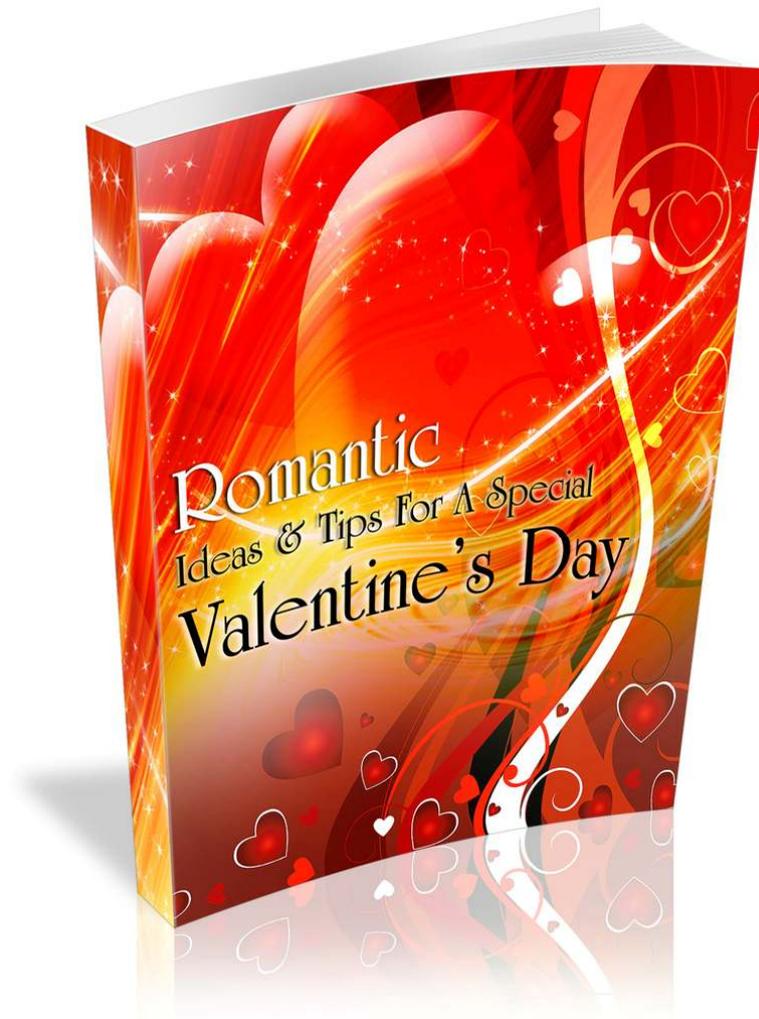


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For A  
Special Valentine's Day*



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**Chapter 1: Significance of Valentines' Day**

Valentine's Day is celebrated throughout the world and is widely considered as the beautiful day dedicated for the celebration of love. However, very few of us know, and very few like you feel the need to know about the incredible saga that surrounds the legend of the original Valentine. The lovely legend goes like this...

**1.1 The origin and evolution:**

The great Roman Emperor Claudius II, in the third century took a decision that his band of armies would be most efficient and effective if they were comprised young and unmarried men, who are not bound by the social ties and have no wives or families. To achieve this vision of his, the Roman Emperor outlawed marriage for the men in his region and made fighting their prime responsibility.

There was a certain Bishop Valentine, who supposedly saw the prejudice of Claudius' declaration and continued to wed the young lovers in secret. However, very soon the Bishop was discovered, and Claudius sentenced Bishop Valentine to death, and had him imprisoned.

It is said that while in prison, the Valentine fell in love with the daughter of the jailor, who visited him in his confinement, regularly. Before his execution, in his last letter to her, he declared his love and signed it as, "From your Valentine."

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Group of your people started celebrating a festival in the middle of February. According to which, during the mid of February celebration, the young men selected the name of a teenage girl by lottery system to be his sexual-companion, for the coming year.

