

VALENTINE'S DAY FUN

It's not the men in my life that count -- it's the life in my men. (Mae West) Love is grand; divorce is a hundred grand (Unknown). Every February across the country, chocolates, flowers, and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. But who is this mysterious saint and why do we celebrate this date?

The History

February has long been a month of romance and although we know that St. Valentine's Day, as we have it today, contains remnants of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition, the actual history of Valentines' Day and its patron saint remains shrouded in mystery.

So, who was Saint Valentine and how did he become associated with this ancient rite? Today, the Catholic Church recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine or Valentinus, all of whom were martyred.

Valentine - The Romantic

One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men -- his crop of potential soldiers.

Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

Valentine - The Hero

There are stories that suggest that Valentine may have been killed by the Romans for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman prisons, where they were beaten and tortured.

Valentine - The Lover

According to one legend, Valentine actually sent the first 'valentine' greeting himself!

It is believed that Valentine fell in love with a young girl -- who may have been his jailor's daughter. She visited him constantly during his confinement and it is alleged that he wrote her a letter, just before his death, which he signed 'From your Valentine,' an expression that we still use today.

Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky, the stories certainly emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic, and, most importantly, romantic figure. It's no surprise that by the Middle Ages, Valentine was one of the most popular saints in England and France.

But whatever the history, Valentine has inspired great writers & poets and some very funny quotes, one liners and jokes... here are a few to get you started

Do skunks celebrate Valentine's Day?

Sure, they're very scent-imental!

What did the elephant say to his girlfriend?

"I love you a ton!"

What did the paper clip say to the magnet?

"I find you very attractive."

What did one light bulb say to the other?

"I love you a whole watt!"

What did the pencil say to the paper?

"I dot my i's on you!"

Did you hear about the nearsighted porcupine?

He fell in love with a pincushion!

What did the bat say to his girlfriend?

"You're fun to hang around with."

Valentine's Day Love Quotes

If music be the food of love, play on.

Shakespeare

Grow old along with me, the best is yet to be.

Robert Browning

It's not the men in my life that count -- it's the life in my men.

Mae West (1892-1980)

At the touch of Love every one becomes a poet.

Plato

Love may not make the world go round, but I must admit that it makes the ride worthwhile.

Sean Connery

Love is like the measles; we all have to go through it.

Jerome K. Jerome

Love is like an hourglass, with the heart filling up as the brain empties.

Jules Renard

To love oneself is the beginning of a lifelong romance.

Oscar Wilde

It is never too late to fall in love.

Sandy Wilson

If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?

Anonymous

Love is grand; divorce is a hundred grand

Unknown

I love the sun for days, the moon for nights and you... forever!

Unknown

Happiness is being married to my best friend

Valentine Verses

Roses are red,

Violets are blue

I made this card

Just for you

It's not the neatest,

It wouldn't pass a test

But it's made with love-

That makes it the best

To the world
You are one person
But to this person
You are the world

Tommy Cooper was getting into his car
This bloke says "Can you give me a lift "
Tommy says" Sure, you look great,
the world's your oyster,
go for it"

Love
One word...
But so many memories.

It takes more than lace and ribbons
And lovely verses too
To make a Valentine
That's nice enough for you
It takes a world of special thoughts
Tucked into every line
And that's exactly what you'll find
Inside this valentine.

The night was dark
The moon was high,
He stopped the car
She wondered Why,
He moved in close,
Her heart went pitter pat,
He whispered softly,
The tyre's flat

I May not always tell you
What I'm feeling deep inside
The emotions and the feelings
That I sometimes tend to hide
But I'm really proud and pleased
To know that you are mine
And I hope that you still love me
My Darling Valentine

Just to know each day
That you are here
To listen and love,
To laugh and care,
Makes each new day
Seem bright and new.

Make each moment become
a treasured memory.

I love you more with each new day!