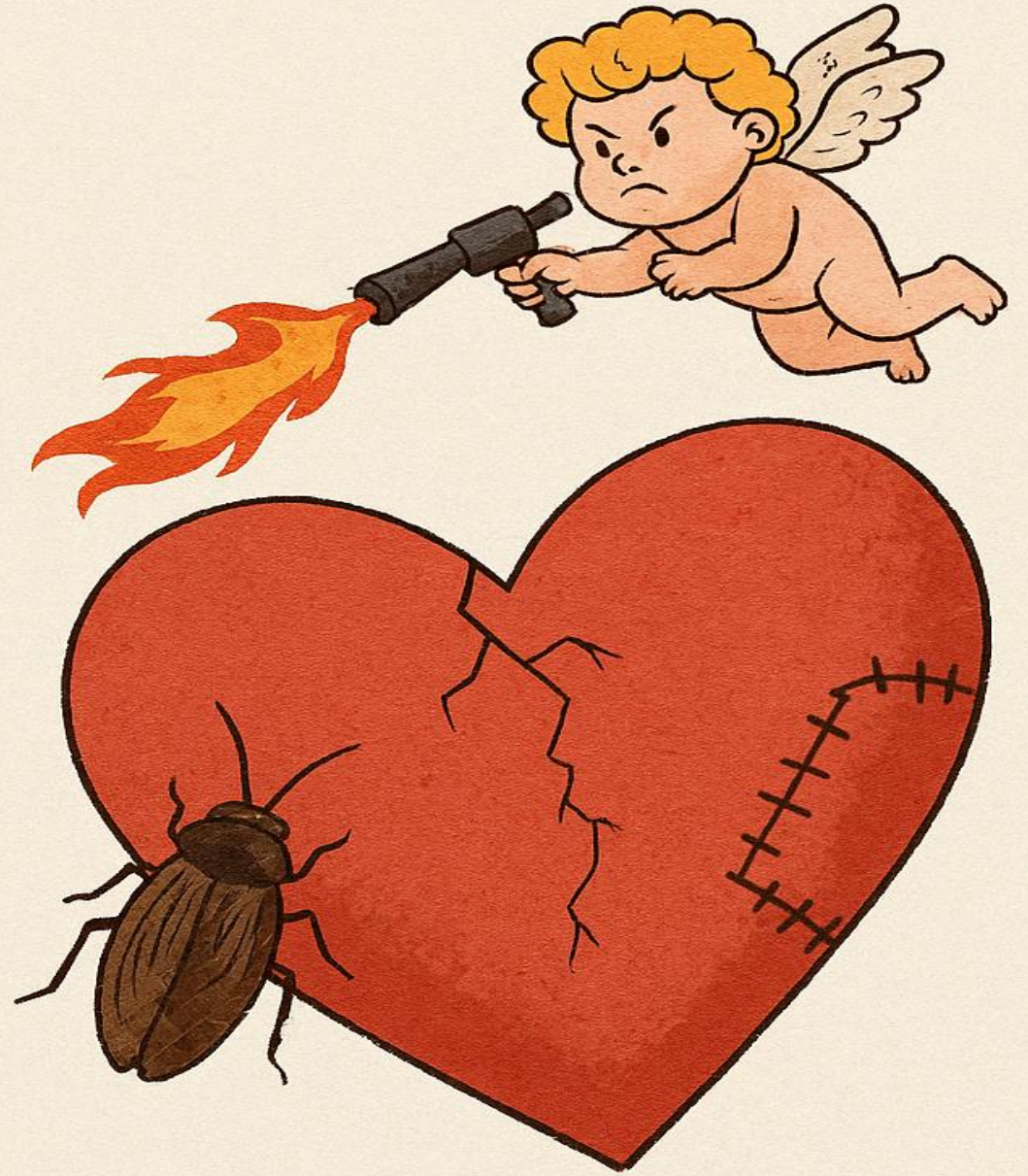


Love, Bugs, and Broken Hearts

Presented by: Marc Silver

Romantic Idioms
Around the World



Love, Bugs, and Broken Hearts

Romantic Idioms Around the World

- Love makes fools of us all—and nowhere is that more obvious than in the way we talk about it.
- From fluttery first crushes to bitter breakups, every culture has found its own strange and poetic way of saying “I’ve got it bad.”
- These idioms prove that love doesn’t just cross borders—it trips over them, spills a drink, and leaves an awkward voicemail.
- Let’s take a global look at how we talk about love, heartbreak, and everything in between.

