



## Happy Valentine's Day!

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**The Notre Dame Excalibur**

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*Valentine's*



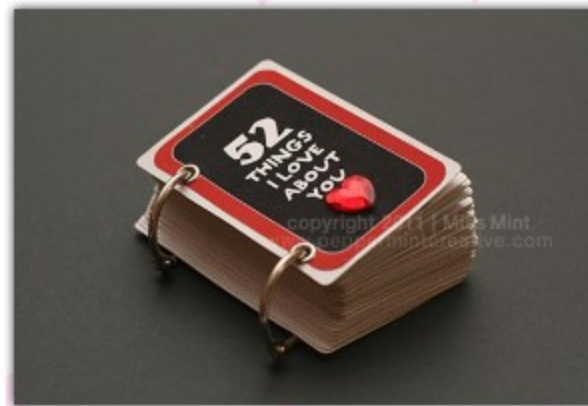
## Top 10 Things To Do Without A Significant Other

1. Go out with your friends to do something you all love to do together.
2. Have a "Secret Cupid" - send each other gifts and/or cards on Valentine's Day.
3. Find cheesy Valentine's cards to send to your friends.
4. Your significant other doesn't have to be a boyfriend or a girlfriend. Ask your mom, your best friend, your dog, or your pet rock to be your Valentine. Ask in an elaborate way or create a fancy card. Be creative!
5. Celebrate your freedom by treating yourself to a food you enjoy or doing something you really enjoy doing.
6. Have a girls' or boys' night out! Valentine's Day without a Valentine doesn't have to be spent alone. Watch a movie, have a sleepover, visit the mall, or do what you like to do with people you like to be with.
7. Visit the pet store or a zoo, or spend some quality time with your pet. Animals can make great companions.
8. Go on the Internet and Google how to do a random skill to learn.
9. Have a "Bad Movie Night". Pick out really corny movies or movies with really bad effects and poke fun at them.
10. Do something special for your parents or other prominent adults in your life. Make a card or buy flowers for them. Let them know you appreciate them.



## Top 10 Things To Do With Your Significant Other

1. Visit a place significant to the both of you.
2. Bake heart-shaped cookies or create Valentine's-related food together.
3. Create a list of 52 things you like about each other, and write them on a deck of cards.
4. Create a memory box with items that represent your cherished times together, or a photo album containing photos significant to the both of you.
5. Give each other creative gifts. While flowers and chocolates are sweet, it's much more personal if you gave each other homemade gifts or things that mean more to your significant other. Think of something unique and memorable.
6. Go skating! February is usually a cold month, so enjoy winter activities with each other.
7. Make hot chocolate with each other.
8. Write each other love letters and recite them to each other.
9. Organize a surprise scavenger hunt for your significant other. Make the clues special and relevant to the both of you.
10. Hang out with your other friends or couples. Valentine's Day doesn't have to be spend with just your significant other. Organize a fun event, such as watching a movie or other ideas on this list.



## An Anniversary To Remember

### Celebrating 60 Years of the Queen's Reign

By: Kate Reid

From 1952 to 2012, Queen Elizabeth II has been the queen of England and the Head of State of Canada. Marking this 60 year long reign, countries who are considered a part of the Commonwealth have been hosting Diamond Jubilee festivities in their own countries. New Zealand, the Caribbean, Australia, and even countries such as Zambia and Mozambique are part of the event.

There have been only two Diamond Jubilees in British history. The first was held for Queen Victoria in 1897 and the second is taking place now for Queen Elizabeth. This fact makes Queen Elizabeth II the second longest reigning monarch in British history. In fact, a Diamond Jubilee formerly referred to a celebration of the 75th anniversary of an occasion or person. However, this was changed in 1879 as a result of the public unrest caused by Queen Victoria's withdrawal from publicity after her husband's death. Ever since, it has marked 60 years rather than 75.

Canada may be having one of the most extravagant celebrations for the event outside the United Kingdom. Kevin S. MacLeod was selected to organize the celebrations as head of the Diamond Jubilee Committee.



With \$7.5 million set aside for the event, much forethought was put into the event. Even as much as 5 years of planning and preliminary setup have gone on behind-the-scenes for the festivities.

