dependent on each other that you cannot move out of the house if the other is not there?

Is it about sharing the income details, is it asking for how much one spent where? Is it about being reckless or pinchpenny? Is it about selecting what dress your partner will wear, because you want to feel safe, or because you like them in certain attire? Or is it asking them to give up their eating habits? Do you want them to wear only specific colors? Is Love about giving up relationships with other people? Or is it about asking permission before doing each and everything? Is it about sacrifice so much so, that one's identity gets lost? Is this love? Is love bondage?

**Or is love, just letting go! Is love Freedom?**

**Yes, Love is freedom!**

## Who are we?

The other day someone asked me what's Oh! Womania.....

I as usual said that's it's an e-magazine. Then she further asked about what, I wanted to say feminism, but after reading so many things I realized, feminism is an overrated, misunderstood term. So what should my answer be?

I have always been proud; yes very very proud, to be a feminist. Be it, saying no to cooking and doing dishes because a "woman" is supposed to do it, proudly denying taking chai ki tray for potential grooms. I felt gratified in all the male bashing I did with my girlfriends. But should I be any prouder?

Yes, I had a predicament. I said feminism, but for the first time it didn't feel like bragging, instead it seemed like a negative word. Negative to the limit that I had to defend it, I had to say it's not anti-men. I couldn't say its humanitarian, because that's too big a word as per the general understanding.

That left me thinking, what are we? What's Oh! Womania?

**I realized a day later, it's finding the true meaning of feminism. Its research. Its analyzing feminism, redefining it, removing the clichés associated with it. All that exists male or female or anything is bound by one common force that is love - simple, pure love and compassion. So we want to break the stereotypical feminism and spread love and equality.**

Equality, not only on the basis of gender, but for each and everything that is there. Yes that's what we are!





## cover speaks

Love these days is complicated. Its show off, its ego clashes, its competition, its envy, its posting your love all over social media. Its everything but deep! Love today is mis-interpreted, hyped, over-rated and loosely used term. Love is not red anymore, it black because its shallow. Black because if it gets monotonous and boring you tend to cheat for more spice. So let love be, like it was, simple, sweet, real and lesser rated. Because love is.... :)

### Who are to be blamed?

N: What are your views on AIB roast of ranveer n arjun Kapoor  
Y: Loved it  
N: See freedom of expression doesn't mean you have to character assassinate someone  
Y: But that is the genre of comedy  
N: If u take out negatives in what media n movies do then thr won't be anything worth presenting ever  
Y: The prerogative is of the audiences  
Y: Maa bachche ko. Cough syrup. Deti cough kam. Karne ko.. Par agar bachcha bada hoke samajh gaya ki cough syrup se neend aati and usme alcohol hai toh galti kiski hai

Y: Fir ek point aisa aata. Ki maa ko cough syrup chhupa. Ke rakhna padta coz she realises bachxha is misusing  
Y: Same is the case with Indian society  
Y: They will. Only pick up negatives frm the movies... And good thngs bhaad me.. Imagine pk ka. Itna simple subtle. Msg tha.par rai ka pahaad banane wale banaye na...  
Y: Thats why ab baat yaha tak aa gai ki instead of serving clean movies or entertainment sala serve hi mat karo coz waise bhi. Misuse hi hona hai  
Y: Samjhe?  
Y: So srk doing his shit.. Honey singh doing his.. And aib their own... They r not to be blamed  
Y: The audiences r

## choli ke peeche

### Why do they do it?

N: God knows where indians are heading!!  
N: Mujhe aajtak samajh nahi roadies main jane ko log itna marte kyu?  
N: Bike ke liye?  
D: Fame k liye  
Y: Experience ke liye  
Y: Aaj kal big boss n all bhi experience ke liye hi hota

D: Experienc  
D: Wt kinda  
D: It's jus fame n money  
D: N aib accepted d money d fame d evrytyn  
D: Plus evry1 signed up for d abuse  
D: Alia deepika sona as well  
D: Scripted abuse which is to amuse  
Y: Correct!

PS: We have read the comments and taken up a few pointers too. How much we follow and stay in our senses, is all up to the rotation and revolution of the earth! We are unapologetic, but we sincerely respect feedbacks and we couldn't have been more thankful! :)

So keep 'em coming.

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### Are we hypocrites?

N: So its ok to abuse right  
N: Womania ka no cursing wal edition ka kya??  
D: No naa it's not ok to abuse  
D: Bt den tis ws hilarious  
N: Then what is aib about  
N: Ha yeh to double standards wali baat hai  
N: Its hilarious agar celebrity kare to  
Y: Nai its not ok to abuse.. Definitely not ok  
Y: But this wasnt just abt abusing.. I do not appreciate the abuses  
Y: I appreciate the fact that they all signed up for being abused.  
D: Nahi ye being human

D: more than anything, I liked d witty comnts  
N: Aur aam admi ke liye tum womania main likhte dont abuse  
Y: Aam aadmi abuses without asking the person whether it is ready to be offended. There's a difference. Aam aadmi, just abuses. Here, the people signed up for being hit at.  
D: It came garbled wit galiya  
N: Kya witty tha usme  
Y: Everything about it was witty!  
D: It's like a movie. With disclaimer! Dekho,ya mat dekho, upto you!

### Until Next time:

Note: All the typos in the posts are intentional. If you haven't found any, Congratulations!  
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More light, more power to everyone!

Help spread the love with Diba and Yamini :)