HIVALRY

DEAD OR JUST SLEEPING



FOR THE COMMUNITY OF HOPELESS ROMANTICS



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ISCHIVALRY ORDEAD, ORISITJUST? SIFFDIXCY





otivated to represent a shift in the perception of romantic gestures in the 1950s as compared to how I currently view romance, I worked to utilize current depictions of romance set in a 1950s aesthetic. Through an exaggerated perspective, I propose a strong dichotomy between what romance was verses what it is now. As a result, I hope to teach my viewers that chivalry is not dead; instead, chivalrous actions and kindness have the ability to be brought back into modernity.

Is chivalry is dead? Or is it just sleeping? I've asked this not so simple question to myself many times, and as much as I want to wholeheartedly believe it persists and soars through modern-day romance, I continuously run into disconfirming feedback that, in fact, it has died. Whether chivalrous life or death is good or bad, I'm unsure, but what I contend is that chivalry, at least the way I imagine it, has drastically changed.

For as long as I can remember, I've attributed my perception of romance to a time during the 1950s with which romance was met with passion, heroism, and irresistibility. Admittedly, I've always wanted my chair pulled out for me before a candle-lit dinner, yearning for the late-night walk home after a romantic night out. I always wanted his pin on my jacket, to have that happily ever after, and to be the desirable heroine. So, yes, if you're wondering, it is true. My heart found its home in the glamorized, might I add, chivalrous times of the fifties.

Yet, still, I recognize that times have changed. The year 2023 has come, and with that, an evolved sense of what constitutes modern romance. Instead of getting "pinned" by the man of my dreams, he remains hidden behind the screen through a text: "Do you want to be my girlfriend?" Instead of walking me home, he does not think twice about putting me in the backseat of an Uber. Instead of my chair being pulled out for me, I follow him to the booth situated in front of the television so he can watch whatever sports game is on. Simply put, my modern day romance is not exactly how I pictured it would be.

While both the fifties and 2023 are emblematic of the human desire for connection and togetherness, over time, the ways in which we go about finding these connections has drastically changed. What used to be intentional, thoughtful romance is now met and challenged with a like, text, and swipe today. Sure, it is effortless and undemanding, but it does bring up deeper questions of what constitutes the beauty and excitement in finding true love.

Yes, the fifties proposed a lifestyle set by the status quo with which men dictated the social norms of women at the time. And while we have made immense progress in equal rights for women since the 1950s, somewhere along the line we have lost the passion, tenderness, and endearment of love. Many people believe that chivalry is a dated concept, as this term was established during a time of unequal gender roles—but by altering our perspective of the term, there becomes an opportunity to bring themes of thoughtfulness and respect of which this principle was intended for, to be woven into our romantic lives today. Chivalry shouldn't be limited to men, heterosexual couples, or couples today; incorporating consideration and respect into your relationship, whether it is romantic or not, can reintroduce chivalry in the modern world.

chiv-al-ry (noun)

"The very polite, honest, and kind behavior, especially by men towards women.

It is a system of behavior followed by knights in the medieval period of history that put a high value on honor, kindness, and courage."



n the 21st century, the word chivalry evokes a kind of old-fashioned male respect for women. But during the Middle Ages, the code was established for much grittier reasons.

At a time of routine military violence with massive civilian casualties, chivalry was an effort to set ground rules for knightly behavior. While these rules sometimes dictated generous treatment of the less-fortunate and less-powerful, they were focused mainly on protecting the interests of elites.

The development of chivalry went hand-in-hand with the rise of knights—heavily armored, mounted warriors from elite backgrounds—starting around the time of the Norman conquest of England in 1066. The word chivalry itself comes from the medieval Latin caballarius, meaning horseman.

In the middle of the 11th century, the knight was not a particularly honorable figure.

"He's a hired thug," says Jennifer Goodman Wollock, a professor of medieval studies at Texas A&M University who has written two books about chivalry. "He's got horses. He's got armor. He's like a heavy tank."

These warriors were commanded by warlords and rewarded with land, or with license to plunder the villages where they did battle, looting, raping and burning as they went.

"In the early Middle Ages, church councils were praying to be delivered from knights," Wollock says. "What develops as you get into the late 11th, 12th century is a sense that knights have to have a professional code if they're going to be respected and respectable."

