

News & Comments

Scientists Explain Why Love Can Feel Magical

Jenson Easo

People tend to view supernatural forces as illusions resulting from wishful thinking in this age of science. Despite humanity's tendency toward rationality, love remains a profound exception. Love is still deemed as once cosmically bound to one's destiny. A new study was conducted to test whether individuals will feel the more remarkable similarity between themselves and an individual whom they are interested in romantically than someone they are not interested in.

The [study](#) found that magical notions of fated love and soulmates are very common and deeply felt. To understand why is love a part of the human mind, researchers tried looking at it through the lens of evolutionary psychology. Since Evolutionary psychology is based on patterns followed by our ancestors, with traits that made them think and act that way was more likely to survive and reproduce, passing those helpful, or "adaptive," traits on to the next generation. The team suggested that the key to love's ancient purpose lies in the apartment lease agreement. According to the research team, love is like signing a lease. The signed-lease agreement provides the crucial bond, keeping the temptation of other options from ruining their useful arrangement. Similar is the case when it comes to choosing partners. Monogamous relationships are likely to be favored by humans, at least long enough to co-parent. It's important to find the best possible partner because of this commitment's magnitude.

It is challenging and resource-intensive to find an ideal partner. Committing to a good enough partner is generally better than chasing perfection endlessly and failing to pass on your genes.

As a result, evolution may have created love as a biological lease agreement, solving both the commitment problem and rewarding it. Love also ensures commitment in several ways. First, it makes other potential mates seem lackluster. Second, love causes jealousy, a "mate guarding" adaptation that encourages vigilance and defensive behavior. The team also found another reason, that the supernatural "meant to be" stories people tell about love might increase their confidence in the value of their relationship. Although magical thinking is based on fantasy, the study investigates how it can be adaptive. The belief that your relationship is magically "meant to be" can provide more than just a sense of connection. In other words, even if magical love doesn't make sense, it makes sense for love to feel magical. A study suggests that love's magic helps people make the tremendous commitment needed to successfully pass on their genes.

KEYWORDS

love, rationality, magical, relationship, commitment, genes, supernatural, bond, lease agreement

