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### **Preamble**

Just ambling along here now. To write about and love requires one to have an understanding of emotions on several levels or a searing passion pounded out in the forge of hard-knock experience. Emotions toward a spouse, emotions toward children, emotions toward parents, emotions toward friends, emotions toward work, emotions toward community, emotions toward politics, emotions toward play, emotions toward a spiritual life, emotions toward war all play a roll in hard knocks. Achieving those understandings takes some time and some very deep thought.

Are we going to parse each one, come to our conclusions, then claim we are more right on our own conclusions than somebody else is on their's? How then do we live with our errors? For sure, trying to understand love will be fraught with errors. If I say every human on the face of the earth will have some form of love in them, then I would be wrong.

Love is not logical, not reasonable, not factual. Love is not evidence based. Love can be defined only when we know which kind of love we are discussing. Some forms of love are tools to achieve ends. Some forms are incomprehensible, incongruent with previous decisions and fraught with danger in front of us in a looming Rabbit-Hole. We cannot discuss love without knowing and agreeing on what emotion we are discussing. Cracking that sound barrier is a lot harder than it sounds. Let's identify, lift and separate.

### **Erotic Love**

Erotic love is the easiest to grasp onto. Women and men function pretty much the same in this regard in spite of the media claim that is not so. Genetically driven, nonsensical, not understandable, species propagation oriented, once you put the cream in the coffee cup you must stir it up for it to taste good. Ooooookayyyyy. Let's move on.

### **Children**

Easy to understand the devotion, them to you and you to them, but it is still genetically driven. Things seem to depend on whether the parent is driven by a more animal thinking process or a more human thinking (logical-pre-frontal) process. One way would lead a parent this way, the other way would lead that way. But love is still there in the mix isn't it?

### **Parents**

A twist and turn takes place as some people follow their animal brain and abandon parents while some follow a blend of animal with human thinking and revere the elderly in society. This is clearly not genetically driven. Some families are large some are small. No one is right or wrong. It's just that some are this way and some that way.

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### **Friends**

A more endearing friendship, relationship, companionship can be forged by some people based on their needs and experiences. Some say war sets this off into hard wiring instead of just software in the brain. The real true friend,, the friend not looking out for themselves all the time,, the friend helpful, considerate, loving, is that love or something else? Then when that friendship transforms???

### **Work**

Love, work, huhhh? Who loves work? Well SOME people do and that love becomes their passion. Are we going to say that this is not really love? I guess it depends on degrees right? Well, that is the whole point isn't it? Love is a degree of something. What something?

### **Community**

Love of community often stems from an idea. Then it builds and transforms into an albatross hopefully without the negative connotation. Loving community may be superficially designed for ease of cohabitation in large numbers. Does my opinion really matter if it differs from yours? Well, yes. Some opinions are just plain bad ones. But, we are talking about LOVE of community. And, here in this conversation that love should all be the same, except is isn't. Somehow the love is overridden by some unseen force. Somehow brute force enters the picture and that is not love.

### **Politics**

Consensus building and compromise define politics. Is it a wider extension of community concern? Then is it a transformation of work love into politics? Are they not just all the same, just with different sprinkles on top? Okayyyy, you like red sprinkles, she likes silver sprinkles, he likes multi coloured sprinkles. Are they not ALL love? Why does the sprinkle matter so much?

### **Play**

Play can turn into love quite easily, but then we have to parse the participles. Are we really talking love or some form of independent construction? Are athletes loving play?

### **Spiritual Life**

Love of an idea? Love of a concept? Thus, love of a god, God, Gods? Can that idea actually love the way we mean love to mean so that we give life to the meaning through the idea? Does the idea then come into reality just because we thought of it? Or, is that idea just stuck inside our head going no further? Can the idea 'entangle' (a quantum mechanics concept we will borrow without getting into quantum physics as that is a real brain-knoter) and bring something into reality that did not exist before? If more people believe in the idea, does that bring it into reality? Can the idea have human love? Making the claim does not make it so, maybe unless you are Captain Kirk. But, we are talking about us, and love so, lets not get confused over semantics.

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### **War**

Drum beats far off in the distance signal the coming apocalypse instilling fear, anxiety, trepidation. In the caveman and colonial eras: (Does that mean the colonial era was still in the cave man mentality?) back to the point now, war was a tool to expand society, to make money for the rich, to impose animal will on all others, by force, just because that is what we do. Really, no other reason. Back then it made sense to those people and now days, not so much sense. But even back then was war fashioned out of love? Was the passion of love extended to the external realm beyond the individual? Seems it is still that way today so this is still a legitimate topic of mental research, our own mental research that is. If an idea can love in spiritual life then why not the idea of war as love? Ah, that takes us to might-as-right.

### **Self**

I bet you thought we would stop at war. Self is the end all. We end up back here. Even those who fool themselves into thinking their behaviour is altruism, are they not really working in their own best emotional interest? Well, maybe, maybe not. Do the soldiers go to war and die in their own best interests? Eeeyyyaaaaa, NO. However, understanding one's self is difficult and often in error. Loving oneself takes things a step deeper into the emotions. We have come full circle and are back to the individual again now.

### **Epiamble**

Okay. Epilogue. I like Epiamble because it matches the preamble. Let's get on with it. Love is not logical, not reasonable, not factual. Oh, didn't I say that before? Well it bears repeating. We will borrow from Shakespear here now as appropriate and the PainReliefDiet Soliloquy. Seems that my work 20 years ago in 2001 on that soliloquy has set off a number of copycats. But, in then end we are all loving Shakespear. It is to him I give thanks for this soliloquy.

### **To Love Soliloquy**

To love, or not to love, that is the question.

Whether tis nobler in the mind to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous love  
or take arms against a sea of troubles and by opposing, end them.

Aye, there's the rub, for in that end what suffering may come, boggles the mind.

Are we to deny ourselves true pleasures that love has programmed us to, or indulge and  
suffer the pangs of despised love?

To end it, or not to end it? For in that end a death doth come and the thousand natural shocks  
that flesh is heir to, slip away into an oblivious sea of nature's gene pool calling. The pervasive  
fog of plugged up thinking burns away and a beckoning back to a time immemorial whispers  
a lullaby of sweet content. No, ending is not the solution, embracing love is the solution.