A Couples Line of Development Thomas A. Habib, Ph.D.

- Rarefied ground for the few. Both members deep into 2nd tier capabilities.
- Deficiencies are expected, explored and integrated.
- Transparency and communing easily accessed.
- Joint witnessing serves to open space greater than either could achieve alone.
- Intuition/subtle energies heighten presence during peak experiences of love.
- Ongoing creative advance into novelty.
- Experience is of the beloved.
- Finally in love with your partner, not the projected ideal.
- Partner is the "great neighbor".
- Free from the pull from the Safety & Attraction Stage fantasy and fears of a mistake in partner selection.
- Can drop into other stages as needed.
- Stage widely appeared after 1964.
- Functional interactional patterns include problem solving, flexible A/C, sexual intimacy, communication, division of labor, child care, & more.
- Persistent fantasy: the fear of partner selection mistake and that others perpetually live at Safety & Attraction. LL cultural messages still unchallenged.
- Expulsion from the Garden of Eden. Reality of partner replacing projected ideal.
- Partner's imperfections combine with our own limitations ending Safety & Attraction.
- Moving into Roles of wife/husband, mother/father, lovers, partners.
- Establishing goals concerning family, work, and friends. Building a life together.
- Persistent fantasy: the fear of partner selection mistake and that others live at Safety & Attraction.
- Healthier couples do not overreact to diminished romantic love.

	Spiritual	Non Dual Transparency Beloved	Universal /Transpersonal
X	First Love	Acceptance Focus on Good Contentment	Construct Aware /Strategist
	Relational	Flexible Roles Communication Reciprocity	Pluralist /Achiever
	Roles	Mother/Father Wife/Husband Girlfriend/Boyfriend	Expert /Conformist /Role Oriented
	Safety & Attraction	Sensation/Sexual Emotion & Projection Pre/trans fallacy	Ego Centric /Impulsive
		(Habib, 2014)	(O'Fallon, 2010)

Wonderful feelings of romantic love, powerful attraction, absorption, excitement and chemistry.
Emotional enthusiasm fueled by bodily sensations vs.

- much more developed empathy and understanding.
- Romantic movies often end at this stage.