Lovesick: Definition and Representations

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Definition

What does it mean to be lovesick? Sickness happens because a foreign creature has invaded your body and your body is unable to fight the creature. In some cases it is because your body is lacking the proper nutrients to fight off the creature. Lovesick means your body has become sick because you lack love. Love is a nutrient. Lacking a nutrient is only possible if the nutrient existed, becoming lovesick is only possible because love exists. Lacking is the opposite of having. Being in love is the opposite of not being in love, which is lovesick; love is the opposite of lovesick. Opposites only exist in absence and they depend on each other for existence. Love exists in the absence of lovesick, and vice versa, lovesick exists in the absence of love. Absence and lacking can be used interchangeably; they are the one in the same. There are positives and negatives. Love is a positive because it keeps you healthy, lovesick is a negative because you are sick, and sickness brings misery.
Decoding the Universe

In the novel *Decoding the Universe* by Charles Seife, chapter 2 is about how everything in the universe can be reduced to a 1 or a 0, a yes or a no, a positive or a negative. What this means is that everything has an opposite. If something isn’t a 0 then it has to be its opposite, a 1. For example, if you ask the question did you eat dinner today? Either you did or you didn’t. The opposite of eating is not eating. The absence of food means that there is no food. This also means that neither answer would exist without the other. You can’t have a 1 without the possibility of a 0, a yes without a no. There is no negative without a positive. This applies to lovesick in that lovesick would not exist without love. If love didn’t exist then being lovesick would be impossible. If lovesick didn’t exist then love wouldn’t exist. It is not possible to be lovesick without knowing what love is, and you can’t be in love without knowing what it is like to be lovesick. They are opposites. Love is the 1 and lovesick is the 0, or vice versa.
A Drunken Alcoholic

In the novel *Recovery* by John Berryman, the main character is a recovering Alcoholic. Alcoholism is an example of lovesick in that alcohol is something that an Alcoholic needs to survive. Alcohol is love. With out it the Alcoholic becomes sober. Sobriety is a disease to the Alcoholic and alcohol is the cure. Sobriety is the opposite of drunkenness, sobriety is a 1 and being drunk is a 0. Sobriety occurs in the absence of alcohol. If sobriety didn’t exist then being drunk wouldn’t exist; they are opposites, and they depend on each other for existence. The opposite of a sober person is a drunken person. A lovesick Alcoholic is a sober Alcoholic. Being sober is the negative, or 1, because it makes him sick, being drunk is the positive, it is the 0 because it cures him and is the opposite of being sober. The Alcoholic seeks out the 0—he wants to be drunk—when he is a 1, or sober. A sober Alcoholic is the representation of lovesick. A drunken Alcoholic is the representation of love.
You’re the Good Things

You were right I’m hangin’ 'round because
Slight of hand won’t separate us from them
You were right I’m underground because
Slight of hand won't separate your body from the dirt you're standing on
Today
You're the good things yeah that's you...
You're the icing on the cake on the table at my wake
You're the extra ton of cash on my sinking life raft
You're the loud sound of fun when I'm trying to sleep
You're the flowers on my table when my allergies come out
You're the good things...
And help's not short when you're diggin' your grave
I'll help you dig it
So you're diggin' your grave now you're speakin' my language I'll help you
Dig it.

This is an example of when something good has become something bad. When a general positive has turned into a negative under a given circumstance. Icing and cake is generally good, but not when it’s at your wake. A ton of cash is good, but not when your life raft is sinking. These are instances when a negative is more desirable than a positive. A ton of cash has become a negative when it’s on your sinking life raft because you would rather have the opposite of a ton of cash, which is no cash. This also represents when a positive has brought out a negative. Flowers, which are generally positive, have brought out a negative, his allergies. These are examples of when being lovesick is better than being in love. Because being in love has just brought him misery. It has brought his allergies out, his life raft to sink, and he’s unable to sleep.
This picture represents the perfect love because a positive is attached with its negative. The balloon’s opposite is the anchor. Because an anchor is suppose to hold whatever it is attached to down and never leaving the ground. The anchor’s opposite is the balloon. Because the balloon is supposed to carry what it is attached to around with it, it is supposed to float whichever way the wind blows. Either it floats or it sinks, a 1 or a 0. The balloon floats, the anchor sinks. Theses objects are polar opposites of each other. But when connected they have created a perfectly balanced object. It is a 0 with a 1, a positive with a negative. It is the perfect representation of love.
Stones of Summer

