

Variety Page

Martin Luther King

By Frank Withrow

Human rights was his thing
His name was Dr. Martin Luther King.

He fought for pride and dignity
And also to be free.

From the small towns in the South
To the streets of Washington, DC.

He had a dream just before he died
That we would all be brothers and work side by side.

He was a gentle man who had a heart and soul
And everybody knew that freedom was his goal.

Dr. Martin Luther King deserves your show of hands
Because he gave his life for the rights of man.

In world history, his name should be inscribed
As the freedom fighter whose work was so divine.

When I Was One-And-Twenty

A.E. Housman

"When I was one-and-twenty
I heard a wise man say,
"Give crowns and pounds and guineas
But not your heart away;
Give pearls away and rubies
But keep your fancy free."
But I was one-and-twenty,
No use to talk to me.

When I was one-and-twenty
I heard him say again,
"The heart out of the bosom
Was never given in vain;
'Tis paid with sighs a plenty
And sold for endless rue."
And I am two-and-twenty,
And oh, 'tis true, 'tis true.

Love Poem

By Imogunla Alakoye

I'm not gonna give you what you want, baby.
Not any of the things you anticipate
in hours of solitude, in gray depression,
or indigo blues.
You can't get rid of me that easy.

I'm not gonna play the fool promised by
your previous experiences.
Or fulfill the prophecies of your
girlfriends
or your momma.

I ain't going no place else.

You can't buy me off, or scare me off
or chase me off with shotgunned
disregard.
You can fight and curse, kick and
scream
or cry
I'm here to stay.

and when you understand that,
when you stop fighting,
when you take a risk, a chance, a
gamble
When you go down for the third time
in the sea of my love
When you are ready for me
I will be here.

Sunshine

By Dee Jaye

Your love makes my world bright
Just like a sun that shines at night
Always enlightening this heart of mine
In the darkest hour, I have sunshine.
Being with you makes my world bright
Like the sun you have an everlasting light
Always enlightening this heart of mine
In this troubled world, you spread your sunshine.
Loving you puts my heart on wings
Romantically zapping my heart strings
You are always enlightening this heart of mine
To many of my days you have brought sunshine.

If Only...

By Valery Frazier

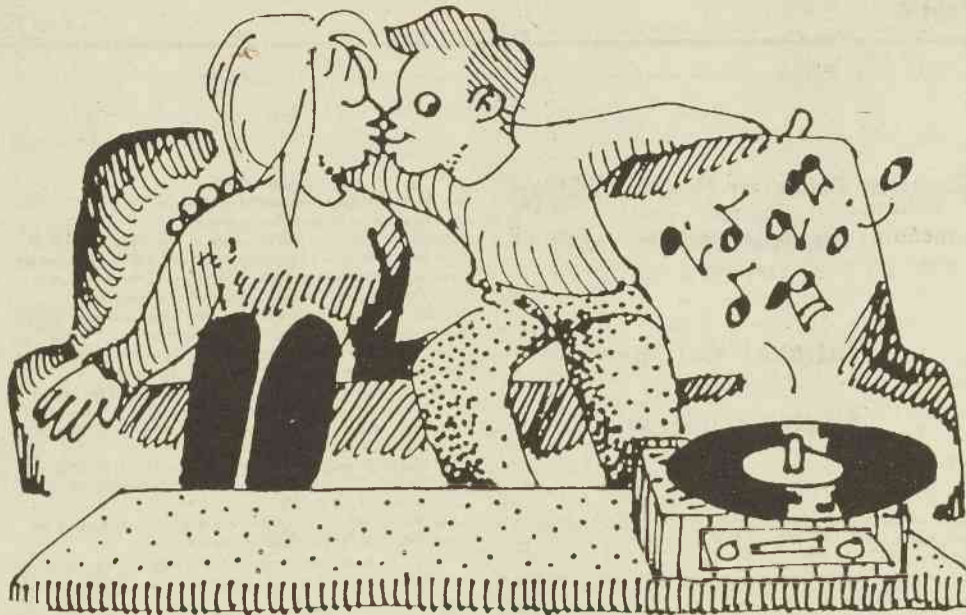
If only I had been the first
As I always wished to be...
Then there would be no reason
For my doubts of you and me...
If only you had reached out for me
And told me how you felt...
Then I would have considered
your problems

I know. I could have dealt...
If only we could concentrate
On lives we've chosen to lead...
And think only of the necessary
Throw away, what we don't need...

LOVE?