There was never a firm consensus on what it meant to be a good knight. The most common values found in rules that commanders created for knights revolved around the practical needs of a military force: bravery in battle and loyalty to one's lord and companions.

"You've got all these people who are very prone to violence, heavily armed," says Kelly Gibson, a medieval historian at the University of Dallas and editor of *Vengeance in Medieval Europe*. "You've got to find some way to get them to get along."

Still, Wollock argues that chivalry did go well beyond the simple need for a disciplined military. Particularly in romantic literature of the time—some of it written expressly for young noblemen who were being trained for knighthood. Knights were presented as pious, generous and merciful.

"To be a great knight, you ought to have consideration of civilians, for women," Wollock says. "The greatest knights are inspired by the love of some lady out there and want to impress her and win her love by doing great deeds."

Of course, it's hard to know how much of an impression these stories—generally written not by knights themselves but by clergymen or poets—made on young warriors. Richard Kaeuper, a historian at the University of Rochester and author of several books on medieval chivalry, argues that, while knights generally considered themselves honorable and pious, they didn't necessarily follow religious leaders' rules.

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Oh, the irony of it all. In the age of connectivity, we find it so difficult to disconnect from our devices and, as a result, end up increasingly disconnected from one another. The closer our technology brings us, the more alienated we become and the more we conform to ideologies created by data and algorithms. Let me preface this by saying I am no saint when it comes to screen time; I admittedly scroll through social media way more than I would like to admit. But this isn't about my late-night Instagram problem. This is about how technology ruined my relationship... and how it was the best thing that could have ever happened to me.

could have ever happened to me.

My story begins and ends through social media. I was set up blindly as a result of a mad scramble because the original double date I had with my best friend and her boyfriend fell through at the last minute. My best friend's boyfriend quickly pulled up my Instagram and started showing my picture to his friends and suddenly I was no longer dateless. What I wasn't expecting was to fall completely, foolishly, head over heels with this stranger. That was February 2020, and the next week was spring break so I was forced to sit with my newfound longing for this boy, a few thousand miles between us, and only have his Instagram profile picture to remind me of his tangibility. I wanted him. And I wanted him desperately. I craved the warm feeling that went through my body when he smirked at me, and I chased it by posting pictures on social media waiting for him to see it. When my phone vibrated and his name appeared, my heart stopped, and the feeling I got that first night. There was a different

When we got back from our vacation, we spent a week doing the typical early twenties' hookup dance: flirting over text, me going over late at night, and sneaking out early in the morning. I wanted to make him mine so badly. And if I had a little more time, I would have. But in March 2022 the world shut down, and with it any possibility of me leaving my freshman year with him as mine. Before we could get one more night together or even a goodbye in, we were headed to opposite coasts and everything

element this time—a feeling of hope that this could be something more.

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BEING PRESENT."

I had touched and felt was gone—a memory to keep me company during those dark months of the early pandemic. He was my beacon of light that kept pushing me through those months. Facetimes, texts, and Snapchats were my sources of excitement and gave me hope that I could still have him on the other side of quarantine. It's ironic, though, because the technology that kept me connected when we were apart was ultimately what drove us apart when we were actually together.

We met back at school in September of 2020. It had been an isolating few months, and I had been desperately clinging to any token I had of

him, constantly rereading texts and staring at photos he would put up on social media. I acted quickly, and we were shortly together. I had done it. He was mine. I was stupidly in love, so blinded that I have never even noticed any behavior that would make a reasonable person stop and think twice. Any time we were out to dinner he was constantly texting, making other plans. The second I pulled out my phone, he would look up at me and accuse me of not being present and being too attached to social media. Meanwhile, when I was on social media, I would see him liking other girls' pictures, and let's just say it was still bikini season. I told myself jealousy doesn't look good on me, and that it didn't matter if he liked anyone else's pictures. But it turns out that it did. If I had followed my gut feeling, I would have spared myself a lot of pain, but also a lot of love.

That's the twisted beauty in it all, the shiny beautiful thing that sweeps us off our feet, that teaches us what ultimately getting what you desperately ache for feels like. It's the same thing that rips your heart out and exposes you to gut-wrenching pain, the type you can't see yourself fully healing from. But eventually you do, and you block that same profile picture that you once stared at longingly, hoping he would accept my friend request. There exists the same sense of twisted beauty in technology as there is in love and loss—a limitless possibility of optimism and catastrophe that looms infinitely large.

