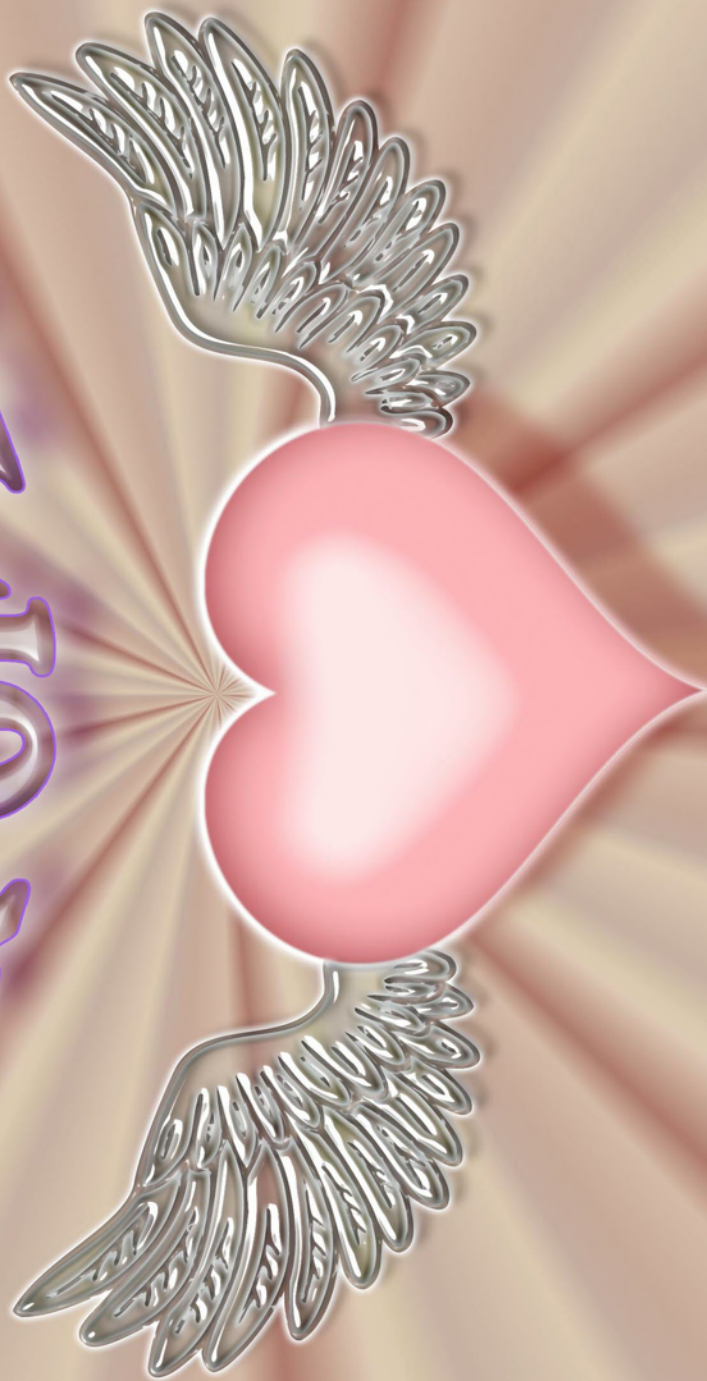


BOOK OF LOVE



Introduction

What is love? Herein are six hundred different points of view, half by women, half by men. Some are similar; some are apparently contradictory, yet each is truth. Some yield definition by expressing what love isn't. They are abstract, concrete, sentimental, cynical, romantic, intellectual, humorous, material, spiritual, and so forth.

The collection began as a personal enlightenment project. My hope was to gain an enhanced understanding of love by finding and studying the perspectives of renowned thinkers and eloquent authors as one method of working toward achieving an open heart. At one point during the process it was viewed as a possible commercial endeavor only to find the commercial world and the compiler mutually underwhelmed by one another. Giving this book, rather than selling, to share the results of this search, seemed practical and aesthetically more satisfying. After all, love can't be sold. Please let these quotations flow through you, letting whatever ideas and feelings remain behind to serve as points for reflection. Let the page remember the words and authors rather than cluttering your mind. As Maria Edgeworth said, "The everlasting quotation-lover dotes on the husks of learning."

