

## **The Majesty of Love**

### **Story Summary and Panel Questions**

**The story begins with a scientist coming to see a psychiatrist by the name of Carl Jung. The scientist is depressed and wants to know how he can get better. The psychiatrist speaks with the words and the spirit of the real Jung himself who lived in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. For example, Jung says to his patient, “Knowing your own darkness is the best way to deal with the darkness of others.” “Show me a sane man and I will cure him for you.” (Click on Carl Jung quotes)**

**Jung tells his patient to go climb a mountain. The “Majesty of Love” is now becomes a story of how two people fall in love climbing up mountain and go beyond themselves. The dialogue between patient and psychiatrist runs parallel to the song. Jung shows what happened to an earlier patient, a scientist -- when he climbed a mountain. They watch as the song begins.**

**Jung stops the song-story five times as he explains the theory to his patient. He talks about the animus and anima, Yin and Yang, about the power intimacy without sexual intercourse, and “the energy of transcendence”. Every kind of love is latent in the human body, he says. This modern day Jung explains about how the universe is grounded in love.**

### **The Song**

**Jack the scientist, and Jill the poet begin climbing a mountain, starting from different trails to the top. They meet for the first time half way up the mountain and talk to each other. He speaks of his depression and she empathizes.**

**When Jill finds out that he is a scientist, she wants to learn all the facts about nature on the mountain. What is the science of these rocks and those flowers? Jack gives her the facts. He then discovers that she is a poet and he asks her to tell him what she sees in these things. They are drawn closer and closer to each other.**

When they reach the top, Jack says he must stay overnight to measure the sunrays in the morning. Jill decides to stay overnight and there is uncertainty about where to sleep, apart or separately. They find separate places to sleep behind different rocks. His heart is drawn to her as she sings to him of the moon and the “night.”

They fall asleep and dream. They find themselves in the same dream visited by two astral beings called Yin and Yang. Yin and Yang talk to them about love. They say that when you are in love you become as “one.” When you love at the highest level, you find true happiness. “The sun sings through you...Cry like the trees and the wind at night.”

When Jack and Jill awaken in the morning, they are amazed that they were together in the same dream. Jack says he could not understand this “odd couple” that spoke as “one.” Jill says that they are Yin and Yang but you cannot see them. He resists the idea. She says, “Can you see your feelings?” Yin and Yang are there and asks: “How can a caterpillar know what it is like to be a butterfly.” Jack begins to change as he looks at nature around him. Jill tells him that he has the power of the sun inside him. Its elements transcended into him.

Jill tells what she learned from their dream. True love, she says, is different from ordinary romance. The love of Romeo and Juliet was great but there is a greater love. She says that a majestic love throbs through us to help us become as “One.” Oceans “become our raiment in this love.”

Jack begins to see nature differently. He says, “Look at how those lilies grow.” The sight of wind blowing through the grass thrills him. Jack and Jill talk about meeting again.

The final question: How might their relationship develop? Could it develop into more than romance, beyond Eros? What is Agape? Could it evolve toward a Majesty that brings one to love all creation, a love for all nature and humanity? How high can love go? How far can love evolve?

**Questions:**  
**What is Love?**

*The word "love" has challenged thinkers and lovers since the beginning of civilization. Below are statements about the nature of love. They become the basis for a panel discussion.*

"One word frees us of all the weight and pain of life: That word is love." - **Sophocles**

"Attention is the most basic form of love; through it we bless and are blessed." - **John Tarrant**

"We love because it's the only true adventure." - **Nikki Giovanni**

"Love is like quicksilver in the hand. Leave the fingers open and it stays. Clutch it, and it darts away." - **Dorothy Parker**

"Love is friendship set on fire." - **unknown**

"Love is an ideal thing, marriage a real thing." - **Goethe**

"To be in love is merely to be in a state of perceptual anesthesia." - **H.L. Mencken**

"Love is everything it's cracked up to be. That's why people are so cynical about it...It really is worth fighting for, risking everything for. And the trouble is, if you don't risk everything, you risk even more." - **Erica Jong**

"Sometimes love is stronger than a man's convictions." - **Isaac Bashevis Singer**

"Love is the master key that opens the gates of happiness." - **Oliver Wendell Holmes**