By Jordyn Staff





Don't be a "Distracted Date"

Put your phone away





When I became single surprisingly in my forties, I had to get accustomed to the digital world of online dating. It was strange to encounter people I might never meet, have conversations with them, decide if I wanted to meet with them or not. I was used to meeting people in person and only talking to them in person. But I started this journey meeting people and having a few dates that were less than fulfilling. I often found the person I was hoping I was meet wasn't the person I would actually get to know in person. And our interactions online were very brief—just a few exchanges then setting up a meeting.

Then I met someone who was so engaging online. He began telling me all his deepest secrets right away. He told me about his struggles in life and shared his story about addiction and his friend who had committed suicide. He said I was the only one he had told. And I felt special even though I hadn't met him.

He also asked so many meaningful questions of me. He seemed to care about my thoughts more than anyone I had met in person. We shared our writing and our love of art and music. We texted until deep into the night every night. I wanted to meet him, but I often felt

NATUAL ROMANCE

embarassed to ask because he never brought it up. When I did ask he would say "all in good time." So I kept messaging him. I looked forward to hearing from him every day and would wait anxiously for his messages. But if I asked to meet, he just said again, "all in good time."

Eventually, one day I messaged him and he didn't write back. This was after months of daily intense messages. I remember crying about his absence. But I had never really even known him. I thought later about why someone would create such an intense connection with someone they never planned on meeting. All I could come up with is the vulnerablity that being separated by technology allows one to feel. I wasn't a real person. I was just someone to interact with who he didn't have to actually meet. I had fallen in love with someone who was only a digital presence, not a real person. And and I realized after that that love cannot be just a digital engagement. There's too much that can be hidden. There's too much disengagement. I won't ever fall in love with a ghost again.

By Jennifer Metsker







Don't be a "Virtual Romance"

DON'T RELY ON TECHNOLOGY TO KEEP YOUR ROMANTIC CONNECTIONS











Don't be a "Rain Check"

Show up for your partner



I wrote this short piece in response to the way I view love with both romantic partners as well as the relationship we have with ourselves. I was inspired by relationships in my life where someone's words did not match their actions and the lessons this taught me about love.

Moving through the uncertainty of life, I always hold one belief constant: you show up for the people you love.

What exactly does this mean—to show up? Showing up is making a commitment and following through with it when you give someone your word. Showing up is being present with the people around you when you are giving your time. Showing up can be physical in that you are physically experiencing something with someone, but it can also be as intangible as holding someone's heart. Showing up is actually listening when an individual wishes for understanding and empathy. Showing up is not letting a loved one go to sleep upset. Showing up is being there for a sports game or dance recital with unconditional encouragement. Showing up is reminding the people you love of their value and worth. Showing up is prioritizing growth over conflict. Showing up is not leaving anyone behind regardless of the darkness they are experiencing.

How they show up in your life matters.

Showing up is not about expensive gifts, flowers after a fight, Instagram posts, travel destinations, or fancy dinner dates; it is much deeper than the superficial materials that cloud the ego with self-serving motives and empty promises. Showing up is a sacrifice and requires selfless intentions.

Showing up is hard and it takes time, commitment, and work.

If there is anything I have learned, it is that love is not just a feeling, it goes far deeper than the intangible chemistry that exists between two individuals. Rather it is a choice and an action. Love is showing up.

While life is full of expectations and imaginations, oftentimes, we are let down by a canceled trip, delayed date, an unexpected betrayal or a broken promise. This is only natural. While it may be hard to see in the moment, all of the tears and heartache can turn out to be the biggest blessing in disguise as you discover your inner strength.

The reality is—sometimes people don't show up so you can learn how to show up for yourself.

By Samantha Marcus





Dear Hopeless Romantics,

While I understand it is hard to keep chivalry alive in the modern world of romance, there is potential for love to belong in everyone's lives. Here are some tips to do so.



1.

Open doors for your partner: Whether it's a car door or a restaurant door, take the time to open it for your partner.

Pull out chairs: Pulling out chairs for your partner at a restaurant or at home can show your respect and consideration for their comfort.



3.

Offer your jacket: If your partner is feeling cold, offer your jacket to keep them warm.

Bring flowers: Flowers are a classic way to show your affection and appreciation for your partner.