Out of this effort came an observation on the nature of human beings. It seems as though the human creature has a dual nature. Upon our emergence into this universe we are endowed with both a material form and a spiritual capacity for reflection and guidance. Being born animals, we are self-centered as a necessity of material survival. Our love for, or attachment to things, is an important aspect of this necessity. Through loving the things around us our awareness begins to emerge. We become capable of manipulating our physical environment to assure our survival. This thrusts back the darkness of our fears of known and unknown enabling the progressive expansion of our horizons.

Most of us proceed toward the realization of the reality of other people. It is usually spurred by sexual attraction yielding the continuation of the species and spiritual expansion through the love of another person. Within this context exist the lessons inherent in this understanding and the nurturing of offspring. All of these experiences conspire toward understanding others. At some point in this continuing process occurs a beginning awareness of the divine nature, for that is the underpinning of human existence. It is called love.

Finally, after nearly a year of pondering, researching and editing, only one thought pops into mind. As Ruth said in the Old Testament, "I am sick of love."

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Love is an endless mystery,
for it has nothing else to explain it.
—Rabindranath Tagore

We can only love what we know.
—Anna Letitia Barbauld

Love is indescribable and unconditional. I could tell you a thousand things that it is not, but not one that it is.
—Edward Kennedy Duke Ellington

If love is the answer, could you rephrase the question?
—Lily Tomlin

I never could explain why I love anybody, or anything.
—Walt Whitman

I am one of the people who love the why of things.
—Catherine II (Russia)

I am a lover and have not found my thing to love.
—Sherwood Anderson

To love nothing is not to live; to love but feebly is to languish rather than live.
—Françoise de Salignac de la Mothe-Fénelon

I love nothing and that is the true cause of my ennui.
—Marie Anne du Deffand

If love means affection, I
Love old trees, hats, coats, and things,
Anything that's been with me
In my daily sufferings.
—W. J. Turner (Walter James)

I love it, I love it; and who shall dare
To chide me for loving that old armchair?
—Eliza Cook

What thou lov'st well remains, the rest is dross.
What thou lov'st well shall not be reft from thee.
What thou lov'st well is thy true heritage.
—Ezra Pound

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He who loves an old house
Never loves in vain,
How can an old house
Used to sun and rain,
To lilac and larkspur,
And an elm above,
Ever fail to answer
The heart that gives it love?
—Isabel Fiske Conant

I love the things I never had
along with those I have no more.
—Gabriela Mistral

I have made a great discovery.
What I love belongs to me. Not the chairs and
tables in my house, but the masterpieces of the world.
It is only a question of loving them enough.
—Elizabeth Asquith Bibesco

We are shaped and fashioned by what we love.
—Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

...mutual love bestows all things in common....
—Mary de la Rivière Manley

We are made loveless by our possessions.
—Elizabeth of Thuringia

...and it is one of the properties of love to love what is loved by the person we
love.
—Catherine of Siena

Who loves me will love my dog also.
—St. Bernard of Clairvaux

I could discern clearly, even at that early age, the essential difference between
people who are kind to dogs and people who really love them.
—Frances P. Cobbe

Let us love dogs; let us love only dogs!
Men and cats are unworthy creatures.
—Marie Konstantinovna Bashkirtseff

It is well to love even a dog when you have the opportunity, for fear you should
find nothing else worth loving.
—Louise Honorine de Choiseul

Book Of Love

True humor springs not more from
the head than from the heart; it is
not contempt, its essence is love.

—Thomas Carlyle

Love all God's creation, the whole and every grain of sand in it. Love every leaf,
every ray of God's light. Love the animals, love the plants, love everything. If
you love everything you will perceive the Divine mystery in things. Once you
perceive it, you will begin to comprehend it better every day, and you will come
at last to love the whole world with an all-embracing love.

—Fyodor Mikhailovich Dostoevsky

Earth, my Mother, whom I love.

—Margaret Fairless Barber

Whatever a man loves, that is his god. For he carries it in his heart; he goes
about with it night and day; he sleeps and wakes with it, be it what it may —
wealth or self, pleasure or renown.