"Love stretches your heart and makes you big inside." - **Margaret Walker**

"Love has no awareness of merit or demerit; it has no scale... Love loves; this is its nature." - **Howard Thurman**

"Love is like war: Easy to begin but hard to end." - **Anonymous**

"Love consists in this, that two solitudes protect and touch and greet each other." - **Rainer Maria Rilke**

"Where love is, no room is too small." - **Talmud**

"Love makes your soul crawl out from its hiding place." - **Zora Neale Hurston**

"Love is the irresistible desire to be irresistibly desired." - **Mark Twain**

"True love is eternal, infinite, and always like itself. It is equal and pure, without violent demonstrations: it is seen with white hairs and is always young in the heart." - **Honore de Balzac.**

"Love is more than three words mumbled before bedtime. Love is sustained by action, a pattern of devotion in the things we do for each other every day." - **Nicholas Sparks**

"To love is to receive a glimpse of heaven." - **Karen Sunde**

"A love song is just a caress set to music." - **Sigmund Romberg**

"Love is an act of endless forgiveness, a tender look which becomes a habit." - **Peter Ustinov**

"Love is like a violin. The music may stop now and then, but the

strings remain forever." - **unknown**

"Love is the only sane and satisfactory answer to the problem of human existence." - **Erich Fromm**

"In the final analysis, love is the only reflection of man's worth." - **Bill Wundram, Iowa Quad Cities Times**

"Love doesn't make the world go round, love is what makes the ride worthwhile." - **Elizabeth Browning**

"Oh, life is a glorious cycle of song, A medley of extemporanea; And love is a thing that can never go wrong; And I am Marie of Roumania." - **Dorothy Parker**

### **What is sex?**

Civilized people cannot fully satisfy their sexual instinct without love.

BERTRAND RUSSELL, *Marriage and Morals*

Sexuality is the lyricism of the masses.

CHARLES BAUDELAIRE, *Mon coeur mis à nu*

Once the buttons are undone, you know how it'll all end. It's all in the game, there are no miracles.

GAO XINGJIAN, *Weekend Quartet*

Boys and girls in America have such a sad time together; sophistication demands that they submit to sex immediately without proper preliminary talk. Not courting talk—real straight talk about souls, for life is holy and every moment is precious.

JACK KEROUAC, *On the Road*

Christianity has enriched the erotic meal with the appetizer of curiosity and spoiled it with the dessert of remorse.

KARL KRAUS, *Half-Truths and One-and-a-Half Truths*

The way you make love  
is the way God will be with you.

RUMI, *The Book of Love*

When once the woman has tempted us, and we have tasted the forbidden fruit,  
there is no such thing as checking our appetites, whatever the consequences may  
be.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, letter to Mrs. Richard Stockton, Sep. 2, 1783

The storm caused by our god, sex, sends us all to our ruin by the shortest route.

ELFRIEDE JELINEK, *Lust*

When it comes to being a good lover, a guy has to ask a girl what she wants and  
be willing to give it to her.

JENNA JAMESON

Sex is one of the nine reasons for reincarnation ... The other eight are  
unimportant.

HENRY MILLER, *Big Sur and the Oranges of Hieronymus Bosch*

It's sexier when a girl is flirty but she doesn't do anything.

PARIS HILTON, *Guardian Unlimited*, Jul. 8, 2006

I felt an angel's possessing grip, the flames  
rising from your skin,  
the shadow of the divine.

EDWARD HIRSCH, *O Magazine*, Feb. 2007

Sex is the most wonderful thing on this earth, as long as God is in it. When the  
Devil gets in it, it's the most terrible thing on this earth.

BILLY GRAHAM, *Just As I Am*

Of all the sexual aberrations, chastity is the strangest.

ANATOLE FRANCE, *Heretic's Handbook of Quotations*

A woman with a well-stocked toy drawer isn't dependent on anyone and is unlikely to hurl herself at a lowlife just for nooky.

ARIANNE COHEN, *Marie Claire Magazine*, March 2008

With his venom  
irresistible  
and bittersweet  
that loosener  
of limbs, Love  
reptile-like  
strikes me down

SAPPHO, *With His Venom*

“Sex” is as important as eating or drinking and we ought to allow the one appetite to be satisfied with as little restraint or false modesty as the other.

