

Perhaps Love—Behind The Story

Sooner or later we realize that we will only be offered imperfect people to love. ~Dr. Sun Wolf, 2016 August 10th tweet, [professorsunwolf.com](https://twitter.com/professorsunwolf)

The Merriam Dictionary struggles to define love. It provides various options depending on the point of view of the lover or the loved. The dictionary also allows for different interpretations based on the object of love, be it a thing or a human being. This lack of a definitive explanation of love forms the basis for the misinterpretation of love by human beings.

One definition is “strong affection for another arising out of kinship or personal ties such as maternal love for a child,” another state: “attraction based on sexual desire: affection and tenderness felt by lovers,” yet another state; “affection based on admiration, benevolence, or common interests,”.

This lack of consensus forms the basis for the confusion among individuals of what love is. It forms the basis of confusion by individuals about the state of being in love or being loved.

Perhaps Love is a story about a young lady who is confused by love. She does not know what love is. Her opinion of love stops her from experiencing love from the people who love her.

In the words of John Denver’s song:

“Perhaps love is like a resting place
a shelter from the storm,
it exists to give you comfort.
It is there to keep you warm, and
in those times of trouble
when you are most alone,
the memory of love will bring you
home.”

The Merriam Dictionary adds to the confusion. It defines love as “an assurance of affection: give her my love,” and “warm attachment, enthusiasm, or devotion; love of the sea,”.

The young lady wavers between her attachment to one man and her devotion to another. She is unsure of her husband’s devotion and admiration for her versus her attraction to another man. She knows her husband loves her, but she does not love him in return.

The dictionary supports her confusion by adding; “the object of attachment, devotion, or admiration”. This makes it possible for her to have devotion and admiration for her lover and interpret it as love.

Her husband may be right according to Merriman. Love is also defined as “a beloved person: darling; unselfish loyal and benevolent concern for the good of another”. His devotion to his wife and longing to make her happy could be love.

Love is further defined as: an amorous episode: a love affair; the sexual embrace: copulation. Under this definition the young lady is correct to think of her affair with the lover as love.

John Denver adds to the confusion later in his song:

Love to some is like a cloud, to
Some as strong as steel
For some a way of living, for some
A way to feel
Some say love is holding on
Some say letting go,
Some say love is everything, and
Some say they don't know

The young lady's confusion is not akin to her. Most individuals struggle with love throughout their life. They struggle to find love among a barrage of feelings bombarding their heart.

People find it difficult to love the one who loves them. They spend their life chasing love.

John Denver does not conclude on what love is.

He sings:

If I should live forever, and all my
dreams come true
My memories of love will be of you.

Perhaps Love is part of the series of short stories “Tales From My Caribbean Crypt” published on Amazon.