—Martin Luther

A body tends by its weight towards the place proper to it — weight does not
necessarily tend towards the lowest place but towards its proper place. Fire tends
upwards, stone downwards.... Things out of place are in motion: they come to
place and are at rest. My love is my weight; wherever I go my love brings me
there.

—St. Augustine

Even stones have a love, a love that seeks the ground.

—Meister Eckhart

The invisible path of gravity liberates the stone. The invisible slope of love liber-
ates man.

—Antoine de Saint-Éxupéry

The love that moves the sun and the other stars.

—Dante Alighieri

Love, from whom the world begun,
Hath the secret of the sun,
Love can tell, and love alone,
Whence the million stars were strewn,
Why each atom knows its own.

—Robert Bridges

But one of the attributes of love, like art, is to bring harmony and order out of
chaos, to introduce meaning and affect where before there was none, to give
rhythmic variations, highs and lows to a landscape that was previously flat.

—Molly Haskell

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God is the supreme artist. He loves to have things beautiful. Look at the sunset and the flowers and the snowcapped mountains and the stars.

—John S. Baldwin

Does man love Art? Man visits Art, but squirms.
Art hurts, Art urges voyages—
and it is easier to stay home,
the nice beer ready.

—Gwendolyn Brooks

In our life there is a single color, as on an artist's palette, which provides, the meaning of life and art. It is the color of love.

—Marc Chagall

Love is a canvas furnished by Nature and embroidered by imagination.

—Voltaire (François Marie Arouet)

Do you think one can speak about art? It would be like trying to explain love. There are many ways of loving and there are as many kinds of art. There is the love that elevates and leads to good there is the love that absorbs all one's will, all one's strength and intelligence. In my opinion this is the truest love but it is certainly fatal.... So it is with art....

—Eleanora Duse

...artists dread death because they love life. Artists, even at their gloomiest, seem to maintain a constant love affair with life, marked by all the ups and downs, the depressions and ecstasies of infatuation.

—Catherine Drinker Bowen

Music is love in search of a word.

—Sidney Lanier

Love can give no idea of music; music can give an idea of love. Why separate them? They are the two wings of the soul.

—Hector Berlioz

Love, I find, is like singing. Everybody can do enough to satisfy themselves, though it may not impress the neighbors as being very much.

—Zora Neale Hurston

But the lover's power is the poet's power. He can make love from all the common strings with which the world is strung.

—Amelia Barr

Poets are the only people to whom love is not only a crucial, but an indispensable experience, which entitles them to mistake it for a universal one.

—Hannah Arendt

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Those who have done a service to others feel friendship and love for those they have served even if these are not of any use to them and never will be. This is what happens with craftsmen too; every man loves his own handiwork better than he would be loved by it if it came alive; and this happens most of all with poets; for they have an excessive love for their own poems, doting on them as if they were their own children.

—Aristotle

No laborer in the world is expected to work for room, board, and love except the housewife.

—Letty Cottin Pogrebin

Our work brings people face to face with love.

—Mother Teresa

Pursue, keep up with, circle round and round your life, as a dog does his master's chaise. Do what you love. Know your own bone; gnaw at it, bury it, unearth it, and gnaw it still.

—Henry David Thoreau

My true center of work was not commissions. It was an enormous capacity for falling in love with everything around me.

—Malvina Hoffman

Our work was only play, we never knew what it was to feel fatigue; and as for loving others, since it has been granted to us to see how all things are, and have been, and must ever be, how should any feeling but love and infinite compassion fill our hearts for all who live?

—Carmen Sylva

Work done for love's sake seems short and seems sweet.

—Claude G. Montefiore

So I, when the hot and live ray
of the heavenly sun, whence I nourish my heart,
more clear than usual shines,
move my pen urged by love.

—Vittoria da Colonna

The whole difference between construction and creation is exactly this; that a thing constructed can only be loved after it is constructed; but a thing created is loved before it exists.

—Gilbert Keith Chesterton

Man cannot invent, only feel himself, only conceive, learn what the genius of love speaks to him, how it nourishes itself in him, and how it teaches him by itself. Without transforming its perceptions of divine love into the language of knowledge, there is no invention.

—Bettina von Arnim

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...when love is no more bought or sold, when it is not a means of making bread, when each woman's life is filled with earnest, individual labor then love will come to her.

