

Love at first sight  
By Mañanita Ochoa

Scientific realism assures us that chemistry is no invention when it comes to love. It seems that that immediate attraction that one feels is not only in our imagination; rather it is engrained in the most remote cellular structures of the brain. When we don't like how our neighbor smells it is because the children that would result from this union would have a turtle's tail rather than the curly hair of a cherub. That doesn't mean that we have to marry everyone that smells good, on the contrary. All love at first sight does is create existential problems within the framework of what could be an acceptable genetic evolution. One thing is to pinch your nose to survive the repulsion that may overcome us when smelling the sulfuric traces left behind by some diabolical character, and another is the moment of infatuation when we believe we have found the love of our lives because some rich man put on Vetivér cologne or some poor lady bathed with Camay soap or sprayed on some Pachulí. However, it is surprising the amount of people that fall in the trap of these morning romances. That is why now that so many romances begin with internet friendships, I am confident the divorce rate will go down around the world. Now suitors have to apply for dates with their resume in hand or on match.com to be more precise. No more love at first sight. On the other hand, politicians and actors continue to seduce us with their feline smiles and even with their heartbreaks. That's why disenchantment with regimes and movies is so great! Boyfriends and politicians should fill out strict employment forms, to make sure they are qualified for the job. Once a panel of judges names the finalists, voters and fiancés may live together for a while (how about a year?). If they behave and don't steal the household budget to go get drunk or have an international fling, we still love them and they even smell nice, then we can marry them (in the politicians' case for no more than 5 to 6 years). How many times do cute girls end up with some vagabonds and countries with others? All because they got carried away by the impulse of a short romance. Voting and marriage have to be more carefully thought through. Happy Valentine's Day!