

MANDRAKES..LOVE APPLES

Gen. 30:14-16 *Now in the days of wheat harvest Reuben went and found mandrakes in the field, and brought them to his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, "Please **give me some of your son's mandrakes.**" But she said to her, "Is it a small matter for you to take my husband? And would you take my son's mandrakes also?" So Rachel said, "**Therefore he may lie with you tonight in return for your son's mandrakes.**" When Jacob came in from the field in the evening, then Leah went out to meet him and said, "You must come in to me, for I have surely hired you with my son's mandrakes." So he lay with her that night."*



Mandrakes (love apples), were a potato like yellow fruit (when ripe), that were medically acknowledged to help with fertility while acting also as an aphrodisiac. As sisters with the same husband, Rachel and Leah were siblings. Rachel wanted the mandrakes, thinking they would help her with her fertility and Leah used the mandrakes as payment to spend the night with her husband Jacob. Rachel wanted fertility and Leah wanted to lay with Jacob. They acted like most typical sisters would in the situation and made a deal with each other.

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Bible Commentary Jerry Hennig (Nov 29/16)