5.

Offer to carry heavy items: If your partner is carrying something heavy, offer to carry it for them.

Plan thoughtful surprises: Plan surprise dates or gifts for your partner to show that you're thinking about them.





Write love letters: In this digital age, a handwritten love letter can be a thoughtful and romantic gesture.

Hold hands: Holding hands can be a small but meaningful gesture that shows your affection and commitment to your partner.





Compliment your partner: Make an effort to compliment your partner regularly, whether it's on their appearance, achievements, or character.

Practice active listening: Practice active listening when your partner is speaking to you. Show them that you value their thoughts and feelings by giving them your full attention.

10.

Be respectful: Show respect for your partner's boundaries, feelings, and opinions, even when you don't agree with them.

Practice patience: Be patient with your partner when they're going through a difficult time or when things don't go as planned.

12.



Take responsibility: Take responsibility for your actions and apologize when you make mistakes. This shows your partner that you're willing to be accountable for your behavior.

Practice gratitude: Express gratitude for your partner and the things they do for you. Show them that you don't take their presence or efforts for granted.

14.



Is Chivalry Just Sleeping?

Stories by Gen Z Romantics

I made a rule at the end of high school to never say yes to going on a date if a guy asked me out by texting or through social media. This meant I gave any man that did ask me out in person the benefit of the doubt and let them take me out on a date. The reason I did this was to encourage chivalry. It is really the least to expect from a man if his expectations are in the right place. The difference, in my experience, was that the men who asked me out in person or called made me feel safe and desirable. The men who texted, snapped, or dm me, made me feel worthless, used, and desperate. A few of my friends warned me that "you are never going to be asked out if you make your expectations too ridiculous. That is too much to expect from men." This is really saddening. My goal wasn't to go out with a ton of decent men; I wanted just one amazing man. The truth is that I did not have any issues getting asked out in the way I wanted. I had lots of men ask me out in person...they really do exist. The difference between men that asked me out over text or snap versus men who asked me out in person is that they made their expectations clear by saying something along the lines of "Would you like to go out to dinner with me on Friday?" rather than a snap of their face saying "Want to hang out tonight?" I know it can be really hard to meet people in person; I also understand that opportunities for men to ask women out in person has become more rare or difficult. I just wonder if we could bring back hard work in relationships. Is it ok if things are more difficult if it is for love? If a man really likes a woman, can't he put more effort in than just a snap or text, but maybe at the very least could we settle on a phone call?

- Kate Estey



The true beauty of modern love is that it can be both felt and expressed in many different ways. Modern love is not exclusively romantic—some of my most loving and important relationships have been through my best friends. They have certainly been the most long-lasting and stable loves in my life thus far.

Modern love also gives us the opportunity to love ourselves. It is continually said that you must love yourself before you can love anyone else, and I wholeheartedly believe this to be true. To me, self-love means giving myself the grace to make mistakes, the patience to change, and the space to grow. This is an eternal love that has many ups and downs, and one I will always be working on.

When it comes to chivalry, many say that it is dead in our modern world. And maybe it is, but only the conventional idea that it is simply the chivalrous behavior of men toward women. Chivalry is also defined as the qualities expected of an ideal knight: to be brave, courageous, honorable, just, courteous, and ready to help the weak. By this definition, I do not think chivalry is dead at all. My mother is incredibly brave, my brothers are courageous and honorable, my friends are the most caring and always ready to lend a helping hand. The way I see it, chivalry is very much alive in modern love.