MARQUIS DE SADE, *L'Histoire de Juliette*

Food has it over sex for variety. Hedonistically, gustatory possibilities are much broader than copulatory ones.

JOSEPH EPSTEIN, *Familiar Territory*

Part of the sexual revolution is bringing rationality to sexuality—because when you don't embrace sexuality in a normal way, you get the twisted kinds, and the kinds that destroy lives.

HUGH HEFNER, NPR interview, Sep. 6, 2003

The sexual life of adult women is a “dark continent” for psychology.

SIGMUND FREUD, *The Question of Lay Analysis*

People take sex far too seriously.

CHRISTINA AGUILERA, *Newsweek*, July 31, 2006

We settle for so-so sex because most of us don't know how sexual we could be; we know only how sexual we are. How sexual we are has been shaped by

decades of indoctrination by ... family and friends, teachers, religious leaders, and romantic partners, not to mention a society that worships a bewildering fusion of childlike sexual innocence and cynical, nihilistic hedonism.... So what is normal? It all depends on what's normal for you.

ANITA CLAYTON, *Satisfaction: Women, Sex, and the Quest for Intimacy*

When she's having sex, no woman remains grandiose.

ELFRIEDE JELINEK, *The Piano Teacher*

I think it is funny that we were freer about sexuality in the 4<sup>th</sup> century B.C. It is a little disconcerting.

ANGELINA JOLIE, interview, Nov. 22, 2004

Because they like their own church, and the relationships within it, or because they love Jesus, or because they have a nostalgic affection for it, many people will go on giving the church their loyalty and commitment, while simply disregarding parts of its teaching they don't agree with. Sexuality is one huge area of church doctrine in which this is clearly the case. The traditional position on sexual intercourse is that it is not permissible in any circumstance except that of heterosexual monogamous lifelong marriage. But most Christians are not virgins when they marry. Many Christians divorce. Some Christians are practicing homosexuals. Some live together outside of marriage. And though there is still a consensus in secular as well as church circles that adultery is a bad thing, a betrayal of relationship, it is the deceit and faithlessness that is seen as the sin, not the actual sex. In the Catholic church, teaching on contraception is disregarded by the majority. In no other area of church life is the gap between theory and practice so wide.

KATHY GALLOWAY, introduction, *Dreaming of Eden*

Sex is just another form of talk, where you act the words instead of saying them.

D. H. LAWRENCE, *Lady Chatterley's Lover*

Sex was never as neat as the movies made it. Real sex was messy. Good sex was messier.

LAURELL K. HAMILTON, *Blue Moon*

It's one thing to shoot a man, quite another to cast aspersions upon his lovemaking skills.

TERESA MEDEIROS, *The Vampire Who Loved Me*

I think that one should view with philosophic admiration the strange paths of the libido and should investigate the purposes of its circuitous ways.

CARL JUNG, *Psychology of the Unconscious*

Sex ... or lack thereof ... is at the center of everyone's identity, and once you've cracked someone's desires, you understand them in full.

ARIANNE COHEN, *Marie Claire Magazine*, March 2008

Sex contains all, bodies, souls,  
Meanings, proofs, purities, delicacies, results, promulgations,  
All hopes, benefactions, bestowals, all the passions, loves, beauties, delights of  
the earth,  
All the governments, judges, gods.  
WALT WHITMAN, *A Woman Waits for Me*

**Finally, Rumi says that love is the motive for creating the cosmos. God's love sustains the universe. As this great Majesty of Presence (that cannot be named), continues to love, we see an ever-growing and changing world.**

*Someone asked, "What is loverhood?"  
I replied, "Don't ask me about these meanings –  
"When you become like me, you'll know;  
When it calls you, you'll tell its tale.  
What is it to be a lover? To have perfect thirst.  
So let me explain the water of life.*

*God's wisdom through His destiny and decree  
Made us lovers one of another.  
That foredaiment paired all the world's parts*

*And set each in love with its mate...  
The female inclines towards the male  
So that each may perfect the other's work.  
God placed inclination in man and woman  
So the world may subsist through their union.*  
Rumi