—Olive Schreiner

The moral problem of our age is concerned with the love of money, with the habitual appeal to the money motive in nine-tenths of the activities of life.

—John Maynard Keynes

My most fervent wish is that I shall meet a man who loves me for myself and not my money.

—Christina Onassis

Anyone who aims higher in love than his own wealth entitles him to will be frightened by every little thing that occurs.

—Marie de France

The love of money is the mother of all evil.

—Phocylides

I have no sympathy for those who, under any pressure of circumstances, sacrifice their heart's love for legal prostitution.

—Harriet Martineau

She is Choice at odds with Necessity; she is Love blindly butting its head against all the obstacles set in its path by civilization.

—George Sand (Baronne Dudevant)

The chains of love are never so binding as when the links are made of gold.

—Royall Tyler

Money cannot buy
The fuel of love
but is excellent kindling.

—W. H. Auden (Wystan Hugh)

Hunger, and cold and weariness, these are a
frightful three,

But another curse there is beside, that
darkens poverty;

It may not have one thing to love, how
small so 'er it be!

—Mary Howitt

Love and business and family and religion and art and patriotism are nothing but shadows of words when a man's starving.

—O. Henry (William Sydney Porter)

Book Of Love

The test of a vocation is the love of the drudgery it involves.

—Logan Pearsall Smith

When the glowing of passion's over, and pinching winter comes, will amorous sighs supply the want of fire, or kind looks and kisses keep off hunger.

—Susannah Centlivre

What is patriotism but the love of the good things we ate in childhood?

—Lin Yutang

In love of home, love of country has its rise.

—Charles Dickens

Is it wrong for me to love my own? Is it wicked for me because my skin is red? Because I am a Sioux; because I was born where my fathers lived; because I would die for my people and my country.

—Tatanka Yotanka

I am like you, ...I love my country — I love my people — I love the manner in which we live, and think myself and my warriors brave.

—Sharitarish

Why will you take by force what you may obtain by love?

—Powhatan

The love of liberty is the love of others; the love of power is the love of ourselves.

—William Hazlitt

None can love freedom heartily but good men; the rest love not freedom but license.

—John Milton

...in every human breast, God has implanted a principle, which we call love of freedom; it is impatient of oppression and pants for deliverance.

—Phillis Wheatley

I had met people who loved stamps, and men who loved stones and snakes but I could not imagine any man loving war.

—Margot Asquith

There is nothing I love, as much as a good fight.

—Franklin Delano Roosevelt

It requires far more genius to make love than to command armies.

—Ninon de L'Enclos

Book Of Love

Men love war because it allows them to look serious. Because it is the one thing that stops women from laughing at them.

—John Fowles

Love does not help to understand
The logic of a bursting shell.

—Edna St Vincent Millay

But the paradox of war, mankind's greatest evil, is that it often inspires men to astounding deeds of courage and self-sacrifice.... In war's fratricidal hell, bonds of brotherly love are often forged which are stronger than death itself.

—Clare Boothe Luce

The primary difficulty of military life lies in the withdrawal of large numbers of men from normal family life, and hence from the domestic restraints and social checks which are operative upon the mass of human beings.... They might go farther and lay stress upon the loss of moral sensitivity, the destruction of romantic love, the perversion of the longing for wife and child. The very stability and refinement of the social order depend upon the preservation of these basic instincts.

—Jane Addams

...the most incorrigible vice being that of an ignorance which fancies it knows everything and therefore claims for itself the right to kill. The soul of a murderer is blind; and there can be no true goodness nor true love without the utmost clear-sightedness.

—Albert Camus

Love makes all the difference between an execution and a martyrdom.

—Evelyn Underhill

Love that is ignorant and hatred have almost the same ends.

—Ben Johnson

Christianity, with its doctrine of humility, of forgiveness, of love, is incompatible with the state, with its haughtiness, its violence, its punishment, its wars.

—Leo Nikolayevich Tolstoy

Man has bought brains, but all the millions in the world have failed to buy love. Man has subdued bodies, but all the power on earth has been unable to subdue love. Man has conquered whole nations, but all his armies could not conquer love.... Yes, love is free; it can dwell in no other atmosphere. In freedom it gives itself unreservedly, abundantly, completely.

