

# prompt broken dreams

other over, or at least maintaining one's allure

What happens specifically when the concept of the ideal male operates, goes something like this

He knows what she wants, so he does his best to conform to the image that keeps her wanting him. She knows what he wants, so she does her best to conform to the image that keeps him wanting her.

After the marriage, the challenge disappears. By committing to marriage, the couple acknowledges an implied acceptance of each other. They can begin to let down their guard.

"Should I get married, should I be good, astound the girl next door with my velvet cap and my Faustus hood?" questioned poet Gregory Corso

The implication is that he'll allow his future mate into his secret life, but what if that dismays the future wife, Corso speculates. What if reality comes tearing into the tissue world the couple has constructed during the effort to win one another?

If pre-conceived ideal images operate as the allure, the doubts about the ideal love coincide with the deterioration of the ideal images. And the revolving door swings to make room for someone else who more closely conforms to the ideal image—at least, once again, at the outset.

—LYNN ORR



When she starts to find magazines more interesting than her husband, she falls off that superfluous pedestal.



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