Beginning on Accession Day, or February 6th, the largest part of the Canadian celebration has been the creation of the Diamond Jubilee Award. This award was bestowed by the government to "recognize and celebrate Canadians who also demonstrate a dedication to service." Some controversy has sprung up about the decision from Bloc Quebecois and Republicans who

also demonstrate a dedication to service." Some controversy has sprung up about the decision from Bloc Quebecois and Republicans who believed the celebrations to be diverting important money and effectively wasting the money allocated to it.

Despite this, the Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages Richard Moore has a favourable outlook on the Jubilee. "I am extremely pleased that a new piece of Canadian heritage is being created to mark such a historic and auspicious occasion," said the Minister in interview when asked about his portrait being created for the event.

An Ontarian artist has been in the process of creating a portrait of Her Majesty that will be unveiled at some point during Jubilee Week. "I know that Canadians eagerly await this new work and are looking forward to celebrating Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee," says Moore.

In the hopes of many more Diamond Jubilees to come for the Commonwealth, celebrations will occur until February 13th.





## Valentine's Day... Overrated?

Happy Valentine's Day! Now. All week on Facebook, I've been seeing one of three statuses. You get;

A. HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY! I LOVE YOU, BOO!

B. I hate Valentine's Day. #foreveralone, or

C. Who needs Valentine's Day? It's Toonie Tuesday!

Most of the time I tend to stick somewhere around the B area, but not because I'm a bitter single.

Yes, I agree that it's a really good thing to have a day where you can just express your undying love for someone, but there comes a point where the day stops being romantic and becomes one of Hallmark's most profitable days. There is a thin line between love and bribery.

I've actually heard a couple of girls say they would just break up with their boyfriends if they didn't get good gifts. I'm sorry, but that's just not right. If you're dating a guy, you date him because you like the guy; you don't date him for the gifts.

Then there's the whole idea of the day. It's a day where "girls are going to get treated right." Forgive me if I'm wrong, but don't you think that should be every day of the year?

Valentine's Day is just a big marketing scheme, and I'm sorry to say it, but it needs to be said.



# Miscellaneous

The Valentine's Day Issue

## Horoscopes

By: Sam Caldeira-Slavec

**Aries (21 March – 19 April):** You are adventurous and outgoing. Although risks may be fun, being the "bad boy or girl" is overdone. You will win the affections of someone who is down to earth and safe, as they say, "opposites attract!"

**Taurus (20 April – 20 May):** Your protective nature is the guiding forces in how you approach relationships. It is important that you are with someone who makes you feel safe or someone that you are comfortable with. An unexpected romance with a close friend may be around the corner.

**Gemini (21 May – 20 June):** You have different personalities that make up who you are. Be aware of that and make sure your current or future partner is aware of both sides. At this time, it is important to embrace people who have definitive opinions, opposite to your indecisiveness.

**Cancer (Cancer 21 June – 21 July):** Like Taurus, feeling safe is an important aspect when it comes to relationships. Even moreso, love and romance are topics that seem to run rampant in your mind. Although Valentine's promotes this, take into consideration that being in a relationship is not the most important thing in your life right now. In other words, it is not in the cards.

**Leo (22 July – 22 August):** You have one thing you are superior at, use that to your advantage in capturing the attention of someone you like. The cards tell me your lucky days of love are the 16th, 19th and 24th.

**Virgo (23 August – 22 September):** You are a methodical thinker and with that, you choose a partner slowly and carefully. In this month of romance, consider doing something spontaneous for a person you fancy.



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**Libra (23 September – 22 October):** Your kind nature suggests that finding a soulmate is around the corner. A potential significant other is drawn to your gentleness.

**Scorpio (23 October – 21 November):** You are rebellious, but deep down, you enjoy well thought out quiet dates. During the season of Valentine's, let that special someone know of your soft side. If you do so, your relationship will strengthen.

**Sagittarius (22 November – 21 December):** When you find the one, you will know it. Your keen sense of intuition will lead you to the right person. But beware not to step into a relationship you're not ready for.

**Capricorn (22 December – 19 January):** You love feeling appreciated. In this valentine season, return the favor and make someone smile with a small or lengthy (whatever floats your boat) compliment(s). This action may go a long way, possibly lead to a potential new relationship in two weeks time.

**Aquarius (20 January – 19 February):** Your light-hearted bubbly personality suggests that it is easy for you to make new friends. I suggest developing new friendships. A possible suitor may be in the cards for you.

**Pisces (20 February – 20 March):** You are shy when it comes to meeting new people. Because of this, it may be especially difficult to find a partner at this time of year, when the push is strong.