—Emma Goldman

The power of love, as the basis of a State, has never been tried.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Book Of Love

That's all nonviolence is organized love.

—Joan Baez

Where love rules, there is no will to power; and where power predominates, there love is lacking. The one is the shadow of the other.

—Carl Jung

To love without role, without power plays, is revolution.

—Rita Mae Brown

From this arises the question whether it is better to be loved rather than feared, or feared rather than loved. It might perhaps be answered that we should wish to be both; but since love and fear can hardly exist together, if we must choose between them, it is far safer to be feared than loved.

—Niccolò Machiavelli

In a culture where approval/disapproval has become the predominant regulator of effort and position, and often the substitute for love, our personal freedoms are dissipated.

—Viola Spolin

Those who love to be feared fear to be loved; they themselves are all people most abject; some fear them, but they fear everyone.

—Francis de Sales

As love, if love be perfect, casts out fear
So hate, if hate be perfect, casts out fear.

—Alfred, Lord Tennyson

Love is full of solicitous fear.

—Olimpia Morata

To obey out of love is better than to obey out of fear.

—Rashi (Rabbi Solomon Yitzhaki)

Love is a thing aye full of busy dread.

—Geoffrey Chaucer

Rules only exist for cases where love breaks down.

—Mia Stein

The amount of Love in a society is inversely proportional to the number of Laws.

—Welles Goodrich

Curse on all laws but those which
love has made!

Love, free as air at sight of human ties,
Spreads his light wings, and in a moment flies.

—Alexander Pope

Book Of Love

Oh, rank is good, and gold is fair,
And high and low mate ill;
But love has never known a law
Beyond its own sweet will.
—John Greenleaf Whittier

When Love becomes a command,
Hatred can become a pleasure.
—Charles Bukowski

You know that when I hate you, it is because I love you to a point of passion that unhinges my soul.
—Julie-Jeanne-Eléonore de Lespinasse

My wish for you
That God should make your love
Fall on a heart as cold and stony as
Your own.
—Rabi'a of Balkh

When Love is suppressed Hate takes its place.
—Havelock Ellis

Love must be learned and learned again and again; there is no end to it. Hate needs no instruction, but waits only to be provoked.
—Katherine Anne Porter

People often take hatred of another nation to be love of one's own. It is far higher to feel no hatred, but to love positively.
—Thomas G. Masaryk

It is to the credit of human nature, that, except where its selfishness is brought into play, it loves more readily than it hates.
—Nathaniel Hawthorne

Hatred paralyzes life; love releases it. Hatred confuses life; love harmonizes it. Hatred darkens life; love illumines it.
—Martin Luther King Jr.

We fluctuate long between love and hatred before we can arrive at tranquility.
—Héloïse

Every one has conscience enough to hate; few have religion enough to love.
—Henry Ward Beecher

The price of hating others is loving oneself less.
—Eldridge Cleaver

Book Of Love

People hate, as they love,
unreasonably.

—William Makepeace Thackeray

Love lights more fires than hate extinguishes,
And men grow better as the world grows old.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox

Let the time be dark with hatred,
I believe in years beyond
Love at last shall bind the peoples
In an everlasting bond.

—Saul Chernihovsky

Let me arise and open the gate,
To breathe the wild warm air of the heath,
And to let in Love, and to let out Hate,
And anger at living and scorn of Fate,
To let in Life, and to let out Death.

—Violet Fane

Lord, make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring love.

—St. Francis of Assisi

For me it's not possible to forget, and I don't understand people who, when the love is ended, can bury the other person in hatred or oblivion. For me, a man I have loved becomes a kind of brother.

—Jeanne Moreau

To be loved is to be fortunate, but to be hated is to achieve distinction.

—Minna Antrim

More than a cat bird hates a cat,
Or a criminal hates a clue,
Or the Axis hates the United States,
That's how much I love you.

—Ogden Nash

...that neither reason nor force can hinder a woman from vengeance, when she is impelled thereto by love.

—Margaret Lambrun

No enmities so bitter prove,
And sharp, as those which spring of love.

