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From: David Grosf [REDACTED] on behalf of David Grosf [REDACTED]
Sent: Thur 11/15/2012 10:23:07 PM
Subject: Useful List of Words that don't exist in English

<http://sobadsogood.com/2012/11/15/10-beautiful-words-about-love-that-dont-exist-in-english/>
(I learned #5 as a general life principle from you in one anecdote you told me when I worked at Bear.)
Enjoy!
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When people talk about love, they often say phrase like "The feeling is indescribable" or "There aren't the words to express how I feel" which actually, if English is your first language couldn't be more accurate.

Thankfully, Pamela Haag from [Big Think](#) has tracked down 10 words dedicated to love & relationships that don't exist in the standard English language, but are commonly used in others.

So now when you're overcome with emotion and don't know what to say here's 10 phrases that are going to help.

1. **Mamihlapinatapei** (Yagan, an indigenous language of Tierra del Fuego): The wordless yet meaningful look shared by two people who desire to initiate something, but are both reluctant to start.
2. **Yuanfen** (Chinese): A relationship by fate or destiny. This is a complex concept. It draws on principles of predetermination in Chinese culture, which dictate relationships, encounters and affinities, mostly among lovers and friends.
3. **Cafuné** (Brazilian Portuguese): The act of tenderly running your fingers through someone's hair.
4. **Retrouvailles** (French): The happiness of meeting again after a long time.
5. **Ilunga** (Bantu): A person who is willing to forgive abuse the first time; tolerate it the second time, but never a third time.
6. **La Douleur Exquise** (French): The heart-wrenching pain of wanting someone you can't have.
7. **Koi No Yokan** (Japanese): The sense upon first meeting a person that the two of you are going to fall into love.
8. **Ya aburnee** (Arabic): "You bury me." It's a declaration of one's hope that they'll die before another person, because of how difficult it would be to live without them.
9. **Forelsket** (Norwegian): The euphoria you experience when you're first falling in love.

10. *Saudade* (Portuguese): The feeling of longing for someone that you love and is lost. Another linguist describes it as a vague and constant desire for something that does not and probably cannot exist.

David Grosof



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