

Truth and Romance?

I think about romantic Love and the sustainability of marriage. When a marriage or serious relationship ends and people ask “Why”. A widely accepted answer is “People Change”.

Of course people change I will always be changing, growing, learning and seeking. Does that suggest that it will be impossible for me to sustain a romantic relationship long term? Will I have to sacrifice my spiritual growth in order to “Not Change” if I want to remain in a relationship with one woman? Is that how other people make it work? Is that what they mean when they say “Marriage is Compromise”?

I do not think I will ever be willing to sacrifice my progress on my spiritual journey in order to stay in a spot where my degree of “Change” does not threaten my ability to hang onto a romantic relationship. Is that why a vow of celibacy (not an option for me) is suggested for those who wish to be leaders of faith? Even if I can find someone as dedicated to their Tao as I am to mine, they will follow their path and again “People Will Change”.

I have often wondered if it was possible to give a monogamous romantic relationship the energy it needs without taking it from my search for spiritual truth. For more than 25 years I have been compelled to search for Spiritual Truth. I have no reason to think this will change. I have no desire for it to change.

I also believe that a long term romantic relationship or Love has the potential to heal many wounds that could not be soothed any other way. I very much want to give and receive that healing.

Are these two possibilities at odds? Do I have to choose one? Maybe this is the definition of the term “Hopeless Romantic”. Is it a hopeless endeavor to expect to be able to know Spiritual Truth and romantic Love in the same life?

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