The Catholic Church wanted to put a stop to this and for this they looked for a patron saint that would help attract the attention of the youth. They thus heralded Valentine, the saint who was beheaded by Claudius II in 270 AD, to be the Patron Saint of Love, and the mid of February ceremony, morphed over time to become celebrated as February 14 "St. Valentine's Day."

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## **Chapter 2: Valentine's Day Celebration throughout the world**

The concept of the youthful romance of Valentine's Day captures all hearts and is celebrated all over the world, despite the differences in culture and traditions. Here is an insight in how this special day of love is celebrated in the different corners of the world. This chapter presents an overview of the celebration of Valentine's Day in Japan in Asia, Britain in Europe and Australia.

### **2.1 Valentines Day Celebrations in Japan:**

The celebration of the Valentine's Day is of a different kind as in this day, the ladies buy chocolates for men. There is a special type of chocolate known as 'kiri-choco' that is bought for both friends as well as the close relatives. This chocolate has no special significance however, the chocolate with the name 'Hon-mei' is specially bought for beloved, husband, or a boy friend. This gift is mostly stimulated by the feel of romance. Then after one month that is on the 14th of March the men folks present gifts of chocolate to the ladies who gifted them on the Valentine's Day.

### **2.2 Valentines Day Celebrations in Britain:**

Among the several popular customs and traditions celebrated in England, the penning down of the verses of love affairs and matters of heart is the most captivating way to honor the 'Saint patron of love' - the eternal St. Valentine. In different

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parts of the England, the celebrations take place as per the customs and traditions, and as the day approaches, all the magazines and tabloids are made ready for the day and the lovers publish their sonnets and verses to honor St Valentine's Day.

**2.3 Valentines Day Celebrations in Australia:**

Australia's gold miners who were happy with new-found riches from the Ballarat mines were enthusiastic to pay a handsome sum for making intricate valentines celebrations. The merchants from Australia would usually send out orders of a thousand pounds, at a time to celebrate the Valentines Day majestic. The most extravagant of valentines were made of a satin cushion and lavishly designed with colored shells, flowers, ribbons etc. All this extravagant was neatly kept in an adorned box.

In other countries such as Austria and Germany, they follow the old tradition where men buy flowers for their sweethearts on Valentine's Day. A very fascinating aspect of this custom is that men have to pay attention to the kind of flowers their sweet hearts like- both in terms of their color and fragrance. In Germany, it has become a must-do for the lovers, husbands or guys who are courting, to give out gifts and flowers to their beloveds on the Valentines Day.

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**Chapter 3: Say It with Valentine Day Gifts**

Valentine's Day gifts carry a special message with them, apart from saying that you care; it carries the unfathomable love and the intensity. It helps in conveying the feelings of the giver to the recipient without the involvement of any words, because words can't explain. The gifts also add excitement and romance to the occasion. There are a wide variety of choices when it comes to giving gifts. Here are some fantastic ideas for gifts for both "him" and "her".

**3.1 Special Gifts for Him**

Choosing a special and perfect Valentine's Gift for him can be quite a complicated task particularly if the man in question is quite close to you, and you really wish to touch his heart on this special occasion. However, selecting the right gift can become quite easy if you have a little planning, and add some thinking and a lot of love to it.

The best way to go about selecting the Valentine's Day gift is to start early. There are some women who actually start thinking about and working on the gifts for months before the festival and they rarely go wrong. You can do the same if you wish to gift a very personalized or hand-made Valentine's Day Gift to the man in your life. In case, you have a creative spirit that you can utilize for your benefit then may be you can paint a portrait, knit a sweater or muffler, or prepare a nice photo-album with snaps of both of you two. This will surely work wonders and will remain his most treasured gifts ever.

