



AND THEY CALL IT PUPPY LOVE

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Albert Einstein once remarked, "Gravitation is not responsible for people falling in love." Coming from a super-intelligent scientist, the rationalization is both funny and well, rational. We often say we fall in love, but it doesn't mean we literally fall flat on our faces on the ground; although, I may have heard of a person or two who actually did fall flat on their faces in earnest pursuit of their beloved. Suffice it to say that Einstein was just expressing in his scientific way that love is never natural in its very nature---it seeks no explanation and definitely gets none. Why do people do the things they do when they're in love? Just because they're in love, that's why. That line of reasoning has always been enough for everyone.

My son recently had a puppy love experience that we as a family have come to consider a running joke among ourselves. Just as puppy loves go, my son got out of the experience quite literally reborn. My son had always been a jester, playing pranks on his younger siblings every now and then, finding amusement in playing gadget games. When he was at that particular puppy love stage, we all noticed he was more quiet than usual, not enjoying himself as much as he did before with his siblings. After the experience, he became his old self again. I once told him I missed this former personality, and I thanked him for taking it back again. He visibly cried, and my mother's heart cried with him. I told him he's going to be fine, and he's going to have lots of girls falling for him in the future, once he's good and ready. Being a mother has its challenges, but the rewards are infinite. These are the moments that I would never trade for all the wealth in the world.

Love should be free. It should never be forced upon a person. Too much too soon brings regrets, eventually. I fell in love at an early age, but I have advised my children to proceed with caution and wisdom when they fall in love. I tell them not to hurry, for when the right time comes, they will always find the right person. I used to say that finding the right person is enough, but now that I'm older and a mother to seven kids, I find it wiser to tell them to wait for the right time.

We never really have to try too hard to find love. The truth is, love can and will eventually find us. Seeking for love is not really a worthwhile pursuit, for there are far more important things out there in the world, ready for the taking.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. What advice would you give your own son/daughter who fell in love too early?
2. Is there a right age for being in love? If yes, what age is it and why do you think it's the right age?
3. At what age did you first fall in love? Talk about this particular experience in class. What makes it special?
4. Is it easy to be in love? Why or why not?
5. How can you differentiate love and mere infatuation? Is it easy to know the difference? Why or why not?