

Jay's Book Review

The Secret Adventures of Charlette Bronte by Laura Joh Rowland

This is historical fiction of Victorian England and the famous and fascinating Bronte family, specifically the sisters Charlette, Emily and Anne who were novelists and poets and wrote many famous books including *Jane Eyre*, *Wuthering Heights*, *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*

Upon learning that she has been falsely accused of plagiarism, the normally mild-mannered Charlotte Bronte sets off for London to clear her name. But when she unintentionally witnesses a murder, Charlotte finds herself embroiled in a dangerous chain of events that forces her to confront demons from her past. With the clandestine aid of her sisters, Emily and Anne, and of the suspiciously well-informed but irresistibly attractive brother of the victim, Charlotte works to unravel a deadly web of intrigue that threatens not only her own safety but the very fabric of the British Empire. Will Charlotte be able to stop a devious, invisible villain whose schemes threaten her life, her family, and her country?

Available in LARGE PRINT



What Kids Think About Love...

1. "Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other." - **Karl age 5**
2. "Love is when you go out and eat and give someone most of your French fries without you making them give you any of theirs." - **Chrissy age 6**
3. "Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, and then he wears it every day." - **Noelle age 7**
4. "Love is when mommy gives daddy the best piece of chicken." - **Elaine age 5**
5. "I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones." - **Lauren age 7**
6. "When you love someone, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you." (what an image) - **Karen age 7**
7. "Love is when mommy makes coffee for daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure it tastes OK." - **Danny age 7**
8. "When grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toe nails anymore. So, my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love" - **Rebecca age 8**
9. "It gives me a headache to think about that stuff. I'm just a kid. I don't need that trouble." - **Kenny age 7**
10. "Once I'm done kindergarten, I'm going to find a wife." - **Tom**

ABERDONIAN

Aberdeen Gardens Retirement Residence, 330 Dundurn St. S. 905-529-3163



Celebrating February

- 1 **Allen Allcorn**
- 2 **Miriam on Piano every Sunday**
- 3 **Town Hall Meeting**
- 4 **Walmart**
- 5 **Holy Rollers Bible Study Wednesday's with Chaplain Joseph Traditions Alive Sale**
- 6 **Lunch Critics Memphis Fire Healthy Heart Seminar**
- 7 **Giant Tiger**
- 8 **John Cauwenbergs**
- 11 **Limeridge Mall**
- 12 **Bijoux Boutique**
- 13 **Dollar Tree Red Velvet Social Alina on Piano**
- 14 **Valentine's Day 50/50 Draw Valentine Party with Barber Shop Chorus**
- 15 **Devon Moody**
- 17 **Family Day Franco Cannzaro**
- 18 **Flamboro Casino**
- 19 **Holy Rollers Bible Study**
- 20 **Westcliffe Mall**
- 21 **Shoppers Drug Mart**
- 22 **Jeff Gurney**
- 25 **Birthday Party with Paula**
- 27 **Walmart Fun Chorus**
- 29 **Leap Year**

Message from the Executive Director - Maddi

The month of February is upon us!

It is the month of love, Valentine's Day, plans are under way to make that a special day for our residents. Also, the month of February celebrates Black History! We are paying homage to our diverse staff.

The kitchen will be arranging a showcase of culinary options around cultural foods.

Staff will be engaging in Tapestry of Diversity training and special guests will be coming in for entertaining discussions.

We are so fortunate to have a wonderful and interesting group of folks to celebrate!! Take care and keep warm

Message from the Activity Director- Barb

February being heart month, we are doing a 50/50 draw with the proceeds going to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. Residents and staff can also make a donation of \$2 and dedicate a heart to a loved one past or present.

We have booked an incredible group "Classic Blend Ladies Barbershop Chorus" for our Valentine's Day party and chef Dave will be preparing some special treats.

We will be showing the Roots Saga each Wed. evening to get a better understanding of Black History.

Make sure you check your monthly calendar for full listing of activities and outing so you don't miss out.

The Giving Heart

*The heart is a wonderful "tool"
 It is capable of many emotions
 It helps to make us smile, although we are feeling blue
 When we are filled with grief
 It's the heart that needs the healing
 Anxiety can make it race
 We swallow and speech is impaired
 Friends do their best to comfort us
 Till finally the anxiety is quelled
 Happiness fills us with elation
 Joy spreads from within us
 The heart can hardly contain itself
 Till we find someone to share it
 How many times have you heard,
 "With all my heart, cross my heart
 Or close to my heart"
 The list goes on and on
 But one thing is sure we all have a heart
 When used with sincerity, it's the best tool we have
 To keep us going
 To spread comfort and joy, help those in distress
 When put to the test
 It eases the mind, lifts the spirits
 And with all its love
 Encourages us to keep right
 Loving, caring and sharing*

Written by resident Margaret G.