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If you have plans to buy a heartfelt gift for him this Valentine's Day Gift then keep in mind, his likes, choice, and interests. Think hard and find out if he ever told you regarding some long lost hobby, or anything he has been planning to have or buy since long. This may help you get a nice clue. Some of the common and very general Valentines Day gifts for men include shirts, perfumes, chocolate hampers, wallets, wrist watches, sweets etc. Some men also love to receive flowers on the day.

**3.1.1. Valentines Day Gift Ideas for Husbands:**

If you are a wedded couple then it is that time of the year when you reaffirm your love and faith in each other. You can let him know that despite you are now wedded to each other, your love is still fresh and you still love him as much as you did before. The day - the 14th of February, loving wives all over the world wish to express their unfathomable love with striking gifts that show their heartfelt emotions and feelings. Here are some nice exciting ideas to choose the right gift for husbands:

- ✓ The Gestures of Love - Sometimes just a phone call at work just to saying, 'I love you, and you mean a lot to me' can actually touch his heart in a special way than any other materialistic gifts. You can also prepare your husband's favorite dish for dinner and surprise him.
- ✓ You may gift him something related to his interests, such as books for those who like reading, music CDs for the ones interested in music, clothes for the dress lovers or

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electronic gadgets, like massagers, I-pods, electric shavers, mobiles etc.

- ✓ A resourceful wife may even plan a romantic getaway on Valentine's Day. Choose a nice destination that both of you would like to visit.

**3.1.2 Valentines Day Gift Ideas for Fiancé:**

- ✓ If you are planning to buy special gifts for your fiancé then here are some good suggestions:
- ✓ Fresh Flowers: It is a truth that most men love to receive flowers from their beloveds on the occasion of the Valentine's Day.
- ✓ Shirt Hampers: This is a smart gift that you can get for your fiancé as he would love to have a stylish shirt in his preferred color and style. You may also choose to gift T-shirts if he likes them. For a better impact, you can club the gifts along with chocolates, sweets, or a good perfume.
- ✓ Wrist Watches: This is a yet another interesting gift idea for Valentine's Day, for the husband to be. Some men just love to possess a set of watches for special occasions, and your fiancé will surely adore one from his beloved.
- ✓ Port Folio Bags: The sophisticated and suave portfolio bags are popular amongst men, you may even plan on getting a stylish Laptop bag.

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**3.1.3 Valentine's Day Gift Ideas for Boyfriend:**

Girls in love enthusiastically wait for the St Valentine's Day festival to get hold of the opportunity to express their sincere feelings for their boyfriends, and pamper them with gifts. Most of the girls spend hours brainstorming and discussing with friends about the perfect and special Valentine's Day Gift for their boyfriend. Here are some interesting ideas for Valentine's Day gift ideas for boyfriend.

- ✓ Pamper your boyfriend with a magnificent Valentine's Day gift that would help you express your love for him. For instance, you may gift him a muffler knitted by you, or learn to cook his favorite dishes, or may be write a romantic poem or a song for him. These are inexpensive but invaluable Valentine's Day gift ideas.
- ✓ You can also get tickets for music concerts if your boy is music buff you. You may even get tickets for sports event, in case he loves sports or a magazine subscription, if he loves reading. This will reflect your attention towards your guy, and he will surely love you for that.
- ✓ Guys mostly love to own a striking collection of cologne, body sprays, CDs, DVDs, goggles, bracelets, and wristwatches. These can make for great gifts too along with a fresh flower bouquet may be.

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### **3.2 Special Gift Ideas for Her**

Selecting that perfect and most suitable Valentine's Day gift for your lady love can be quite an exigent task. This is mainly because most women are really sensitive and will have a lot of expectations from you on the Valentine's Day. Surpassing them or even managing to live up to their expectations can be a daunting task. However, the selection of Valentine's Day gift for her can be quite easy if you just keep some of the tiny details in your mind such as her favorite color, her style etc.

