

# All About Love

## Love through the years . . .

*Grassroot News, N.W.*—When a relationship can span over three decades, the love, dedication and trust is truly unique to these times. The backbone of our community is the aggregate sum of good Christian marriages. Mr. and Mrs. S. Q. Broadous are such a couple. Mr. Broadous, 72, is a retired barber and photographer. Mrs. Ernestine Broadous, 52, is an instructor's aide at Boise School.

In the early '50s they were introduced in Arkansas. Mr. Broadous remembers: "Well, my first wife died and I was getting lonely. A friend of mine told me about a woman who was a matron at a boarding school. She said that she was a fine lady and I wanted to meet her." Mr. Broadous said that Mrs. Broadous seemed like a "good old girl."

"When he was introduced to me I really wasn't interested in getting married. Back then I was totally committed to the children. I didn't have time to acquaint myself with any of the young men in the community. After meeting him he seemed to be really interested and we began to correspond. He seemed to really mean business. He would call me at night and I thought that marriage was not the way for me because I wanted to finish school. He told me that he was going to come to Portland and that he could get married before he left." Mrs.

Broadous finished school and in 1953 she came to Portland.

Mr. Broadous recalls that up to this time he had never met Mrs. Broadous' people. "After she consented to be my wife I wrote her mother and gave references on my behalf."

"The strange thing about our marriage," Mrs. Broadous began, "is that we went through the ceremony three times. The first time we went through it we didn't have enough witnesses. The second time we didn't have the right person to be the witness and finally we got the right witnesses."

Mr. Broadous said that the Reverend who performed the ceremony told him, "There's no way you will ever get away from that woman because you tied the knot three times."

The Broadouses are good church-going people. "If it was not for the church I don't think we would have made it. We have the same interest in that we're both religious and are of the same denomination. We always had family pray in our home. And we know that if a family prays together, the family stays together."

In marriages that have lasted as long as the Broadouses when the children get grown and leave it affects the relationship. Mrs. Broadous says that it had no effect on theirs. "About that time my husband was having medical problems. And it just caused me to do more



S.Q. BROADOUS



ERNESTINE BROADOUS

for him."

The core of their marriage is love. "When he's gone, I wonder where he is. I even know when he's not feeling well. I don't know what it is but it's something that you just grow together as one." Mr. Broadous defines their love as when she's gone there seems to be a vacancy. "When she returns it's filled up."

What advice could this lifelong couple offer others who want to make their relationship as permanent as theirs? Mr. Broadous says, "Marriage is honorable. God said it

wouldn't do for man to live alone. He said what God has put together let no man put asunder. Now, this doesn't mean that there won't be problems. But these misunderstandings aren't enough to say I'm gone. It's until death that we part. Just remember your marriage vows."

Mrs. Broadous advises, "Love one another and do things together. Some families never do anything together. Go places together and share daily experiences with your family." The formula for a long and happy marriage is the example of Mr. and Mrs. S. Q. Broadous.

## In Love

by Harris Levon McRae

*In love is what I am with you  
Like magic we can fly . . .*

The dream of romantic love is taken more seriously in America than it is anywhere else in the world. Falling in love at first sight and "instant" love are part of the world in which we live—hence our high divorce rate.

I talked to Portlanders about love and romance and they had some interesting, thought provoking things to say. The sharing of these experiences with you will hopefully help you take a more positive look at your "good thing."

Good relationships enhance our lives and help us form a base of support that helps us keep it together as we make our way in the world. We have to work hard to fill our love relationships with as much peace and joy as possible.

It takes two to make a relationship and two to maintain and strengthen it. Everyone I talked to agreed that kindness and caring are essential expressions of love and they make a good thing great:

"Treat her the way you want to be treated."

"Find out what his wants and needs are."

"If you want your relationship to improve you must be willing to work hard at it."

"Show you care—it always comes back."

Neither partner in the love affair should have to assume sole responsibility for it, but both must be willing to give and receive.

Portland lovers feel that the most important thing in any relationship is keeping the lines of communication open. Talking things out with your loved-one is essential if you hope to improve your relationship. This can be difficult with the pace of life most of us keep, but there are lots of ways of communicating:

"If we don't get a chance to talk much at home we call each other on the telephone—just five or ten minutes can work wonders!"

"Letters are a nice way to communicate."

"I like wine and fireside conversation."

Don't take things for granted and think you know your partner inside

and out. Good relationships seem effortless to those on the outside but a lot of care goes into them:

"I like to be told 'I love you' a lot so I don't have to guess. I also show and tell my husband that I love him over and over."

