

Valentine's Smalentines! Who needs roses anyway?

by Tricia Romano

"Tired of being lonely?" the little white card asked. "Why, yes," my mind answered. Then call 555-LOVE.

"If only it was that easy," I thought as I grabbed the little business card from my car. I began to wonder how someone knew I was lonely or if it was just coincidence or pure intuition.

There's nothing telling about rock and roll stickers. Could it be the inside? No, my backseat is all torn up, not because anything exciting has been taking place back there, just an overactive sun eating away at my seat covers.

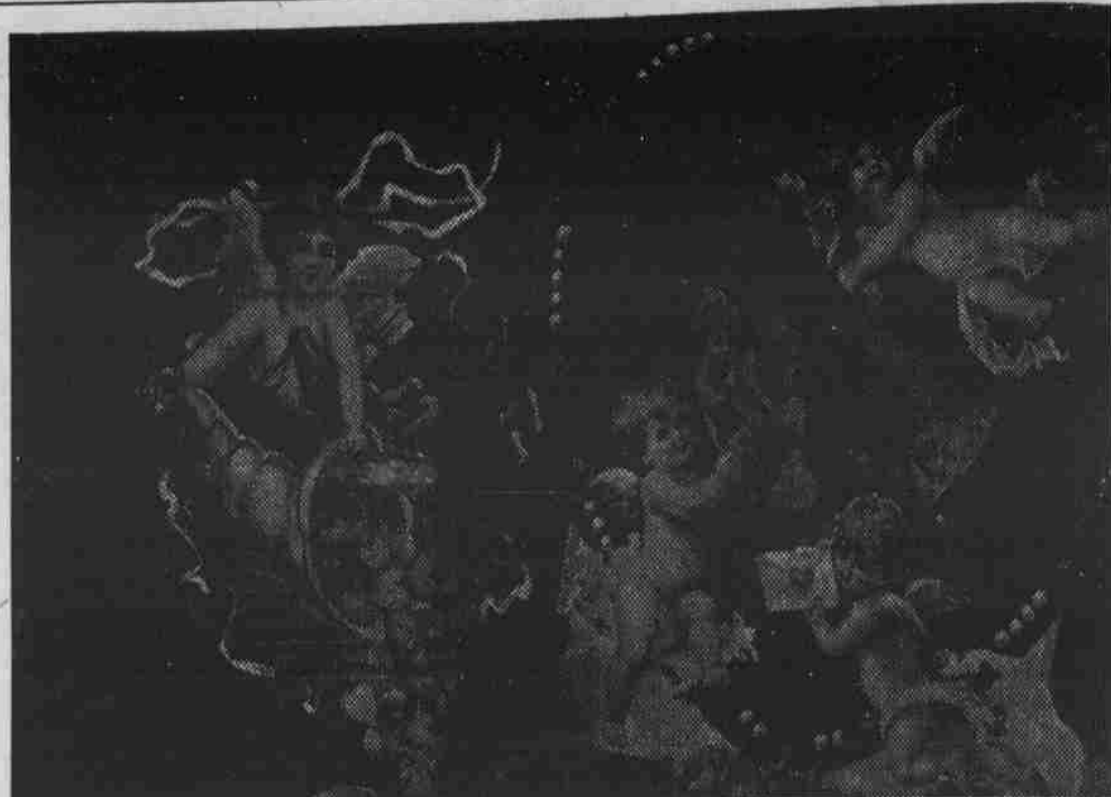
So, on my drive home, I began to ponder this thing called love, or rather this celebration of love that we call Valentine's Day. This wretched, horrible, sickly-sweet, gooey, stupid little holiday that gives the excuse for all horny couples everywhere to act on their little impulses and fornicate like minx. It's that time

of the year when I have to witness the stomach-churning mush of a couple that's been together a week, gazing longingly into each others' eyes. I imagine what they must be thinking.

SHE: Wow, he gave me roses! How sweet! I really like this one! Lets' see, we'll get married in one year, have two children...."

HE: Damn, I spent 50 bucks on those roses!

I don't do Valentine's Day. Never have. Well, it's not like I've had much of a choice. I've never, ever, ever, ever had a boyfriend or even something resembling one on Valentine's Day. Now, it's not a big deal, but in high school, it was grueling. Having to watch your best friend get little love notes declaring her someone's "little bunny rabbit" was enough



to give me the incentive to go to Smith's Food King and smash all things colored pink.

The closest I've ever gotten to a Valentine's gift are those little cheesy "Be Mine"


cards that we used to give out in second grade. Every year, my best friend Vicki gives me one of those with a little Hershey's Kiss taped on top. One time we were sitting around with a few of our other friends, who have all had boyfriends for quite a while, when Vicki quipped half-jokingly, "Yeah, Tricia and I have been going out for five years now."

Why, do I detest this day that is supposed to spread love? Because, it is a superficial celebration of love. It is the day where all of the week-long couples act as if they love each other and they don't. For those of us without and Mr. or Miss Week feel dejected and unwanted because of this false

presentation of love, caring and understanding. It doesn't take long-stemmed roses and chocolate to tell someone how much you care. All it takes are three little words, "I love you."

Last night Vicki and I were out at a diner in Sam's Town. It was a little 50s get-up, with juke boxes and the like. Not, exactly a romantic setting. But, over in the corner was this couple, in their 40s, gazing longingly into each others' eyes. Really hard. Looking deep into each others' souls. They were laughing and cuddling. But it wasn't gooey, it was sweet. And more than that, it was real. They were for real. And, love like that, my friends, is rare.

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STOP!

DO NOT PASS GO. DO NOT COLLECT \$200. DO NOT PROCEED WITHOUT READING THIS BOX.

STAFF BOX CONTEST

FROM WHAT MOVIE IS THE CHARACTER HOLLYWOOD ROB PORTRAYING THIS WEEK IN THE MASTHEAD (AT LEFT)? TO BE PLACED IN A DRAWING TO WIN AN AUTOGRAPHED 8x10 GLOSSY OF YOUR FAVORITE LAYOUT STAFFER, DROP OFF YOUR ENTRY AT THE REBEL YELL NEWSPAPER OFFICE, MSU 302 C/O M. RAY CARRIGAN, BY MIDNIGHT OF 10 FEBRUARY 1993. YOU NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN. REBEL YELL STAFFERS, THEIR RELATIVES AND PRETENTIOUS FILM STUDIES MAJORS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED, INCLUDING RI, VT AND ME.





WINNER!

GERN BLANSTON, A SOPHOMORE SOCIOLOGY MAJOR, KNEW SHIT FROM SHINOLA AND CORRECTLY IDENTIFIED NAVIN R JOHNSON AS STEVE MARTIN'S CHARACTER IN THE JERK. HE PICKED AS HIS PRIZE AN AUTOGRAPHED 8x10 GLOSSY OF LAYOUT STAFFER DAVID Z. KANAAN.

"I THINK THIS CONTEST IS JUST SWELL, I CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF IT," BLANSTON SAID, "I LOVE TRASH, I LOVE IT BECAUSE ITS TRASH. I WILL CHERISH IT FOREVER AND HANG IT PROMINENTLY IN MY DORM ROOM."


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