Keeping your eyes and ears open days before the day can also help you a lot and is in fact a great tip for selecting the Valentine's Day gift. Most of the women will actually casually or just unintentionally give you a hint. They might often hear them saying how she had her heart on a beautiful necklace or how much she wanted an electronic massager. Watch out for the clues and you will be highly appreciated for your consideration.

Some of the very general Valentine's Day gifts for women generally include jewelry and jewelry box, teddy bears, hand bags, fresh flowers, chocolates, and cards. Here are some more ideas to help you buy gifts for women:

#### **3.2.1 Valentines Day Gift Ideas for Wives:**

- ✓ If you wife just loves jewelry then there cannot be a better way than pampering them with some gold jewelry. Though diamonds and gold are the best choices when it comes to jewelry, you

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can also choose to gift something that is less expensive, such as you can choose from a wide range of semi-precious, and beaded jewelry items from the jewelry shops. You can also look for the same in the online shopping sites.

- ✓ If you wife is a busy executive then you may consider gifting her a smart handbag, organizers, or maybe a latest mobile phone. You can also pamper and treat her with an advance booking in spa or a complete head to toe treatment, in a beauty parlor. She will surely love this surprise.
- ✓ You can also pamper your loving wife by gifting her something like a dress that goes with her personality. You can also get something that she might be planning to have since days.
- ✓ A romantic candle light dinner is a picture perfect romance to treat your wife. Take her with a quixotic candle light dinner at her preferred restaurant. Make advance reservations and ask the manager to make extraordinary decorations for your table with red roses. You may also arrange for live music to enchant your lovely wife, on Valentine's Day.

**3.2.2 Valentines Day Gift Ideas for Fiancée:**

- ✓ You can delight and surprise your fiancée with a beautiful and ornate wristwatch, so that she feels that you are with her at all times. Gifts like bracelets and earrings can also help in expressing your love on the Valentine's Day.

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- ✓ If your fiancée loves to read then the best Valentines Day gift choice would be a set of romantic novel or a good collection of poetry. You can also surprise her with a subscription of her choice of magazine. Similarly, if she is fond of music then you may gift her music CDs of soul touching and romantic songs.
- ✓ The bewitching perfumes and a complete set of make-up kits can make for another wonderful Valentine's Gift for sweethearts.
- ✓ Jewelry boxes and photo frames come in a wide range of designs, and they are much in vogue as the Valentine's Day gift for the special ladies. Another appealing gift idea is the designer photo frames that are personalized with sweet snap shots.

**3.2.3. Valentines Day Gift Ideas for Girlfriend:**

- ✓ Girls just love to be given huggable and cute stuffed toys from their boyfriends. You can gift her nice stuffed animal or a favorite cartoon character, and she will always treasure it as a gift from you.
- ✓ You may treat your girlfriend with mouth-watering and luscious cakes and chocolates on Valentine's Day. You may take pleasure in this gift jointly and have a good time.
- ✓ There are several romantic showpieces available such as image of lovebirds, Cupid, and dancing couples, etc. These gifts make for a memorable Valentine's Day Gift. You can also plan to gift

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her cute coffee mugs or posters, with attractive words or pictures.

- ✓ You can gift jewelry items such as necklace sets, bracelets, rings, which are always a hit idea with the ladies. If you are sure of the preferences, and right size of your girlfriend then you may also gift her fashionable clothes.
- ✓ If you have a creative spirit in you then you may consider gifting her with handmade Valentines Day gifts. If you are really good at painting then you may arrange for a portrait of her, or if you are good in composing music then create a song for her.

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## Chapter 4: What do the Roses Say?

The Valentines roses are timeless and there is no other gift in this world that can even match up to this. If you plan to express your heartfelt emotions to your love then there cannot be a better way to do this than gifting the right roses. The roses come in different colors and the different shades and colors convey different meanings too. If you are clueless about which one is the most suited for you then read one, this chapter will help you decide.