"I need a candle light dinner and a dozen long-stemmed roses every once in a while."

Men and women are socialized differently. They are taught to think differently about relationships. Many times this leads us to a point in our relationship that seems like we won't make it through it. Couples tell me that difficulties can be avoided by trying to work out problems as they develop, focus on the problems and your feelings about them. Here is how some people work out lovers' spats:

"We make a date—just as if we didn't live with each other. It makes you smile, it fills you with anticipation and reminds you of what attracted you to each other."

"One of us will spend a couple of days in a hotel—usually we can't stay apart more than a couple of nights and both of us wind up in the hotel ordering champagne from room service."

"I refuse to cook—it works every time!"

Loving someone means helping them to be more themselves, which isn't necessarily how you'd like them to be, although many times they turn out the same. It is love that makes our existence seem to have a sense of purpose.

Talk and listen to each other, change and grow together, keep in touch with each other's needs, desires, and dreams. "Don't make the mistake of thinking you have it made once you find a compatible mate." I was told by a veteran of a 20-year-marriage, "Even the things that you now find the most enjoyable can seem to lose their freshness. With a little imagination you can keep the relationship exciting for both of you."

The love between two people can help you build a bridge of tenderness that reaches into the heart and soul of both partners. I think Adlai Stevenson sums it all up quite well: "By love . . . I do not mean sentimentality or possessive emotion; but the steady recognition of others' uniqueness, and a sustained intention to seek their good."

## Antony and Cleopatra: East meets west

by Harris Levon McRae

Cleopatra, Queen of Egypt, was a dark-haired beauty with big dark eyes, an exceptional woman who won the hearts of two of the greatest soldiers in history—Julius Caesar and Mark Antony.

Mark Antony's "love jones" for Cleopatra caused him many problems. On the night before the famous Battle of Actium, September 2nd, 31 B.C., Cleopatra had an argument with Antony that changed the course of history.

It seems that on this fateful evening Antony blamed Cleopatra for alienating his friends from him. The Queen retaliated saying that he himself was alone to blame for the loss of confidence in him.

Cleopatra was angry too that Antony was about to put all of the

Egyptian battleships except for the ones that were to go to Egypt with her in a position that they would have to take the major part of the fighting. (The Egyptian ships were the most powerful in Antony's fleet.)

Cleopatra added injury to insult when she reminded him, too, that her reason for going to Egypt, was not merely to add strength to his position by ridding him of the only person (Cleopatra) who Antony's arch-rival Octavian had been able to arouse public opinion against, but also to get some rest from the domestic quarrels which made their relationship so much of a misery to her.

It is generally thought that they quarreled deep into the night and that both of them were exhausted by it. On a night that they should have

been tenderly holding each other close, they spent a restless night separated from each other.

On the following morning they still had not made up and Antony exhausted from a sleepless night and a hangover went out to do battle with Octavian for control of the world, not caring if he won or lost this prize which once represented the peak of his ambition.

All that mattered to Antony was that Cleopatra should not leave him while he was so full of anger and had so much longing for her love. He had his mind made up that if by the end of the day he was still alive, he would see Cleopatra again before her departure and kiss and make up.

Cleopatra, meanwhile, was tired of delaying her departure. Antony had told her that he never wished to speak to her again. She felt that it would serve him right if she just slipped away without his even noticing her departure.

Those thoughts led Cleopatra to make a reckless decision.

Antony, at the height of the battle, saw Cleopatra taking off, and the insanity of his love affair overwhelmed his tired mind. Cleopatra was going out of his life without even attempting to make up; deeply hurt by his insults, she was leaving

him forever. He could not bear parting from his wife unforgiven. His passionate desire to be with her in a loving farewell mixed with his anger at her ability to leave him at a time when he was facing death, exploded into impulse. He summoned the fastest ship in his fleet and went to Cleopatra—abandoning the battle.

All through the night Antony sat there, waiting for Cleopatra to make some sign. She refused, and in bitter retaliation, Antony refused to consider any means of returning to Actium to resume the war.

Octavian's men were victorious two hours later. Antony's fleet had given up the fight and surrendered. Cleopatra and her lover's spite had proven to be their downfall.

The defeat in the Battle of Actium was not enough to keep Antony and Cleopatra apart forever. Time healed the lovers' wounds and for a while all was well.

Antony and Cleopatra died in a manner similar to two other well-known lovers: Romeo and Juliet.

Antony, falsely hearing that Cleopatra had killed herself, stabbed himself with his sword, while he was just barely alive he was taken to where Cleopatra had been hiding from Octavian. That night Cleopatra, Queen of Egypt, killed herself.

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