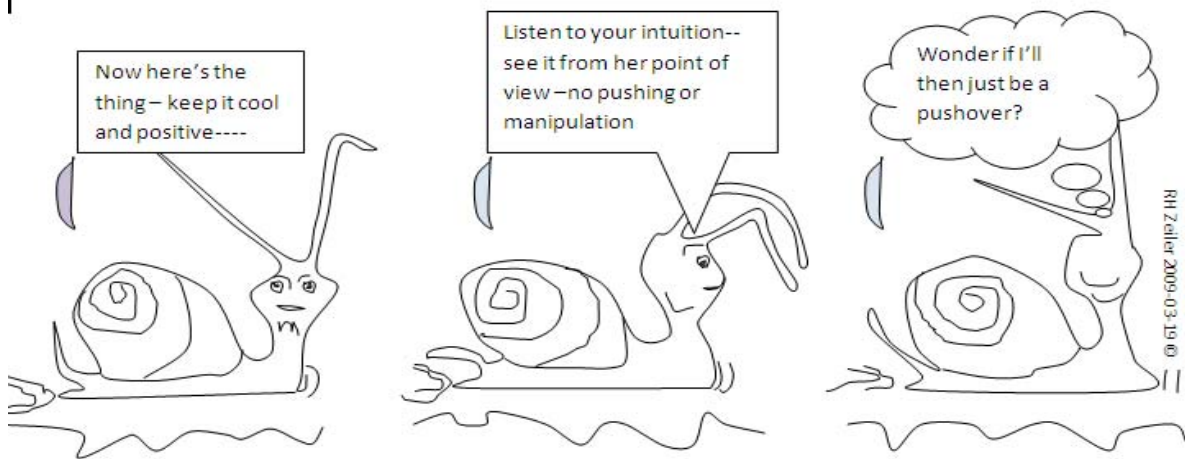


Good Endings Make Good Beginnings

Snail Trail alias Slak Twak.



In the longer run, most of us want to find a special soulmate to share our lives with. On the way to finding this person, we are likely to engage in a number of relationships, some good and some not so good. **It is important to end each relationship on a good footing with the other person, as good endings make good beginnings.**

When we are rejected, for whatever reason, we tend to feel resentful. When we are the one who has done the rejecting, we tend to feel guilty. Everybody has made mistakes in relationships, and it is natural to want to “fix” what went wrong. **If the issues are unresolved, however, the next person we tend to attract is one where the same issues surface. We repeat this pattern until we get it right.**

Sometimes people end relationships with feelings of resentment or guilt because they have stayed together too long. They did not recognise that they were with the wrong person. Every relationship requires work to keep the romance alive and to keep the relationship on a generally happy footing, **but if the work becomes too hard or too much, perhaps you were actually not meant to be with this person.** They may try to change the other person or themselves, and in the process of trying to make the relationship succeed, they actually make it worse, creating frustration and disappointment along the way. At a certain point, you will recognise when a relationship is not a fit and then is the time you need to move on.

It is perfectly OK to get to know a person, fall in love and later discover that this person is not the right one. That is why there is such a thing as courtship, where you get to know someone well before you feel certain enough to commit to engagement and ultimately marriage. **A person may be close to being the right partner for you, but still not be the one for you.** Just because you love someone doesn't mean he or she is the one for you. Time spent together will guide you as to what your hearts are saying. It is

important to listen to your intuition and also to try to see the relationship from your partner's point of view. A one-sided relationship is not going to make you happy. It is important to not push or manipulate your partner into staying with you as this will cause them to resent you and then feel guilty – not a recipe for success. People should naturally and spontaneously want to be together, and it must be mutual.

When we feel positive about a dating experience or an exclusive relationship that ended, we gain the ability to self-correct and move on. Instead of repeating the pattern the next time, we are attracted to someone closer to what we want, and ultimately our soulmate.