

Love Stats

- Romance Novels: \$1.08 billion, 29 million readers
- 2009: 92% Billboard Top 10, 71% in general
- US: Crying, France: Heart, Italy: Kiss

Series Intro

Context

Genesis 27:18-19

¹⁸ Jacob came to his father and said, “My father.” And he answered, “Here I am. Who are you, my son?” ¹⁹ Jacob replied to his father, “I am Esau, your firstborn. I have done as you told me. Please sit up and eat some of my game so that you may bless me.”

Genesis 27:27-29

²⁷ Isaac blessed Jacob and said: “Ah, the smell of my son is like the smell of a field that the LORD has blessed. ²⁸ May God give to you – from the dew of the sky and from the richness of the land – an abundance of grain and new wine. ²⁹ May peoples serve you and nations bow in worship to you. Be master over your relatives.”

Genesis 27:41

⁴¹ Esau held a grudge against Jacob because of the blessing his father had given him. And Esau determined in his heart: “I will kill my brother Jacob.”

Genesis 32:24-25

²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he could not defeat him, he touched Jacob’s hip socket as they wrestled and dislocated his hip.

ILL: Hip Pain

Genesis 32:26

²⁶ Then the man said to Jacob, “Let me go, for it is daybreak.” But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you bless me.”

Genesis 32:27

²⁷ “What is your name?” the man asked.

Genesis 27:18-19

¹⁸ “Who are you, my son?” ¹⁹ Jacob replied to his father, “I am Esau, your firstborn.”

Genesis 32:27-28

²⁷ “Jacob,” he replied. ²⁸ “Your name will no longer be Jacob,” he said. “It will be Israel because you have struggled with God and with men and have prevailed.”

Isaiah 41:10

¹⁰ “I am with you; do not be afraid.”

Jeremiah 15:20

²⁰ “I am with you to save you and rescue you.”

Haggai 1:13

¹³ “I am with you – this is the LORD’s declaration.”

ILL: Rodeo

To be with you, God has to give chase.

Genesis 3:9

⁹ “Where are you?”

Genesis 27:20

²⁰ “How did you ever find it so quickly, my son?” He replied, “Because the LORD your God made it happen for me.”

To be with you, God has to lose face.

Genesis 32:25

²⁵ He touched Jacob’s hip socket as they wrestled and dislocated his hip.

ILL: Huebner Walks

Matthew 26:67

⁶⁷ They spat on His face and beat Him.

Genesis 32:30

³⁰ “I have seen God face to face,” he said, “yet my life has been spared.”

2 Corinthians 4:6

⁶ God’s glory is in the face of Jesus Christ.