- Nancy Serafin

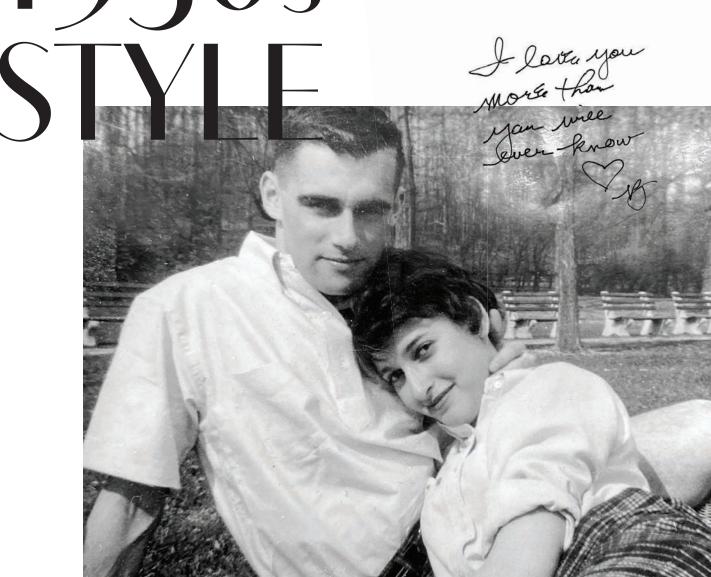
In the first scene of one of my all-time favorite movies, Love Actually, Hugh Grant reflects at the Arrivals Gate at Heathrow airport. He says, "General opinion makes out that we live in a world of hatred and greed, but I don't see that. Seems to me that love is everywhere. Often it's not particularly dignified or newsworthy—but it's always there. Fathers and sons, mothers and daughters, husbands and wives, boyfriends, girlfriends, old friends." His monologue has always stuck with me — particularly because I think that there is a comfort in knowing that love fills each void and empty space: that, if we let it, love can surround us.

I have always been a hopeless romantic; it is seeing my Dad hold my Mom's hand in the car, getting weekly ice cream with my friends, or seeing my brothers hug our happy puppy that makes my life extraodinary. Yet, our generation today promotes an innately toxic hookup culture, leaving us to feel useless and pessimistic towards finding the magical vulnerability that we see in the movies. When hookup culture gets the best of me, I often feel defeatist toward love, like I am endlessly trying to prove the impossible. Reminding myself that love is far from absent in my life—that I have parents who love me, siblings who I can rely on for the rest of time, and friendships so strong that I am confident they will one day be my bridesmaids—relieves this anxiety for me.

Being a college student has taught me to cherish the overwhelming amount of love that is in my life and to appreciate little acts of kindness, because, in my heart, I know that Hugh Grant is right: love, actually, is all around.



1950E



n 1958, I arrived as a freshman at Syracuse University at the age of seventeen. Good manners when dating was not only observed, there were strict rules of behavior clearly written in a handbook handed out to female students. I don't know if the boys received similar instructions, but it was apparent that girls had much stricter rules when it came to dating. When dating a boy, as I was during my first semester freshman year, I had to return to my dorm, Day Hall, no later than 9 pm. If I was late, and when the accumulated late minutes added up to 15 minutes, it would be noted on a pink card alphabetically arranged in a box by the dorm receptionist. The consequence of this was that girls had to stay in their dorm on the following Friday or Saturday night.

I met my husband at a football game, sitting in his fraternity's section that October. As we started dating, when Bernie brought me back to the dorm at the assigned time, he and all the other couples were allowed to kiss. Right before 9 pm, all of the boys and girls would line up and kiss goodnight. Second semester the curfew was raised to 10 pm. Girls had to wear skirts or dresses to class, no Bermuda shorts or slacks. I don't recall girls or boys for that matter owning a pair of dungarees. The girls' handbook clearly stated, "When crossing the campus en route to a function, where slacks or Bermuda shorts are the appropriate dress, a long coat is recommended." Bernie had a very small Renault car. He often would open the door for me and, one time, he drove his car onto the actual sidewalk to the front door so that I didn't have to walk in the snow! We attended many formals during that senior year for Bernie, usually hosted by fraternities. Boys gave their girlfriends corsages to wear on their fancy dresses or on their wrist if the gown was strapless. I vividly recall all of my gowns had tulle ruffles, some were strapless. Boys had to respect their dates. Certainly, no boy could be in a girl's dorm room or sorority room, however, since Bernie was the president of his fraternity, he had a private room and private staircase, so I could go up and visit him. Bernie was a complete gentleman from the time we met. When I met his family, I saw the respect and love he showered on his mother, which was an indication to me that he would be a good husband and father in the future.

During this time, if you were serious with a boy, and he belonged to a fraternity, he would give you a lavalier charm that you wore on a chain. The next step was for him to give you his fraternity pin, and you would proudly display it on your left side of a sweater. This meant you were very serious and pre-engaged. I still have Bernie's pin that has a little gavel because he was the president of the senior class and president of his fraternity.