—Propertius

Book Of Love

Love your enemies, for they tell you your faults.
—Ben Franklin

He drew a circle that shut me out
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
But Love and I had the wit to win:
We drew a circle that took him in.
—Edwin Markham

Grudge no expense — yield to no opposition — forget fatigue — till, by the strength of prayer and sacrifice, the spirit of love shall have overcome sectional jealousy, political rivalry, prejudice against color, cowardly concession of principle, wicked compromise with sin, devotion to gain, and spiritual despotism.
—Maria Weston Chapman

Love your enemies. It makes them so damned mad.
—P. D. East

If we could only placate the world's
rage with a drop of poetry or love — but
only the struggle, and the daring heart,
are able to do that.
—Pablo Neruda

Wrath and bitterness speak themselves and go with their own force; love is shamefaced, looks shyly out the window, lingers long looking at the door latch.
—Harriet Beecher Stowe

There can be no peace on earth until we have learned to respect the dignity of man and are willing to build on the foundation of human love the kind of world that the great teachers of mankind have portrayed to us from the time of the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount.
—David Lawrence

Love yourself's self where it lives.
—Anne Sexton

Love yourself and your kind.
—Elijah Muhammad

Women must convert their “love” for and reliance on strength and skill in others to a love for all manner of strength and skill in themselves.
—Phyllis Chesler

Don't believe in the love of one who cast his burdens upon you but denied you his favor.
—Solomon Ben Judah Ibn Gabirol

Book Of Love

In the development of mankind as a whole, just as in individuals, love alone acts as the civilizing factor in the sense that it brings a change from egotism to altruism.

—Sigmund Freud

In his dwelling, the Sage loves the lowly earth;
In his heart, he loves what is profound;
In his relations with others, he loves kindness;
In his words, he loves sincerity;
In government, he loves peace;
In business affairs, he loves ability;
In his actions, he loves choosing the right time.

—Lao Tzu

Self-love ruins the city of the soul, and ruins and overturns the cities of earth... nothing has so divided the world into every kind of people as self-love, from which injustice is forever born.

—St. Catherine of Siena

Shut them in,
With their triumphs and their glories
and the rest!

Love is best.

—Robert Browning

I don't like the word love. It's like patriotism. It's like the flag. It's the last refuge of scoundrels. When people start talking about what wonderful, warm, deep emotions they have and how they love people, I watch out. Somebody is going to steal something.

—Gore Vidal

He loves himself so much,
he can permit himself no rival in that love

—Marianne Moore

He fell in love with himself at first sight and it is a passion to which he has always remained faithful. Self-love seems so often unrequited.

—Anthony Powell

Self-love depressed becomes self-loathing.

—Sally Kempton

I never loved another person the way I loved myself.

—Mae West

Self-love is often rather arrogant than blind; it does not hide our faults from ourselves, but persuades us that they escape the notice of others.

—Dr. Samuel Johnson

Book Of Love

Love and friendship are profoundly personal, selfish values; love is an expression and assertion of self-esteem, a response to one's own values in the person of another. One gains a profoundly, personal, selfish joy from the mere existence of the person one loves. It is one's own personal, selfish happiness that one seeks, earns, and derives from love.

—Ayn Rand

An animal exhibits in its life activity a multitude of acts of breathing, digesting...etc., a multitude of specific responses to specific stimulations of the environment. But mythology comes in and attributes them all to a nusus for self-preservation. Thence it is but a step to the idea that all conscious acts are prompted by self-love. This premise is then elaborated in ingenious schemes, often amusing when animated by cynical knowledge of the "world," tedious when of a would-be logical nature, to prove that every act of man including his apparent generousities is a variation played on the theme of self interest.

—John Dewey

When he heard that an egocentric had fallen in love, he [Adler] said:
Against whom?

—Alfred Adler

It should be a happy marriage — they are both so much in love with him!

—Irene Thomas

He is after all, the reflection of the tenderness I bear for myself. It is always ourselves we love.

—Beryl Bainbridge

In an age when the fashion is to be in love with yourself, confessing to being in love with some body else is an admission of unfaithfulness to one's beloved.

—Russell Baker

...self love is scarcely conducive to piety.

—Anne-Marie-Louise d'Orléans

I love men, not because they are men, but because they are not women.

