

WHEN THE IDEAL MEETS THE REAL

CRAIG REES



Song of Songs 5

pg. 675



Euphemism

A mild or indirect word or expression substituted for one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing.



“So his servant put her out and bolted the door after her. She was wearing an ornate robe, for this was the kind of garment the virgin daughters of the king wore. Tamar put ashes on her head and tore the ornate robe she was wearing. She put her hands on her head and went away, weeping aloud as she went.”

2 Samuel 13:18-19



Verse 4:
hand
latch-opening
heart
pound



heart

מֵעָה (*meeh*)

“internal organs, inward parts, belly”



“From birth I have relied on you; you brought me forth from my mother’s womb. I will ever praise you.”

Psalms 71:6



“began to pound”

הָמָה (*hamah*)

“to groan, growl, roar”



“I opened for my beloved, but my beloved had
left; he was gone.”

Songs 5:6



opened

פָּתַח (*pathach*)

“to open, to allow”



She has given up her virginity, something that she will never be able to undo. She has placed herself openly and fully into his hands. She has allowed herself to be intimately enjoined with him. This is how the Bible views sex.



“I opened for my beloved, but my beloved had
left; he was gone.”

Songs 5:6



Stereotype

An oversimplified idea of a person or thing.



This isn't addressing passion but presence. There is more to human love than drying your hair! When it comes to experiencing **eros without shame** we must grow together in the experience and be realistic in our expectations. Eros without shame is not a climax but a process. Where we start out is not where we are to end up.



Is it possible to keep this kind of love
alive for a lifetime?



“After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I
now have this pleasure?”

Genesis 18:12



“So then, banish anxiety from your heart and cast off the troubles of your body, for youth and vigor are meaningless”

Ecclesiastes 11:10



Human love shouldn't die, it should
deepen.





Since age affects our sexual capabilities,
what steps can we take to keep eros alive
and meaningful, even into later life?



Broaden Your Definition



Focus On What Endures



“Wives, in the same way submit yourselves to your own husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God’s sight.”

1 Peter 3:1-4



“External beauty without internal beauty wears
real thin, real fast.”

Gene Getz



Keep Yourself Alive



A word of hope ...



“Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.”

John 12:24



“My heart sank at his departure.”

Songs 5:6



“The expiration of the woman may reflect the theme that is common in stories of the heroic quest, namely, the hero’s “death” and “resurrection”... A descent into Hades is a decisive break with the old self, and the return is a birth of the new self. Thus, the words may imply a motif of transformation. The Song... sends the protagonist out on a heroic quest where she faces harrowing dangers. She leaves her security behind and exposes herself to danger and pain for the sake of attaining her beloved.”

Duane A. Garrett, *Song of Songs*, NAC 14, 217-218