In the novel the *Stones of Summer* by Dow Mossman, the main character Dawes is a Schizoid. Dawes has made up an imaginary person, Handsaw. Handsaw has been with Dawes since he was twelve; he comes and goes through out Dawes’s life. Dawes is aware that Handsaw is a delusion of his mind; Dawes has even been committed for six months to be cured. But Dawes loves Handsaw. He does not want to see him go. If it weren’t for Handsaw Dawes would not know what love is. There for Dawes does not want to see Handsaw leave because Dawes fears he would become lovesick. Handsaw is the 1 and Dawes is the 0. Handsaw is Dawes’s opposite. They are the perfect love born from a sickness of the mind, Schizophrenia. Dawes is convinced if Handsaw leaves him then he will go crazy. This is an example of lovesickness in that the love Dawes feels for Handsaw is a nutrient, it keeps him healthy, or so Dawes believes. Dawes feels that in the absence of Handsaw he would be lacking a vital nutrient to remain healthy, there for becoming sick, or crazy. Dawes’s illness, Schizophrenia, has brought him his opposite, Handsaw, which has brought him the perfect love. Love has resulted out of a sickness in Dawes’s mind.
Virtual Reality

In the article *Virtual Reality: The Next Step*, the author Michael Behar writes about how one day we will be able to create our own world, or own reality with computers. Because computers today only use two human senses: sight and touch. If we could have computers use all of our senses all over our body then it could create our own reality and we would never have to leave our home.

Virtual reality is the opposite of reality. Virtual reality is our own reality; everything comes from inside our head. Were as reality is made up of the outside world. In reality events take place that surprise us, and people have knowledge that we don’t. In virtual reality nothing surprises us and every piece of information is what we already know. We can’t make our own reality with information that we don’t already know.

Somebody who is lovesick might favor virtual reality. Because finding love in the real world hasn’t worked for them so they make up their own love, or what they think love is. Somebody who is in love will want to stay in reality because they do not want to give up the person that they are in love with. Even if in virtual reality that person that we are in love with is exactly the way we know them to be, it is not they. Every day we learn something new about the people we love. There for every day we learn something new that we love about that person. That is what keeps us interested. Virtual reality would cause our image of that person to stagnate, never change, and we would become bored of that person.
There was an incident in Herndon, VA where a man in a pick-up truck was cut off by a couple trying to merge. The man that was cut off started to follow the couple very closely, honking his horn, flashing his lights. The couple responded by slamming on their brakes, then speeding away. The man in the pick-up followed and tried to pass the couple. The couple would not let the man pass. As their anger grew so did their speed. Eventually the man in the truck passed and cut sharply in front of the couple. Causing the couple to slam on brakes, swerve, and lose control of the vehicle that flipped over the guardrail, killing the couple. The man in the pick-up has not been identified.

Road rage is a type of inward anger directed outward, but anger would not exist without peace. Peace with yourself happens when you are comfortable with who you are. This happens when you have found somebody who understands you, somebody who loves you. Anger is the absence, or opposite of peace. When you are lovesick you become angry. Road rage is an example of somebody who is lovesick because they are directing their anger outward through acts of aggression. When the couple cut in front of the man in the pick-up they were acting as if he didn’t exist. If a person is insecure about their existence they act out angrily in instances when they are ignored. Their insecurity comes from lack of love, or peace, in their life. The man in the pick-up used acts of aggression to show the couple that he existed. If he wasn’t lovesick then he would have felt no need to tell the couple that he exists, because he already exist to the person that loves him.
Why They Kill

In the article *Why They Kill*, the author Jeffrey Kuger offers an explanation of why mass murderers kill. It analyzes Cho Seung-Hiu, the VA tech shooter. It says that these mass murderers don’t know the difference between right and wrong. They have no empathy for pain because something that causes pain is a wrong.

