

# Canadian Idols: Romance

*Dallas Siggelkow*

**Question:** What the most romantic line in a movie you can think of?

**There is a built in desire for all of us that craves love.**

You are looking for this false god of romance when you look to one human person to give you belonging, give you identity, give you continuity, but give you transcendence and mystery and awe all in one. Give you comfort, give you edge. Give you novelty, give you familiarity. Give you predictability, give you surprise.

Esther Perel

**No human relationship can bear  
the burden of godhood.**

Ernest Becker

**Question:** How have you seen this “burden of godhood” demonstrated in relationships you have observed or experienced?

**Read** Genesis 29:16-35

Questions to determine if you worship at the idol of romance?

1. Are you disappointed in your love life, whether you are married or not?
2. Who do you sacrifice the most for?
3. Who is it that completes you?

In the face of disappointment from the idol of romance, you can respond one of four ways:

1. You can blame the things that are disappointing you and try to move on to better ones.
2. You can blame yourself and beat yourself with self-lathing and shame “I am a failure. Everyone else is happy. There is something wrong with me.”
3. You can blame the world. “Curses on the rest of the world!” You become hard, cynical and empty.
4. You can reorient the entire focus of your life toward Jesus.

Timothy Keller

**Question:** In which ways have you responded?

Real love:

- is experienced in the midst of disappointments.
- starts when expectations die.

**Questions:** What divine expectations have you placed on others? What does it look like for you to release others from them?

**Read** Matthew 22:37-39

**Question:** How does loving God first and others second replace the idol of romance in your life?

