

Are You In Love????????(LL)

Now begins the long, sometimes arduous, business of exploring each other's mind, of falling in love with the soul of the other. Here you really have a job, and present-day society tends to make it about as difficult as possible.

Too much of modern courtship is nothing more than a shopping spree; the buying of entertainment. A continuous round of movies, dances, night clubs, parties, and spectator sports can make you fail completely to discover what you both think along broad, important lines, how you react in human situations. You may fail, too, to find out whether you can entertain each other (without petting) simply because you have not given it a reasonable try.

With unlimited recreational gadgets at your disposal, and people eager to distract you because they have no real life of their own, you can well arrive at the end of a fairly long courtship without discovering that having to spend three nights running at home (as you surely will after you are married and have children) can be distinctly boring. The physical communication of the sexes, while it is important that it be happy, is not nearly as important as psychological, or spiritual, communication. You depend on the first periodically; you depend on the second always. More than that, it is here that love becomes strictly human. Unless you want to reduce marriage to the level of animal mating you had better make pretty sure that you are attracted by qualities of mind and heart as well as by qualities of body.

You will be so drawn to each other when you can sit together and talk leisurely for hours; when you respect each other's opinions even though you differ; when you can ask a question as easily as answer one, accept a suggestion as well as make one; when you can sit in opposite corners of a room and, without talking, hold a spiritual communion.

Anyone can see why the Church counsels a reasonably long courtship. While you may appraise accurately enough another's physical charms at a glance, it may take you months, and even years, to appraise another's spiritual charm.

Perhaps you think there is no real connection between physical and spiritual charm. In the early stages of courtship you may keep them separate, each in its own compartment of your thinking and feeling. But you will never separate them in marriage, or if you do, not without injury. Whatever man does, if he does it well and wholeheartedly, he does it with both soul and body. Far from being an exception to the rule, sex proves the rule. Men's whole being, body and soul, goes into the sex act, but the widely differing effects on the individuals, depending on the presence or absence of legitimacy and wedded love. That is why married persons who really love sometimes confess, to the gaping astonishment of those who do not love, that physical attraction intensifies with age and persists until late in life when their bodies, to all others, are anything but attractive. With them, you see, the physical and spiritual have become one. The loveliness of the soul, which they appreciate better with the passing years, somehow illumines the body and gives it an attraction which only the partner can sense.

PRAYERS: (deceased) Mrs. William Strohmenger, relative of Prof. Paul Stokely; Paul J. Broderick, '26; Clifford C. Buckley, '41; Philip G. Deane, ex. '19; Clarence R. Reilly, ex. '27; John J. Roache, '34; mother of Joe DeMarco, '43; mother of John J. Simko, '32; mother of John Trayner, '25; Cpl. Andrew Martin, '34, formerly miss n.; now declared dead. (Ill) father of Jim De Lu (Morro brother of Mother Una, CSC; grand, ather of Bud Burke(al) and Dick Burke) Morr) mother of Tom Johnson(Cor) brother of Neil Peters (Far) father of Bill Butler (OC) John Mahoney, '22  
Eight Special Intentions. One Thanksgiving.