### 4.1: Choosing the right Valentine's Day rose for the occasion

The first step to choosing the ideal Valentine's Day roses is to decide on the color or colors. The tint of rose that you select makes all the differentiation in what your bunch denotes and conveys to your partner. While the conventional red roses convey profound love and passionate passion, distinct rose colors have their own special meanings and expressions to share. In fact, the different shades of similar colors may also have different meanings! Let's find out more:

**Red Roses** - The red roses are in fact the quintessence of Valentines Day, as the red rose stands for romantic love. The red roses are the ones that most people are familiar with and relate to with the festival. However, red roses can be quite pricey, chiefly around the Valentine's Day. It's essential to shop around for these.

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**Purple Roses** - The purple ones are increasingly becoming popular as the trendy pick for the Valentine's roses. While the color symbolizes stately love, the lighter shades stand for the idea that the giver fell in love with the receiver at first sight.

**Orange Roses** - This shade is closer to red and it symbolizes desire. It is thought of as just one shade lighter than red. While the color red stands for ardent love, orange represents a intense attraction, strong desire, and an imperative longing for the recipient that has not quite reached that final step, however it is headed in that direction.

**Yellow Roses** - This color generally stands for long lasting friendship, and this is a great Valentine's Day rose choice. A good partner is the one who can become your best friend first. A good and stable friendship can lay the foundation for love and romance in later life. Therefore, yellow roses are generally presented when a couple is at the first step of love.

**Pink Roses** - The pink roses are wonderful choices for the newer relationships as they stand for gentility, grace, and sweet thoughts. The subtle and softer emotions are usually expressed through the pink color Valentine's Day roses. Presenting your partner a bouquet of pink roses, you express a gentle love and ideal happiness in your relationship. If you want to represent the thought that you're prepared to take the next step, gift a combined bouquet of pink and red roses.

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**White Roses** - These are the pure, and sweet white rose stands for virtue, worthiness, and good value. These roses are great choice for a new relationship or to signify a relationship that has matured, when mixed with pink and red roses.

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**Chapter 5: Tips on throwing A Valentine's day Party**

You may need to plan in advance to ensure that you have everything right in place for your Valentine's Day party. You can start with the Valentine's party supplies, which includes items such as napkins, cups, plates, cutlery, tablecloth, streamers, and balloons. To ensure that you don't leave anything out, make a list of all the items and take it with you while you go shopping. Here are some important tips that can help you ensure that you throw a party to remember.

Sending out the invitations- This is an important part when you are throwing a party at your place. You can plan to create your own party invitation cards. All you need is a bit of creativity and some supplies such as construction paper, glue, glitter, stickers, and other craft items.

Decorating your home or the space where you are arranging your party can be fun and at the same time strenuous too. You can decorate the walls of your home with letters such as "CUPID", "XOXO", and "LOVE". This can help in creating the atmosphere as well as the mood of the party.

You can also decorate the party hall with candles, red roses and lovely curtains and table cloths. If your party is based on a particular theme then you can decorate the hall keeping the theme in mind. Tulips also look great and you can use them to adorn your home as well.

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Foods comprise of an important aspect of the party and it should be really yummy. You can arrange for food depending on the theme of your party. Some great food items would be fruit kabob comprising of chunks of pineapple, strawberries, blueberries, and slices of banana, onto skewers. You can keep food for veggies and non-veggies separately.

Plan for some activities and games to make the guests feel at ease and enjoy the party. You can also plan about keeping gifts for the winner of the games as this would make them feel special and nice.

### **5.1. What to wear for a Valentine's Day Party**

This is an important thing that you need to give some thought so that you look special and at your best. Mostly the parties have their own theme and the dress has to be dependent on that. Red is the most favored color when it comes to Valentines Day parties, though pink and white are also much popular.