Falling Hard (and Usually Fast)

French: “*Avoir le cafard*”

“To have the cockroach.”

This one’s famous for describing depression, but in the realm of love, it sometimes refers to post-breakup blues—when love bugs you long after it ends.

avoir le cafard
‘To have the cockroach’





Falling Hard

Spanish (Mexico): “*Estar clavado*” –
“To be nailed.”

You’re stuck. Hooked. Head over heels.
Love, as a DIY project—with you
pinned to the wall.

Falling Hard

Arabic (Lebanon):

"دخيل عيونك"

"I seek refuge in your eyes."

Romantic? Very.

Over-the-top? Absolutely.

But if you're smitten, this hits just right.





Falling Hard

Hindi (India): “*Dil garden garden ho gaya*”

“My heart became a garden.”

Flowers blooming, birds chirping—this is what love feels like in Bollywood metaphors.

Hearts on Fire (and Other Romantic Disasters)

Portuguese (Brazil):

“Levar um fora”

“To be taken outside.”

Sounds like a quiet chat on the patio, but it’s the Brazilian way to say you just got dumped.





Hearts on Fire

Russian: “*Сухнуть по кому-то*”
(*Sushit' po komu-to*)

“To dry out for someone.”

A slow, aching longing. Like being emotionally parched while pining away.

Hearts on Fire

Japanese: “*Koi no yokan*”

“The premonition of love.”

Not love at first sight—but the sense that love *will* happen.

Like reading the trailer before watching the movie.





Hearts on Fire

Turkish: “*Kalbim pır pır ediyor*”

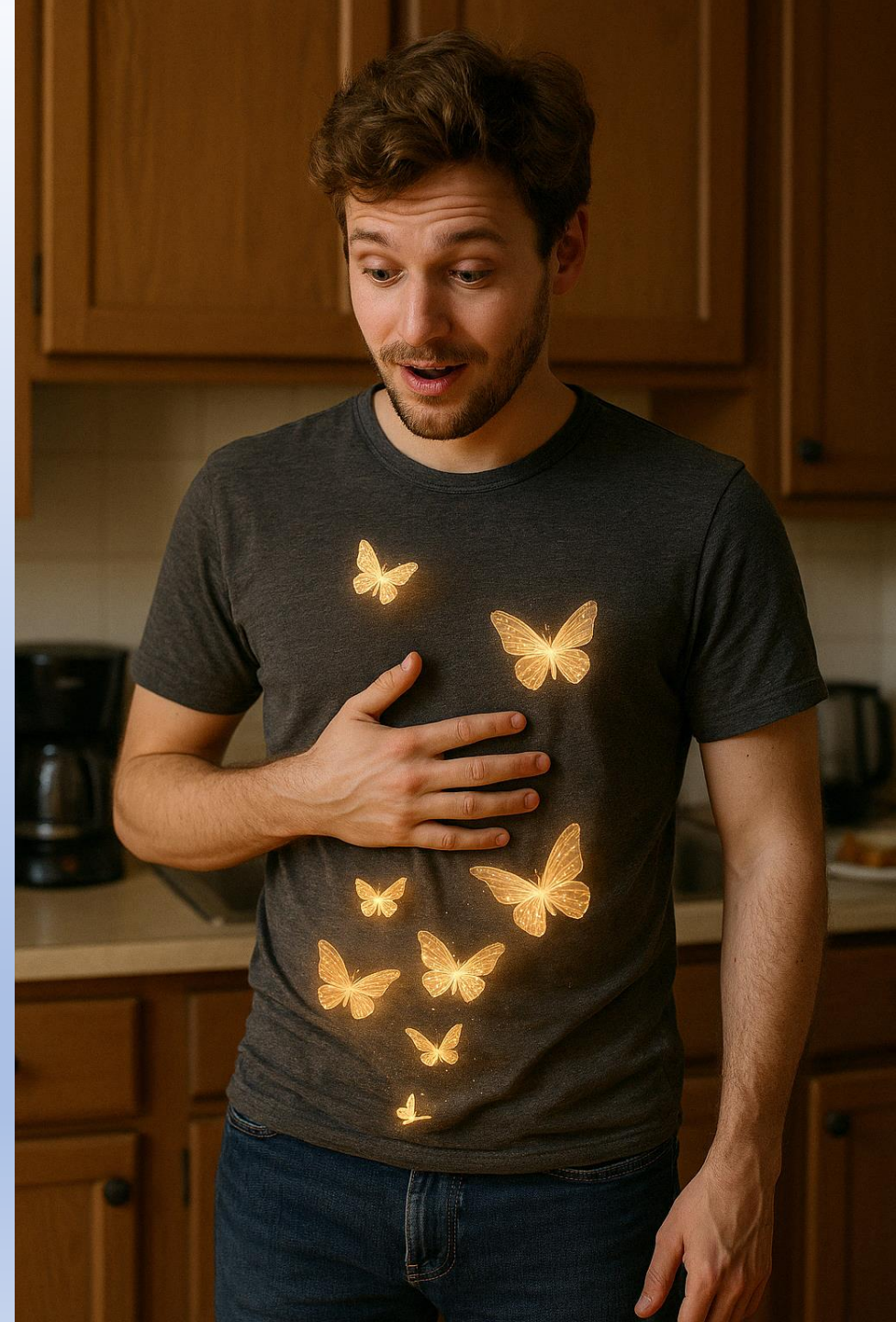
“My heart is fluttering.”