Everything has an opposite in the Universe in order to exist. If Chong Seung-Hiu lacked the ability to identify opposites such as right and wrong then things that could be labeled as right and wrong didn’t exist to him. Right and wrong have traits that identify them. A wrong causes pain that is felt by the person who is wronged; the person who caused the wrong usually feels regret and empathy afterward if they know what they did is wrong. A right causes happiness and the person who is righted feels joy; the person who caused the right usually feels good about himself. If they know what they did was right. When a person is lovesick they feel ‘wrong’. When a person is in love they feel ‘right’. Cho Seung-Hiu didn’t know what it felt like to be in love or lovesick. He couldn’t tell what was right or wrong. He had no empathy; he couldn’t feel what other people are feeling. He was unable to tell if the pain he caused was a right or a wrong. If he’s unable to identify what it feels like to be in love or to be lovesick then he doesn’t know how to identify what he feels. His mass murder could have been an act of love; he loved them so much that he killed them. He gave them a gift; instead of chocolates and flowers he gave them bullets. Or it could have been an act of lovesickness, he’s so miserable he’s going to cause as many people as possible to feel as miserable as he does.
Marine’s Widow

In the magazine *American Photo*, the article *Arlington* by Harvey Lanker is about some of the Marines that have died in Iraq. This is a picture of a Marine’s widow standing next to her husband’s grave in Arlington cemetery. Next to the picture is a quote from the Marine’s widow, it says: “Being there I felt proud.” Being surrounded by death made her feel proud. The opposite of this statement is: She is ashamed to be alive. Because the opposite of feeling proud is feeling ashamed, and the opposite of death is life. She is ashamed to be alive because the person she loved is dead. Lovesick has made her so sick that she wishes she were dead. The pain of feeling the sudden absence of her husband is so great that she can’t bear to be alive anymore. This feeling only exists because she knew how it felt to be in love with the Marine. It was such a strong feeling that his love became a vital nutrient to her health. Now that she is suddenly lacking love she has become terribly lovesick. So lovesick that she wishes she were dead too.
The Religious View

_The Bible_ speaks greatly of Heaven and Hell. Heaven and Hell are opposite rewards for the way you live your life. If you live a bad life you go to Hell, if you live a good life you go to Heaven. Hell only exists because Heaven exists, and Heaven only exists because Hell exists. They depend on each other for existence. Heaven is pictured as a place full of love, peace and happiness. Hell is pictured as a place full of disease, pain and misery. Heaven and Hell can be religious symbols of love and lovesick. If you are in love you are in Heaven. You are full of love, peace and happiness. If you are lovesick you are in Hell. You are full of sickness, pain and misery. There are many other representations such as these in both polytheistic and monotheistic religions. For Christianity there is: Angels and Demons, Christ and the Anti-Christ. These are the characters that inhabit Heaven and Hell. Christ and Angels inhabit Heaven, Demons and the Anti-Christ inhabits Hell. Buddhism uses Karma and reincarnation to reward the good and punish the bad. The people with good Karma are the people who are full of love, peace and happiness; the people with bad Karma are the people who are full of sickness, pain and misery. The polytheistic religions are based on these opposites of good and bad and rewards and punishment. If you appease the gods then you are rewarded with love, peace happiness and prosperity, if you displease the gods then you are punished with sickness, pain and misery.
A Spork is the representation of the perfect love. It’s opposites that have been brought together to make one. A Spoon is made for liquidly soft substances. Its made to support, hold and cup. A Fork is made for hard substances. It is made to poke, penetrate and pick. A Fork and a Spoon are opposites. When they are put together they make a single perfectly practical tool for eating, a Spork. Bringing them together has brought together their uses. A Spork is a 1 with its 0, a positive with its negative, a good with a bad. The disadvantage of a Spoon is that it could not pick hard food up. The disadvantage of a Fork is that it could not support liquid foods. A Spork can support liquids like a Spoon and pick up hard foods like a Fork. Bringing a Spoon and Fork together has brought together their advantages and eliminated their disadvantages.
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