Witnessing how chivalry and romance are still alive yet manifested in a different way, I take observations from my grandchildren in their twenties and what I see in the present-day culture. Receiving a surprise note of "I love you" from one's boyfriend or partner, or giving flowers for times besides Valentine's Day or a birthday, are ageless traditions. However, venturing off on romantic getaways together to places like the Caribbean or Europe, or living together, before one's marriage were not a part of romancing in the 1950s. Trips like that were the honeymoons right after the wedding. One chivalrous act is when a partner puts you first, even if it means making a choice between how you spend your time together.

Romance today has changed in both positive and negative ways. It has been a lovely experience to watch love transform throughout my life. I am lucky to still be in love with the same man I met at Syracuse University, a man who treats me with the same love, respect, and chivalry that I felt in the 1950s.

By Flora Rosefsky





What does technology think of technology's impact on chivalry?

By Chat GPT

In recent years, technology has had a significant impact on how people seek and sustain romantic relationships. With the rise of social media, dating apps, and virtual communication, traditional concepts of love, romance, and chivalry have been reshaped. In this article, we will explore the good and bad ways technology has impacted modern love and relationships.

One of the positive impacts of technology on relationships is that it has made it easier for people to connect with others who share similar interests and values. With dating apps, people can quickly browse through potential partners and choose someone they feel is a good match. Social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram can also help people connect and get to know each other better, especially when distance is a barrier. These tools make it possible for people to find love and meaningful relationships in ways that were not possible before.

Technology has also made it easier for couples to maintain long-distance relationships. Video calling, messaging apps, and social media allow people to stay in touch and communicate with each other, even when they are physically far apart. This has helped to strengthen relationships that might otherwise have fallen apart due to distance.

On the other hand, technology has also had some negative effects on relationships. For example, it can sometimes create unrealistic expectations of what a relationship should be like. Social media, in particular, can create a distorted view of other people's lives, making it easy to compare your own relationship to an idealized version of someone else's. This can lead to feelings of insecurity, jealousy, and even resentment.

Another downside to technology's impact on relationships is the way it can interfere with face-to-face communication. For instance, people might rely too much on texting and social media to communicate, which can make it difficult to have deeper conversations and build a strong emotional connection. Additionally, technology can make it easier to hide behind a screen and avoid confrontation or difficult conversations that are necessary for healthy relationships.

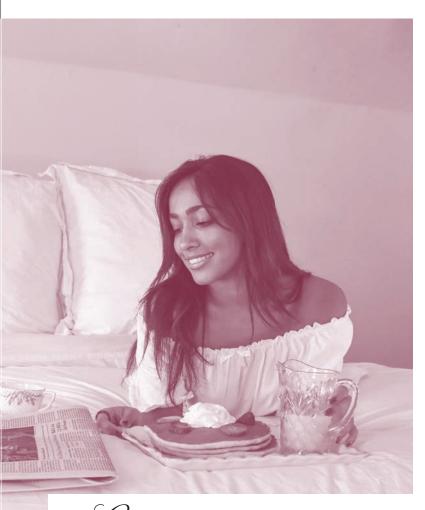
In terms of chivalry, technology has both helped and hindered it. On the one hand, dating apps and social media have made it easier for people to plan romantic gestures and surprises for their partners. On the other hand, technology has made it possible to hide behind screens and avoid the effort that goes into traditional chivalrous acts. This can lead to a lack of effort and thoughtfulness in relationships, which can ultimately harm them.

In conclusion, technology has had both positive and negative effects on modern love, romance, and chivalry. While it has made it easier for people to connect with others and maintain long-distance relationships, it can also create unrealistic expectations, interfere with face-to-face communication, and hinder traditional acts of chivalry. As with any tool, it's important to use technology in moderation and understand its limitations in building and maintaining healthy relationships. Ultimately, it's up to each individual to decide how they want to use technology in their love lives and to be aware of its potential pitfalls.

BEYOND THE BASICS







How can we even begin to justly describe this not-so-simple phenomenon? To me, love is dangerous. Safe. Powerful. Disarming. All encompassing. Beautiful. Frightening. Happy. Most importantly, love is real. Arguably the realest, purest superpower that blesses humanity.

Those who feel it, fear it, those who fear it, want it, and those who want it, have a hard time finding it, and then just when we stop looking, it finds us. Once we have it, we refuse to lose it. We fight for it. Compromise for it. Sacrifice for it. Go to extremes for it. Bleed for it. Champion for it. Lose control over it. Nurture it. Love it. Simply put, we love, love.