Skipping Double Dutch

Before I get into my story, here is an explanation of Skipping Double Dutch. It is a game in which two long jump ropes turning in opposite directions are jumped into for the skip. Probably the hardest part is getting in and out without getting tangled in the ropes. There is a turner at each end of the ropes and they control the speed of the ropes, and count the numbers of hops by the skipper.

My initiation to the game came from watching the girls on my street jump rope. It did not look too tough to me, so I asked if they would let me try. "ok" they said and showed me how to get in and out of the turning ropes. The first two attempts ended in failure but the third was the charm, I was skipping. I skipped several times that morning and if I do say so myself, I was getting pretty good. Later that morning the girls decided to have a skip for the championship. I was entered. Then it was my turn and in I went I could have skipped all day. Needless to say, I was crowned the double Dutch champion. Years later and married, I was out for a drive with my wife. We happened to pass some girls skipping double Dutch. Pointing them out I said to my wife that I was the double Dutch champion on our street. This was met by a derisive "I don't think so, you could not have out skipped a girl." That conversation was to happen several more times throughout the years. Now jump ahead 65 years from my championship. The wife and I were standing at the front door of St. Joseph church. A woman approached us and said to me "Are you Ken Dorman?" "Yes, I am" I told her, "I'm Audrey Harrison from Linwood Ave." Pleasantry's where exchanged and I introduced her to my wife and as God would be my judge the first thing she said to my wife was "You know he was the double Dutch champion." Wow vindication is mine and

I AM THE DOUBLE DUTCH CHAMPION!

By resident Ken

From Your Valentine

On February 14 each year, sweethearts celebrate Valentine's Day by exchanging cards, chocolates, and other tokens of love. But do these sweethearts know who they are celebrating? The true identity of St. Valentine is murky and there are differing stories detailing his role in the church and the acts that inspired the popular holiday bearing his name.



Competing stories depict St. Valentinus (the Latin version of the name) as either a priest from Rome or the Bishop of Terni during the reign of Emperor Claudius II. Legend has it that Valentinus aided Christians who were persecuted under Claudius II's reign.

Eventually, Valentinus, too, was put under house arrest at the home of Judge Asterius. It so happened that Asterius had a blind daughter. The judge asked Valentinus to prove the power of Christ by restoring the girl's sight. When Valentinus performed the miracle, the judge thanked him by freeing him and all the Christians he had imprisoned. But Valentinus did not remain free for long. He was again arrested and brought before Emperor Claudius II himself. When Valentinus attempted to convert Claudius to Christianity, he was executed on February 14, AD 270, but before his martyrdom, he is said to have written a note to the daughter of Asterius, which he signed "From your Valentine."

Another story details how Claudius II outlawed marriage for young men in the belief that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families. Valentine defied Claudius and performed marriages in secret, purportedly cutting hearts of parchment and gifting them to the couples as a sign of God's eternal love. When Valentine's secret was discovered, Claudius executed him.

These stories are different yet they both illustrate Valentine's devotion to his faith and his people. As these legends spread, so did Valentine's reputation for heroic love and devotion, inspiring a holiday dedicated to the ideals he died for.

The Promise for Valentine's Day

He tells her, it's you I adore
 Promising love evermore
 She smiles as he hands her the ring
 Believe me, you are my everything
 With you I want to spend my life
 Walking into the future as husband and wife
 Those words she remembered at the altar when
 saying "I do"
 Happy to marry a man so true



Parents Valentine Message to Child

**For as long as I live,
 I will be **O**ne step behind you.
 At times I will drive you insane,
 hassle you and **cR**amp your style,
 if you don't **hatE** me once in your
 life **Im** not doing my job properly.
 You will **neV**er find anyone
 who worries about, is as proud of,or
 und**E**rstands
 and **LOVES** you more than me. I am **youR**
 parent **p.s.** I Love You**

Reminder;

If you need help with a maintenance issue, please go or call the front desk and have it written in the log book. This book is checked several times a day. All work must be recorded in our TELS. system. Please **do not** call maintenance on their phone directly. Thank you