A Dog and His Seeing Eye Cat

One evening, a small gray cat appeared at Judy's door, seeking shelter from the cold. When Judy let the stray inside, her fearless new houseguest approached the bedridden Terfel. Judy watched in amazement as the cat used her paws to coax Terfel out of his basket, leading the dog into the backyard. Staying right beside the aging dog, the cat kept Terfel from bumping into anything, and the pair enjoyed a stroll around the garden before returning indoors. Judy named the newcomer Pwditat, pronounced “puddy tat,” and since that night, the two have been inseparable.

Despite the old saying, “nate each other like cats and dogs,” there are plenty of examples of canines and felines getting along swimmingly. The trick is to give your cat enough space and to make sure your dog knows the cat is not something to chase. But when it comes to Terfel and Pwditat, their story is truly one of a kind.

In the U.S., red roses are the go-to Valentine’s Day flower thanks to their connection to Aphrodite, the ancient Greek goddess of love. However, in Denmark, couples are more likely to exchange snowdrops. These lovely white flowers rarely wait for the warmth of spring to bloom, instead pushing right through the snow, which makes them a wonderful symbol of love that triumphs in harsh conditions.

Poems are also popular among Danish couples on Valentine’s Day. Called “gækekøbere” these anonymous poems are romantic or humorous in nature. If the person who received the poem is able to correctly guess the sender, they are rewarded with an Easter egg later that year on Easter Sunday.

In Japan, women take responsibility for gift giving on Valentine’s Day, and chocolates say more than words. On Feb. 14, women in Japan give the men in their lives gifts of “giri choo” or “homme choo.” Giri choo translates to “obligation chocolate,” and, as the name would suggest, tends to be cheaper and store-bought. Usually given to friends, colleagues, or bosses, this chocolate comes with no romantic notions attached. Homme choo is “true-feeling chocolate.” Often homemade, homme choo is given to romantic partners, including husbands and boyfriends.

The ladies of Japan may do all the work on Valentine’s Day, but one month later, on March 14, the country celebrates White Day. This holiday gives men the chance to reciprocate by giving presents to the women in their lives. Typical White Day gifts include cookies, jewelry, white chocolate, white lingerie, and marshmallows.

In the United States, Valentine’s Day, the most romantic of holidays, is often referred to by cynical souls as a “Hallmark holiday.” It’s hard to argue with that dismissal when the same pink and red greeting cards line the shelves of every department store. If you’re tired of the same old heart-shaped candies and restaurant reservations, it’s time to bring the romantic spark back to Valentine’s Day. Take a trip around the world and see how other countries celebrate the day of love.

South Korea

South Korea, the 14th day of every month is a special day for love and romance. In addition to Valentine’s Day in February and White Day in March, South Koreans celebrate Diary Day on Jan. 14, Black Day in April, Yellow Day in May, Kiss Day in June, Silver Day in July, Green Day in August, Photo Day in September, Wine Day in October, Movie Day in November and Hug Day in December. Each holiday signifies a special way to celebrate love.

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Don’t worry; single folks aren’t left out of the festivities. Black Day on April 14 is a holiday for single people to wear black and eat “jajangmyeon,” a Korean black bean noodle dish. Depending on how you look at it, this holiday is either for people to mourn being alone or to celebrate their independence.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3...
**What Is Comparative Negligence?**

Defining the legal term

You may have heard the term “comparative negligence” and not fully understood its meaning. When you’re working with an attorney, it’s a term that comes up from time to time and it’s not always straightforward. In short, it’s a legal defense that can influence the damages the plaintiff receives in a claim.

To start, there are different forms of comparative negligence.

- **“Pure” comparative negligence:** Under a pure comparative negligence claim, the plaintiff may recover the percentage of damages for which the defendant is liable, even when the plaintiff’s negligence exceeds the defendant’s.
- **“Partial” comparative negligence:** Under a partial comparative negligence claim, the plaintiff may recover the percentage of damages for which the defendant is liable only if the plaintiff’s own negligence falls below a certain threshold. If there is more than one defendant, most states require that the plaintiff’s negligence be less than the negligence of any of the defendants. A few states permit recovery if the plaintiff’s negligence is less than that of the aggregate.

**The Impact of comparative negligence doctrine on other rules:**

- **Last Clear Chance:** Under comparative negligence, the last clear chance doctrine is generally abolished.
- **Wanton or Reckless Conduct by Defendant:** Such conduct apparently will not affect the comparative negligence doctrine, i.e., the plaintiff’s recovery can still be reduced. But the plaintiff’s negligence is not a factor if the defendant acted intentionally.
- **Avoidable Consequences:** Total relevant fault is apportioned. Thus, failure to mitigate damages is no longer charged solely to the plaintiff.
- **Rescuers:** Most courts do not allow a rescuer’s negligence to result in a reduction in the rescuer’s award.
- **Res ipsa loquitur:** Most states no longer require plaintiffs to show freedom from contributory negligence as part of a res ipsa loquitur case.
- **Punitive Damages:** Plaintiff may not recover punitive damages where the jury has attributed more fault to the plaintiff than to the defendant.

**Cover continued ...**

**The Philippines**

In the Philippines, Valentine’s Day isn’t just a day to say “I love you.” It’s a day to say “I still do!” Mas weddings on Feb. 14 have become incredibly popular. In 2010, over 1,500 couples dressed in white and were married simultaneously in a free ceremony in Caloocan City. Three years later, 4,000 couples decided to be the knot on Valentine’s Day 2013.

**France**

You may consider Paris the ultimate romantic destination, but when it comes to Valentine’s Day, a small village 160 miles south of the City of Lights is where you want to be. Saint-Valentin is home to less than 300 people, and on Valentine’s Day, they do their nameake proud. During the week leading up to Feb. 14, locals decorate their homes with hearts and flowers and cover trees with love notes. Many couples come to be married in the village’s “Jardin des Amoureux” or “Lovers’ Garden.”

Whether you’re married or single, there’s always a reason to celebrate Valentine’s Day. This year, why not try your hand at crafting homemade chocolate, write a humorous poem, or eat black bean noodles with your single friends? You might just find a new tradition to fall in love with.

Happy Valentine’s Day!

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**Ingredients**

- 2 cups frozen tater tots, defrosted
- 1 ounce sharp cheddar, cut into 1/4-inch squares
- 4 slices bacon, quartered
- 1 tablespoon chopped parsley

**Instructions**

1. Heat oven to 400 F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and set aside.
2. Press a cheese square into each tot, then wrap with a piece of bacon. Dredge each tot in brown sugar.
3. Place tots seam side down on baking sheet. Bake for 20-25 minutes, using metal tongs to turn halfway through.
4. Garnish with parsley, if desired, and serve immediately.

(Recipe inspired by ThiaGrandmaOf3.com)