Quite confusing right? But that is love, isn't it: something so confusing, so incomprehensible, yet magical. Love is the master key that unlocks our unconditional peace.

Love feeds our souls.

At least it feeds mine.

My whole life can be characterized by love. Whether it is my love for my beliefs, food, family, friends, dogs, or intimate counterparts, love is my life. Having people in my life who love me back is something I will never take for granted nor exploit. Believe me, I have had my far share of boyfriends whom I loved, but what I attriute to them all becoming my exes was the failure in how we communicated our love to each other. To me, the most crucial part to any successful relationship is communication. Open, honest, and vulnerable communication whilst mastering a fluency in each other's love language.

I want to humbly provide a little anecdote about my love life right now, and that anecdote is that I am in love! Amazing, right? But, nonetheless, scary. My boyfriend is tall, dark, and handsome with piercing blue eyes... just my type. Even better, he is as chivalrous as they come.

Asked my parents permission to take me out on our first date, check.

Opens the car door before I get in, check.
Pulls my chair out before I sit down, check.
Assists me in putting on my coat after dinner, check.
When it's raining, holds the umbrella over me ensuring I stay as dry as possible, check.
Introduces me to his friends so I feel comfortable, check.

Introduces me to his friends so I feel comfortable, check. Walks on the outside of the sidewalk to keep me safe from traffic, check.

He is the type who that epitomizes chivalry as a code of honor that emphasizes bravery, loyalty, and generosity; the type of chivalry coined in the 11th century that has lived on in tradition to modern times. My relationship is living proof that chivalry is, in fact, not dead or sleeping.

While his acts of "old-fashioned" chivalry are appreciated, the independent woman in me can't deny that some of these acts can sometimes feel systemically oppressive. Women are capable of opening their own doors, pulling out their own seats, putting on their own jackets, keeping themselves safe, dry, comfortable, such capabilities that weren't acknowledged in the "old-fashioned" times of chivalry. Thus since times have changed, and women have become forces to reckon with, I believe that while the core, conventional essense of chivralry is still alive, it has also been amended and modernized, taking different forms.

Chivalry in our modern world, to me, looks like this: Patience, being heard, seen, respected and trusted, stresses accountability and responsibility; it's freeing, and it hones in on our capability.

While the sweet acts of my boyfriend's old-fashioned chivalry are nice, and what not, to me what is even more chivralous is when he not only listens to what I am saying, but really hears me, is patient with me, respects my desires and goals, trusts my autonomy and my decisions, takes accountability for his wrongdoing and respects my feelings, and empowers me to feel capable of attaining my dreams and greatest potential.

Chivalry today is synonymous with being in a healthy relationship; it lives only in nourishing nutritious environments and falls asleep or dies in unhealthy ones. Chivarly today is putting your partner first, and no, I'm not talking about letting them sit first at the dinner table or get into the car first. Chivalry today is a pillar for equality in healthy relationships.

By Phoebe Siegel





HOW TO WRITE YOUR OWN

love letter

Writing a love letter can be a romantic and heartfelt gesture that can convey your deepest feelings to someone you care about.

Here are some tips on how to write a love letter:

- 1. Start with a greeting: Address the letter to your loved one, using a nickname term of endearment that you normally use for them, such as "To the person who," or "My love."
- 2. Express your feelings: Open your letter by expressing your love and affection for the person. Use specific examples of things you love about them or memories that you cherish.
- 3. Be honest and vulnerable: Don't be afraid to be vulnerable and express your deepest emotions. Share how you feel when you're with them and how much they mean to you.
- Use descriptive language: Write down your feeling and emotions on paper. Use metaphors, similes, and other literary devices to create a vivid and emotional portrait of your love. Use specific examples of moments that are endearing to you.
- 6. Share your hopes for the future: Let your loved one know that you see a bright future together and that you are committed to making it happen.
- Close with a loving statement: End your letter with a statement, such as "I love you more than anything in this world" or "You are the light of my life." Sign the letter with a loving sign-off, such as "Forever and always" or "Yours always."

Remember the most important thing is to be sincere and honest with your words. Your loved one will appreciate the effort and thoughtfulness you put into your love letter.









