

Same clothes, same brain, same everything!

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Identical twin sisters Anne McQueen and Susan Briggs



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Twin there, done that: 84-year-olds Anne McQueen and Susan Briggs have dressed alike since childhood.

Do we all need a soulmate? A pair of twins in their eighties say that the secret to happiness is having a second half.

What's happening?

Anne McQueen and Susan Briggs are **identical twins**. They are 84 years old and have never lived more than a few minutes away from each other. And they still dress in matching clothes.

They have become famous online after their son-in-law posted a video of their matching outfits on TikTok.

Find out more

Some claim that identical twins can know what each other is thinking without saying anything. Many scientists have set out to prove this is not true, but the idea is still very common.

Anne and Susan say they often think the same thing at the same time. "We have the same brain," says Susan.

Studies show that twins outlive people who are not twins. Some think this shows that having someone around to stop you being lonely can help you live longer.

But this person does not have to be a twin, they argue. Your "soulmate" could be a partner, but it could also be a sibling or a very good friend.

Do we all need a soulmate?

Some say

Yes! The world can be a lonely place sometimes. If we all had someone to listen to us and understand us all the time, we would be much happier.

Others think

No! We should learn to be happy by ourselves first. True happiness can only come from yourself. You do not need to have a soulmate.

Some people say

"We're twins, and so we love each other more than other people."

**Louisa May Alcott (1832 – 1888),
American novelist, short story writer
and poet**

Empty heading

What do you think?

Six steps to discovery

1. Connect

How do you feel about this story? - Do you have a twin? If not, do you wish that you did?

2. Wonder

What questions do you have? - For example: How did the scientists measure how long twins live compared to others?

3. Investigate

What are the facts? - Pick out one thing we know for certain and one thing we cannot say for sure from this story.

4. Construct

What is your point of view? - Imagine that you could wave a magic wand and you would suddenly have a twin. Would you do it?

5. Express

What do others believe? - Do you think everyone has one "soulmate"? Discuss as a class.

6. Reflect

What might happen next? - Write a letter to your "soulmate" — whether or not you believe in them. You could put the letter in a box and read it later.

Glossary

Identical twins - Identical twins started out as one egg that divided. They have the same genes and so are "identical".