### **5.2 Special Valentine's Day recipe for your loved ones**

Here is your special recipe for the day and it's so easy that the guys can prepare it too. Even those who don't cook too much will love making this:

#### **✓ Chocolate with Strawberries and Champagne**

Buy your favorite or better, his favorite Champagne and chill it. Get fresh strawberries along with their stems, intact. Now, simply wash, dry, and

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chill the strawberries. (The cold strawberries help the chocolate to harden, and there won't be any dripping.)

Now for the chocolate dip - Get a jar of chocolate hazelnut spread (available in any specialty and grocery stores) Place 1 cup of the chocolate in a double boiler or fondue pot. Now, just add 1 to 2 tablespoons of the heavy cream and heat it over low heat. Now add some more heavy cream as required. Now, you can serve it to your beloved Valentine.

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**Chapter 6: Tips to Save Money While Having Fun on Valentine's Day**

If you are on a budget and there is Valentine's Day around the corner, don't lose heart. You can save money and at the same time have a lot of fun. I would recommend that you first search for the discount options and offers online. There are many shops that help you save money on valuable Valentine's Day gifts and your partner would love them too. Here are some smart tips that can help you save money while having fun on this Valentine's Day.

The love prescription: You can give her a warm and loving message that says a prescription for love. You can create this yourself by filling in an old pill bottle with loving messages such as take 2 kisses everyday and mark it as refills, unlimited.

You can also get love coupons for your beloved that includes may be a nice cozy romantic dinner, a nice massage, and more. This would make your loved one smile and love you all the more.

Gift her love blog where you can add your pictures, memories, and thoughts. Make the blog truly memorable. You can add your hopes and dreams of your future together.

You can buy some lovely cards that come very cheap and add your personalized messages to it. This can make your loved one feel very special.

Plan for a sexy spa night to rejuvenate your relationship with your beloved. This also helps in increasing the closeness with a sexy spa night. You can prepare for this quite ahead of time, and enjoy a sweet scented bubble bath, with a candle or two.

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A single red rose can say it all as it is the thought that counts the most. So, instead of gifting her a dozen red roses this year, just take the time to get that perfect single, and perfect long-stemmed red rose.

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**Chapter 7: Tips for dating on Valentine's Day**

Going on romantic dates with beloved is a great way of celebrating the Valentine's Day Festival. For singles Valentine's Day is a great time to meet and take the first step to love. This may lead to a new relationship. However, be patient. Give enough time for things to take their natural course. Be yourself while you meet the woman and leave the rest to destiny. Here are some of the dos and don'ts for dating.

**Do's :**

- Meet at an agreed place.
- Meet like good friends as this is the beginning.
- If she asks for suggestions regarding the meeting place then help her out.  
Dress casually for your first meeting.
- Compliment her when she meets you for the first time.
- You can also ask your date for suggestions as this promotes a friendly, comfortable environment to explore the possibilities for romance.
- Focus on her when go for the meeting.
- Relax and be yourself when you meet your match.  
Try to have a fun filled and good time with her.
- Converse with her on topics that she finds interesting.
- Always wear a smile on your face as this will make you look more cheerful and easy going.

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**Don'ts**

- Do not meet with any preset idea or expectations thinking that she is 'the one'. Do not talk of things that may put her off.
- Do not say anything that may make her feel uncomfortable.
- Do not flatter, you may sound like a liar.
- Don't force her to give her number to you if she is not yet comfortable.

**Remember...**

If your first meeting with the woman turns out to be successful then remember to send her a short e-mail saying that you enjoyed meeting her in person before going to bed. It is a sweet way to let her know that you are interested. It is also the best way to take the relationship forward.

**7.1 Conclusion for a Special valentine's day**

No matter how you plan to celebrate this special day, it is the thought that counts. It is the truth and the sincerity in love that counts the most. The Valentine's Day is just a means to let allow people to take some time out of their busy schedules, take a break and smell the fresh scent of love. It reminds us that love is the most powerful emotions of all and we need to give some time to celebrate this great creation of God.