By Genevieve M. Jones

"Love is an understanding shared by two." Cheryl M. Brown
"Love is a fond feeling of intimacy you have for someone." Orrin Lofton
"Love is caring and sharing." Melvin Parks
"Love is nice when you're sharing it with someone." Margie Council
"Love is having feelings for one another." Leon Bruton
"Love is the greatest gift two or more people can share." Leroy Raine, Jr.
"Love is having very special feelings among one another." Gretchelyn Woods
"Love is happiness and joy." Michael Robinson
"Love is sharing and caring." Antonio Watson
"Love is a feeling between two people who really need each other." Terry Williams
"Love is totally understanding a person, and if not totally, you're willing to learn." Larry Hilton
"Love is the cocaine of life. A good dose will keep you feeling high and too much of it can bring you down." Eric D. Majette
"Love is ever-lasting, soulful-lasting me." SGA Pres. Jerry Beatty
"Love is an itching of the heart that leads into a man's pocket and helps him spend his money." Marion Crowe
"Love is mathematically speaking, 1+1=3." Kenneth McNeill
"Love is a sincere feeling that two people express to one another in a deep and emotional way." Jeffrey Cooper
"Love is trust, understanding and sharing. But, most importantly, love is sacrificing your time and forgetting your problems to be there for that special person because you know that he/she will be ready to make the same sacrifice for you." Angela Johnson
"Love is a unity of special feelings that can be used as a tool to keep two individuals together." Genevieve M. Jones
"Love is when a certain person sends me back my clothes." Anonymous
"Love is not being with anyone cheap." Anonymous
"Love is egocentric. It will take you to the highest height and allow you to fall without a second thought." Editor
"Voice," Emanuel Vaughn
"Having feelings after love is love; not having feelings is infatuation." Cheryl Griffin
"Love is a charismatic feeling I have for someone." Jimmy Gibbs



The History Of Valentine's Day

By Angela Johnson

On the 14th of February many lovers celebrate Valentine's Day with an exchange of gifts, cards, and kisses. For years this has been a tradition in America. Perhaps, many have wondered where the tradition began and why.

Valentine's Day began as a Christian festival commemorating the Martyrdom of St. Valentine, a saint that nothing much is known about except that he was married under the persecution of Emperor Claudius II (ruled 268-270). Valentine's Day was celebrated as early as the 7th Century, but by the 14th Century its religious significance was overshadowed by the non-religious customs that are still associated with it today.

The acceptance of St. Valentine as the patron saint of lovers may have been accidental. One of several theories for this is the medieval European belief that birds began to mate on February 14th. This notion tends to suggest that people should also choose lovers and exchange gifts during a time that nature has chosen for her gentle feathered creatures.

After the postal system had been established, the practice of mailing homemade messages, called valentines, became common. These messages were usually in verse and tender in nature, but occasionally comic or even coarse. After World War I, in the United States, at least, the greeting card industry annually printed millions of valentines.

"Sign Time"

By Ayesha Jihada Grice (Essence)

Aquarius: (January 20-February 17)
You find many ways to increase your prosperity this year, Aquarius. Friends will be your greatest assets. Aquarius lives by the motto "I know." This fixed air sign is ruled by Saturn and Uranus, the planets of responsibility and freedom. Those born under this sign have the gift of intellect as well as intuition. An Aquarian may appear to be cool and detached, but beneath this exterior lies the warm heart of a humanitarian.

Pisces: (February 18-March 19)
Pisces may be the last sign of the zodiac, but you Pisceans are first in line when it comes to spiritual evolution. "I believe" is the trademark phrase of this mutable water sign. Although you are gifted with divine compassion, you must be careful to analyze your beliefs before lending your energies to any group activity.

Aries: (March 20-April 18)
Aries, the first sign in the zodiac, is the one that says "I am." You folks born under this courageous fire sign can

sometimes be very self-involved. Actually, Aries, your greatest power is unleashed when you turn your energy outward instead of inward. Aries is the sign ruled by Mars, planet of energy; Mars' influence gives you the stamina to overcome obstacles. That quality will come in handy now.

Taurus: (April 19-May 19)
Taurus, the sign whose favorite phrase is "I have," is a fixed earth sign. This sign is often referred to as the money sign, but personal values are more important to Taureans than material wealth. Taureans are hard workers gifted with the ability to get a job done. The most successful Taureans are those who know when to quit and how to be flexible.

Gemini: (May 20-June 20)
The Gemini motto is "I think." This flexible air sign is the communicator of the zodiac, and people born during this period approach life intellectually. Gifted with a quick mind and love of conversation, Geminis must learn to concentrate on one thing at a time or they become jacks or jills-of-all-trades and masters of none. A seven year cycle of change is beginning for you now that Uranus is in Sagittarius, your opposite sign. You might find that those to you are changing, causing you to reassess your opinions of them.

Cancer: (June 20-July 21)
"I feel" is the phrase that best characterizes Cancer. This water sign, ruled by the moon, is very sensitive. Cancers' gift for nurturing others, combined with their love of food, makes cooking and serving a joy for them. You are happiest when you control your emotions, live in the present and love without conditions.

Leo: (July 22-August 22)
Leos feel a lot of creative energy, which stimulates new ideas and provides

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The Ring

By Dee Jaye

Our world ended and fell apart
I threw the ring away
It sank just like my empty heart
In the sea where it shall stay.
I took the short walk to the sea's bank
And pulled the ring off my finger
Threw it in the water and watched
as it sank

There was no other reason to linger.
The day that you walked out on me
Gave me an empty feeling
That's why I ran out to the sea
And threw away the ring.
The ring had lost its real shine
Our love was finished, too
Although the ring was mine
I didn't want it without you.