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# 心灵鸡汤

爱的罗曼斯

# Chicken Soup for the Romantic Soul

Jack Canfield

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Mark & Chrissy Donnelly

Barbara De Angelis, Ph.D.

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CHICKEN SOUP  
FOR THE ROMANTIC  
SOUL

Mark  
Mark & Chrissy Donnell  
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*For everyone who believes  
in the magic of love.*



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your romantic soul.

Because of the size of this project, we may have left out the names of some people who contributed along the way. If so, we are sorry, but please know that we really do appreciate you very much.

We are truly grateful and love you all!



## Introduction

What does it mean to be romantic? For many of us, the concept of romance conjures up visions of fancy gifts and flowers, extravagant evenings out on the town, or exotic vacations for two at fascinating destinations. However, the true meaning of romance transcends these traditional stereotypes and offers us something much more precious, much more profound: *The heart of romance is magic—the magic all of us have felt when we've been touched by love.*

This magic of love permeates *Chicken Soup for the Romantic Soul*. We are delighted and honored to offer you this inspiring collection of stories that capture the true meaning of romance. They are stories of passion, of devotion, of tenderness. They are stories of patience, faith and trust. They are stories of renewal, rediscovery and redemption. Through each tale, we are invited into the private world of love shared by two people and given a glimpse of the amazing ways love expresses itself. Our idea of what romance means was changed forever as we read the stories contained in this book, and we believe yours will be too!

In a world that is often filled with turbulence, confusion and even darkness, love is the light that guides us to joy and makes living worthwhile. What touched us as we worked on





## 爱的罗曼斯

this book was reading about how each contributor shared his or her appreciation and gratitude for that light of love, and the unique way it had transformed his or her life. There are stories about extraordinarily romantic moments that mesmerized us and took our breath away; there are stories about ordinary romantic moments that brought tears to our eyes as we contemplated the power that love contains in its utter simplicity. Each story is remarkable, whether it was written by an eighty-year-old man about his “bride” of fifty years, or by a wife and mother of three small children about the surprising ways she and her husband keep the passion alive, or by a woman who thought she’d lost the love of her life, only to have fate find him for her again.

Romantic moments come in many varieties. Some are wildly amusing, and you will find yourself laughing out loud, as we did, at stories that remind us all of the comical adventures that often go hand-in-hand with love. Other stories will make you sigh with satisfaction, as if you’re reading the most riveting romance novel. And some will fill you with the kind of warm, peaceful feeling that we all experience whenever we take time to focus on the abundance of goodness and love that exists around us and within us.

Reading this book, you will discover romance where you’ve never known it to exist before. You will learn about how love isn’t always expressed in the most eloquent words, but in sweet acts of caring and consideration that feed the heart in the most significant ways. You will be reminded of memories of love from your own past that perhaps you’d forgotten, memories that will be a part of you forever. You will look at the challenging times love sometimes goes through and marvel at how indestructible it is even in the face of pain and loss. Most of all, you will gain a new understand-



ing of how the essence of true romance permeates the days and nights of love in ways you'd never appreciated before.

We believe that, ultimately, *Chicken Soup for the Romantic Soul* is about magic: the magic of how just a few words from your beloved can make your heart soar; the magic that occurs when you've given up on ever finding love, and then somehow, when you least expect it, love finds you; the magic of knowing how to keep falling in love over and over again as the years pass; the magic of discovering what we become when we truly love another human being.

If you are in a relationship, we hope the stories in this book will invite you to look more deeply for the bonds of love and expressions of caring you may not have thought were romantic, but ultimately are and will inspire you to cherish your partner even more. If you are not now in a relationship, our wish for you is that reading these stories gives you hope—that love will come to you at just the right time; that even now, your soul mate is looking for you, and that destiny will bring you together.

May the magic of romance always find you and fill your heart with wonder at the amazing power love has to transform us all.





