

a.

id you weep when you saw
Love Story - the tearjerker which
featured Ryan O'Neil and Ali
McGraw some years ago?
Want to hear another story to
make you cry? A true story, set in South
Africa with South African characters
and featuring Nelson Mandela and
Walter Sisulu? Then read on . . .

In many ways Saturday March 5
1986 was a perfect day for one of South
Africa's weddings of the year and a
day on which to show that love, true
love, triumphs over almost everything,
including prison.

The wedding was no ordinary one
and it can never be consummated while the
groom, Raymond Mhlaba, is locked
up in Pollsmoor Prison and his bride
Dideka, lives in Port Elizabeth with
their three children.

Mhlaba is one of the men convicted
for treason in the famous Rivonia
treason trial. With seven other
members of the African National
Congress, he was sentenced to life
imprisonment in 1964. He has spent
most of his adult life behind bars at
Robben Island and is now an inmate of
Pollsmoor Prison with Nelson
Mandela, Walter Sisulu and Ahmed
Kathrada.

Dideka, who confesses to having
never stopped loving Mhlaba despite his
absence, has faithfully visited her man
at Pollsmoor Prison through the years.
But she could never touch him.

'tiThough my soul cried out to reach
out and touch him, I could never do it
because a glass partition separated
usf she said.

But that changed when she got
married to him. ttNow I am his legal
wife and am entitled to see him face
to face, to touch him and to embrace
him. I have waited 22 years for this
opportunity?,

During those 22 years the couple
applied on three occasions since 1984 to
get married. Each request was turned
down . . .

But let's get back to the wedding
itself. For the wedding Dideka, a
charming woman with a big smile,
wore a grey kaftan. She said her
husband wore a black suit.

Nelson Mandela and Walter
Sisulu, the couples' chief witnesses,
looked handsome in their grey suits,
she said.

ttThey looked dashing, although
their heads are covered with grey hair.

ttMandela and Sisulu carry their
years very well. They shared our
happiness with us." -

Mrs Martha Sali, Mrs Mhlaba's
aunt, and Mrs Irene Mkwai, whose
husband Wilton is jailed for life on
Robben Island, accompanied Dideka
and sat in on the wedding.

' The ceremony, held in the office of the prison's commanding officer, was closed to the Press. Bishop Siggiba Dwane of the Order of Ethiopia Church, assisted by Reverend Malusi Mpuhlana, married the pair. The saddest part of it all, though, was that Dideka had to buy her own ring. Mhlaba was unable to buy it because of his incarceration. Said Dideka at the wedding:
ttToday is the happiest day of my life. I can't describe how I felt when I touched Raymond for the first time in 22 years?
How did she feel when she saw him? 21 did not say anything when I walked to him. I just hugged and kissed him. I felt like a teenager again? The kiss was the first one she had received from her childhood sweetheart in 22 years.
Said Dideka: Only true love could have survived such a wait!.
Mhlaba was just as excited and nervous as I was?
Bishop Dwane said the ceremony was relaxed. He told the couple this was an occasion for enjoyment and that we had come to share their joy with them," the Bishop added. a

TRUE LOVE and FAMILYS doctor will do his best to help you with
' your medical problems. Write to: True Love Doctor at P O Box 3413,
Johannesburg 2000.

WHAT CAUSES BOILS?

My problem is that I keep
getting painful sores on my
body. The doctors says they
are boils. What causes this?
Is it blood poisoning?

Dear DR, Boils are infec-
tions in the skin. They are
caused by germs which grow
inside tiny openings in the
skin, usually where hairs
come out.

These: boils become red
and painful, grow to a certain
size and open up. Thick yel-
low fluid called pus then
comes out. Boils can be very
painful and there is often a
red area around the boils.
If you keep getting boils,
you should ask your doctor
to check for sugar sickness
(diabetes). This can be one
cause.

Our bodies normally carry
millions of germs, most of
which are harmless. They live
in the mouth, nose, intestines
and so on. Sometimes the
germs which cause boils may
tisetleii in the nose. So even
if the boils clears up, the
germs may still be around.

The treatment here is a
special cream for the nose as
well as an antiseptic soap for
the whole body. This should
be taken by people you are in
close contact with as well.
But boils have nothing to
do with blood poisoning.

CALCULATING PREGNANCY

I am 22 years old and preg-
nant. My last period was
February 20. When will my
baby be born?

Dear HN, Traditionally we
culculate pregnancy as last-
ing 40 weeks (about 9
y

months). We calculate the
date on which you can expect
your baby as follows:

Letis say your last period
started on February 20. Add
7 days.

Your expected date of de-
livery is then 9 months after
this - that is, November 27.
In fact thereis only a small
chance you will deliver ex-
actly on this date. If all goes
well, you should deliver
sometime in the 2 weeks be-
fore this date, or in the 2
weeks after. In other words,
sometime between November
13 and December 13.

DO I NEED CIRCUMCISION?

I am a guy of 19. I know that some guys 0 to hospital to have the s in cut off their penis, or into the mountains for a few weeks. Is this important, because mine is still "closed"?

Dear LS, What you refer to is removal of the foreskin, or circumcision. This is a small operation done by a doctor, or by a man of religious or traditional importance in his community.

The main reason for circumcision is in fact cultural or religious. When done on young boys, it signifies their becoming adults. In other religions it is done at birth or at an early age.

There are a few medical reasons for having circumcision. One is when the foreskin is too tight over the tip of the penis, causing swelling and discomfort.

But otherwise there is no medical or hygienic reason to have it done. 0

"(309d loOkIng hair comes naturally

- with Creme Black."

?

.nj g I ; a 4 It took just one treatment of Inecto Creme Black to give our hair ; :5": t V a new, healthy shine. Now everyone notices the deep natural colour.

. 5"" ' v I Creme Black's double action gently conditions as it dyes and the

.- i. colour will not wash out. And it's so safe and easy to use.

. You can also have good looking hair.

,7, . i Use Inecto Creme Black.

3%

9

g ,. Cl'em

INECTO ' "