Used in moments of attraction—like when your crush texts back *within five minutes*.

Hearts on Fire

German: “*Schmetterlinge im Bauch*”
“Butterflies in the belly.”

We say it in English too, but the
Germans really own it—romance as
internal chaos.





Heartbreak and Moving On

Vietnamese: “*Ăn trăng*”

“To eat the moon.”

A poetic metaphor for longing for something beautiful but unattainable—perfect for those “*it could never be*” crushes.

Heartbreak and Moving On

Korean: “애간장을 태우다”

(aeganjang-eul taeuda)

“To burn your liver with sorrow.”

Heartbreak so intense, it starts cooking your organs.





Heartbreak and Moving On

French: “*Avoir le cœur brisé*”

“To have a broken heart.”

A classic. Still dramatic. Still universally felt.

Heartbreak and Moving On

Swahili

(Kenya/Tanzania):

“Kupasuka moyo”

“The heart explodes.”

Love gone so wrong, it’s
not just broken—it’s in
shrapnel.





Heartbreak and Moving On

Filipino (Tagalog):

“Kilig”

There’s no direct
translation.

It’s the rush, the giddy
thrill, the emotional
squeal you feel when
love flirts with
possibility.

Love as War, Game, or Magic

Italian: *“Prendere una cotta”*

“To take a cooking.”

You’ve been emotionally roasted—
burned by a crush.





Love as War, Game, or Magic

Hebrew: “נשבר לי הלב” (*Nishbar li halev*)

“My heart broke.”