爱的罗曼斯

# Contents

Acknowledgments .....	VI
Introduction .....	X

## 1. FINDING TRUE LOVE

The Right Approach .....	2
Encounter on a Train .....	9
“Falling” in Love .....	13
Glads on Monday .....	14
A Love Story .....	17
Two Coins in a Fountain .....	18
Six Red Roses .....	22
Real-Life Fairy Tale .....	27
To Infinity .....	31
Just Call Me Cupid .....	33

## 2. LOVE AND ROMANCE

An Evening at the Waldorf .....	38
To Begin Again .....	50
Love Notes .....	56
I Love You Anyway .....	58



A Fragment in Time .....	59
Moving In with Frank .....	63
The Gift of Life .....	64
The Heart and Cement of Texas .....	68
Three Times the Lover .....	71
Romance Isn't Always Roses—Sometimes It's Mulch .....	72
True Love .....	76
Open Heart .....	80
Message Received .....	82

### 3. ROMANTIC MOMENTS

Romance Is in the Eye of the Beholder .....	86
Handmade Valentines from the Heart .....	89
The Long Way Home .....	92
Norma Shearer's Dress .....	95
Our Honeymoon Flight .....	98
The Surprise .....	99
Calling Long Distance .....	103
Keeping the Passion of Love Alive .....	104
Dating Again .....	106
Ready to Be Entertained .....	107
The Camping Trip .....	110
Hello, Young Lovers .....	113
Who's Lucky? .....	116
Head to Toe .....	117

### 4. ROMANCE AND MARRIAGE

It Was on Fire When I Lay Down on It .....	119
Hubby's Special Gift .....	125
Road to Romantic Ruin Is Paved with Practical Gifts .....	128





爱的罗曼斯

Saturday Nights ..... 132

A Fool in Love ..... 136

The One-Sweet-Potato Thanksgiving ..... 140

A Penny More Precious Than a Diamond ..... 144

Happy Valentine's Day, Dear. Here's Your Mesh Body  
Stocking ..... 146

The Forever Card ..... 150

The Frosty Moment Called for Ice Cream ..... 152

Hooray for the Ho-Hum Marriage ..... 157

The Anniversary ..... 160

The Little Things... ..... 164

Who, Me? ..... 166

5. MEMORIES OF LOVE

The Hat I Stole for Love ..... 170

Will He Kiss Me? ..... 177

About Men/"A Love Affair" ..... 182

A Friend's Secret ..... 186

Beautiful Life—Beautiful Death ..... 188

Prince Charming ..... 191

The Two-Dollar Bill ..... 195

My First Kiss ..... 198

Be Mine ..... 201

Angel on the Beach ..... 212

6. LESSONS IN LOVE

Visions of Art ..... 217

A Different Kind of "Trashy Secret" ..... 219

Love or Infatuation? ..... 223



Overlook It .....	225
The One Who Got Away .....	227
“Giving” ...The Unforgettable Gift .....	230
A Romantic Hammer .....	233
Three Kisses .....	238
My Dad’s Story .....	239
Goodnight, Sweetheart .....	241
The Lovers .....	244
Change of Heart.....	246
Learning to Love .....	247

## 7. FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

Sage Advice from the Stepfather of the Bride .....	251
The Missing Candelabra .....	254
A Wife’s Greatest Gift .....	261
Mourning the Loss, Mending the Heart .....	262
Slaying My Dragon .....	265
Women and Fiction .....	269
A Mistake I Will Not Repeat .....	270
A Message from the Angels .....	274

## 8. THE FLAME STILL BURNS

Grandfather’s Favorite .....	279
The Three Men I Married .....	283
Metamorphosis .....	287
Forever in Their Eyes .....	289
A Joy Forever .....	291
Tattooed Dreams .....	294
Oh, to Be Loved Like That! .....	299





爱的罗曼斯

The Sun Had Come Out .....	301
Golf Course Romance .....	306
Lost and Found .....	309
The Ageless Dance of Love .....	312
Fifty Years of Love .....	316

# 1

## FINDING TRUE LOVE

The most wonderful of all things in life, I believe, is the discovery of another human being with whom one's relationship has a glowing depth, beauty and joy as the years increase. This inner progressiveness of love between two human beings is a most marvelous thing; it cannot be found by looking for it or by passionately wishing for it.

It is a sort of Divine accident.

*Sir Hugh Walpole*

