

How Do I Love Thee?

Read this love poem by Elizabeth Barrett Browning with your students.

GRADES:	6 7 8
SUBJECTS:	Literature (1,453) Poetry (172) Reading and Literature (3,642)
HOLIDAYS:	Valentine's Day (21) Poetry Month (168)

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight
For the ends of Being an ideal Grace.
I love thee to the level of everyday's
Most quiet need, by sun and candle-light.
I love thee freely, as men strive for Right;
I love thee purely, as they turn from Praise.
I love thee with the passion put to use
In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.
I love thee with a love I seemed to lose
With my lost saints, – I love thee with the breath,
Smiles, tears, of all my life! – and, if God choose,
I shall but love thee better after death.

~Elizabeth Barrett Browning

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