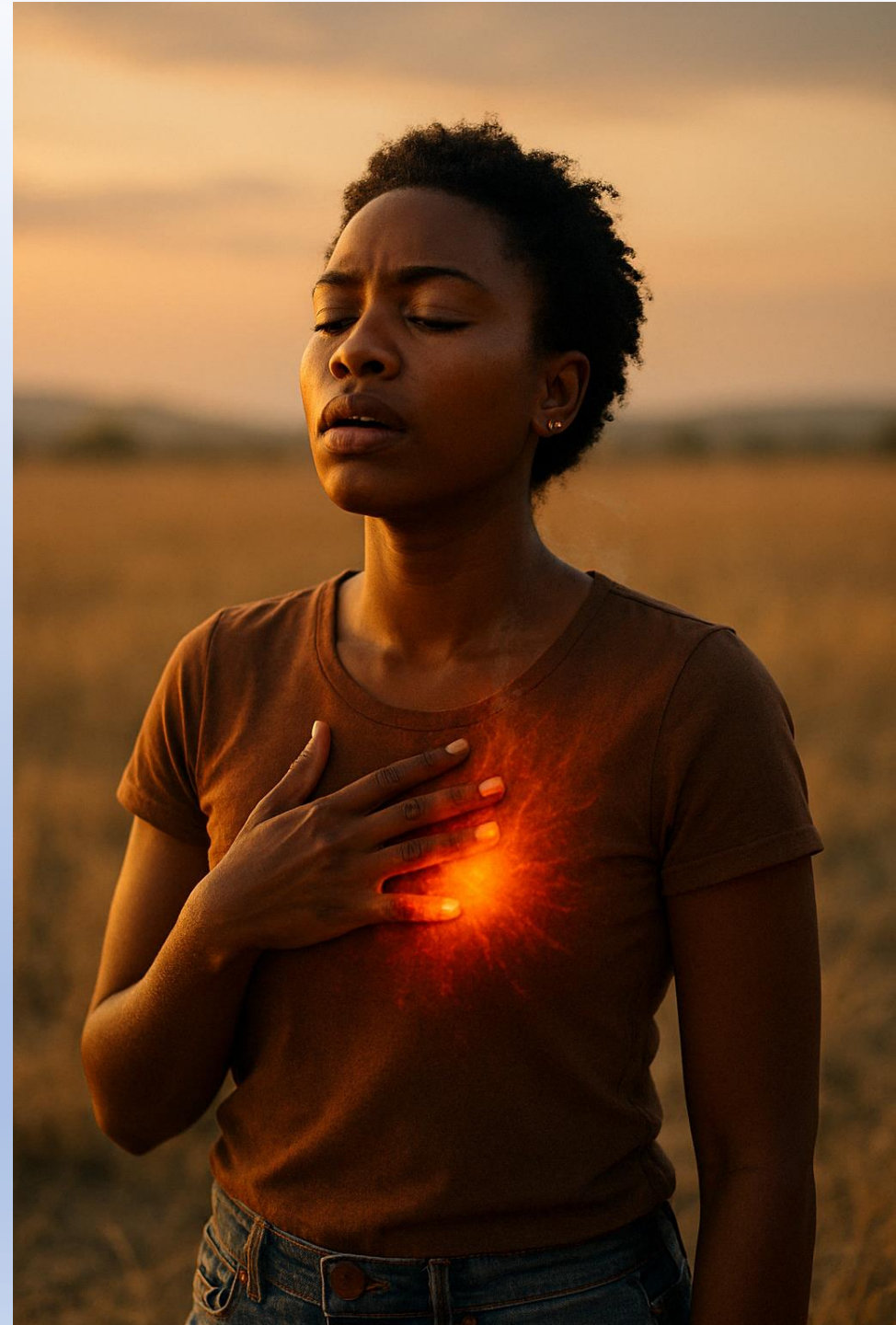
Simple. Raw. Used both seriously and sarcastically, depending on how much ice cream is involved.

Love as War, Game, or Magic

Zulu (South Africa): “*Inhliziyo yami iyashisa*”

“My heart is burning.”

Love as combustion. It’s either passion... or acid reflux.





Love as War, Game, or Magic

Dutch: “*Hij heeft vlinders in zijn buik*”
“He has butterflies in his belly.”

Yes, the butterflies are global. Love anxiety is, apparently, a worldwide pandemic.

Final Thoughts

Love Hurts, But It Sounds Beautiful

- These idioms show us just how *dramatic*, *hopeful*, and *sometimes ridiculous* love can be.
- Whether your heart is blooming, burning, or buried under a pile of emotional noodles, someone, somewhere, has already found the perfect phrase for it.
- And that's comforting, isn't it?

Thank You for Coming!

I hope I've educated
and entertained you today.

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