



Context of The Three-Legged Race of Love

By Marcus Lander (September 2012)

The great philosopher Socrates had this to say about marriage:

“As to marriage or celibacy, let a man take which course he will, he will be sure to repent.”

As someone who has experienced one failed marriage, and one marriage that I consider to be more of a success, I can confirm that in my experience, while being single can be lonely, being in an unhappy relationship is much harder, and even in a good relationship much work and commitment is required. One needs to develop patience and forbearance, and has to learn not to be a selfish individual, that left to our own devices we all have a tendency towards, even if in our own eyes one couldn't wish for better company.

Socrates own marriage may not have been an entirely happy one, as in another quote he says.

“By all means marry. If you get a good wife, you'll be happy. If you get a bad one, you'll become a philosopher.”

By which token I may count myself doubly blessed, as having endured one unhappy marriage, my philosophical side was enhanced, having to take stock of difficult situations and learn lessons that happiness could not teach, and then remarrying to someone who thus far has managed to tolerate my faults, and accept me, for the most part, as the person that I am, I would consider my present marriage as a fairly happy one overall.