

# Happy Valentine's Day



"As Valentine's Day approaches, men exert a force on women, women exert a force on men, etc. Of course, the gravitational force is not as great as the social changes that occur."

-- Wayne Wright, physics instructor

## Messages from your loved ones:

To My mom, my dad, and my sister: I love you always and forever. Love, Kacey.

To My mom, dad, and sister: I love you a lot. Happy Valentine's Day. Love, Kelly.

To Mr. Bear: I love you with all of my heart. Happy Valentine's Day! Love, Your Little Clam.

To My Wife: I love you. Your Hubby Marlin.

To Dana L.: My love for you is only exceeded by my love for Christ, but may both of them grow to equal your beauty. Geoffrey D.

I love you Exquisita, Day Pay.

To My family: Roses are red, violets are blue, happy Valentine's Day, now give me chocolate. Love, Mom.

Valentine's Wishes to the women's basketball team from John Thorburn and the Clackamas Print.

JAR- The past four years have been the most wonderful of times because of you. I love you and will always love you! I love you- MAM.

To Susanna:

Turning your skin the milky blue of sky-water— riding the west bank of the river black across the twilight— strewn here and there captured suns blink on consecrated in your hair sleeping.

Ron Rasch

## A short history

Every February 14, millions of Americans send valentines to people they love. But, as with many customs, the origin of St. Valentine's Day is shrouded in mystery.

### WHO WAS SAINT VALENTINE?

Archaeologists have unearthed a Roman catacomb and an ancient church dedicated to Saint Valentine. But they are not certain if there was one Valentine—or two.

Ancient accounts tell the tales of two martyrs named Valentine who were executed on Feb. 14, sometime during the third century. One was a Roman priest and the other was the Bishop of Terni, a city about 50 miles away from Rome.

### VALENTINE'S DAY AND ROMANCE

Scholars have two main theories to explain how Feb. 14 became associated with romance:

Theory I: The middle of February was the time of the ancient Roman Feast of Lupercalia,

a pagan fertility celebration.

Maidens would write love notes and deposit them in a large urn. The men of Rome would pick notes from the urn and then court the girls whose messages they had drawn.

Theory II: People began sending love notes on Valentine's Day in the late Middle Ages. Medieval Europeans believed birds began to mate on Feb. 14 and wished to emulate them.

Both theories blend fact and fancy, so it is impossible to separate them. We know the first paper valentines date back to the 1500s and enterprising Yankees soon were making money selling valentines.

Esther A. Howland, who produced one of the first commercial American valentines in the 1840s, sold \$5,000 worth—when \$5,000 was a lot of money—the first year.

Americans are such eager lovers that the valentine industry has been booming ever since.

By Lawrence Cunnigham, PhD, University of Notre Dame

To Emme: You complete me! Gummy

Remember: It's Random Act of Kindness Week.

Happy Valentine's Day to students and staff from the Clackamas Print!

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