—Christina of Sweden

The only victory over love is flight.

—Napoleon Bonaparte

Nothing is potent against love save only impotence.

—Samuel Butler

Love lives in sealed bottles of regret.

—Seán O'Faoláin

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Let us love without reasoning about it, and we shall find ourselves filled with love before others have found out the reasons that lead to loving.

—Jean-Marie de la Motte Guyon

Love is the triumph of imagination over intelligence.

—H. L. Mencken (Henry Louis)

Love makes intelligent beings depressed and flat. Only women, ostriches, and monkeys are made happy by love. Oh yes, and parrots.

—Eeva-Liisa Manner

Without love intelligence is dangerous; without intelligence love is not enough.

—Ashley Montagu

Neither a lofty degree of intelligence nor imagination nor both together go to the making of genius. Love, love, love, that is the soul of genius.

—Wolfgang Amadé Mozart

...Love and Reason, like a Fever and Ague, took their alternate Turns in my Breast.

—Mary Hearne

Love is the sea where intellect drowns.

—Jalalu-d-Din Rumi

For what is knowledge duly weighed?
Knowledge is strong, but love is sweet;
Yea all the progress he had made
Was but to learn that all is small
Save love, for love is all in all.

—Christina Rossetti

Science is the power of man and love his strength; man becomes man only by the intelligence, but he is man only by the heart.

—Henri Frédéric Amiel

In our century, it is not love that corrupts morality, but the contempt of all principles which has its cause in the contempt of feeling.

—Germaine de Staél

Love is a matter of feeling, not of will or volition, and I cannot love because I will to do so, still less because I ought, hence there is no such thing as the duty to love.

—Immanuel Kant

Ah! what will not the heart endure e'er it will voluntarily surrender the hoarded treasure of its love to the cold dictates of reason or the stern voice of duty.

—Susan Edmonstone Ferrier

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Duty's a slave that keeps the keys
But Love the master goes in and out
Of his goodly chambers with song and shout,
Just as he pleases — just as he pleases.
—Dinah Mulock Craik

The first duty of love is to listen.
—Paul Tillich

I owe a duty where I cannot love.
—Aphra Behn

Respect is what we owe; love, what we give.
—Phillip James Bailey

And if a Woman can neither love nor Honor she does ill in promising to Obey,
since she is like to have a crooked Rule to regulate her Actions.
—Mary Astell

Spring comes, fall goes, love stays
Fall goes, spring comes, messages are rare.
—Yü Hsüan-chi

Nothing re-opens the springs of love so fully as absence,
and no absence so thoroughly as that which must be endless.
—Anthony Trollope

The longest absence is less perilous to love than the terrible trials of incessant
proximity.
—Ouida (Marie Louise de La Ramée)

Absence is to love what wind is to fire; it puts out the little, it kindles the great.
—Roger de Bussy-Rabut'n

Unrequited love generally lasts longer than any other kind, because it is never
forced to confront reality.
—Sydney Harris

Falling in love is a matter of intermittent propinquity; the cure for it, propin-
quity.
—Elbert Hubbard

Though Love be deeper, Friendship is more wide...
—Corrine Roosevelt Robinson

What is love? Two souls and one flesh. Friendship? Two bodies and one soul.
—Joseph Roux

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Friendship's an abstract of this noble flame,
'Tis love refin'd, and purged from all its dross,
'Tis next to angel's love, if not the same,
As strong in passion is, though not so gross.

—Katherine Fowler Phillips

Platonic love is love from the neck up.

—Thyra Samter Winslow

When Psyche's friend becomes her lover,
How sweetly these conditions blend!
But, oh, what anguish to discover
Her lover has become — her Friend!

—Madeleine Bridges

How weak the balm the laurel wreath bestows,
To heal our breasts, when love or friendship falls.

—Anna Young Smith

...I wish there was something between love and friendship that I could tender him; and some gesture, not quite a caress, I could give him. A sort of smoothing.... I simply love him like a brother.

—Louise Bogan

Love is a little blind; when we love someone dearly we unconsciously overlook many faults.

—Beatrice Saunders

Love: Love is not blind it sees more, not less. But because it sees more, it is willing to see less.

—Rabbi Julius Gordon

Never believe her love is blind.
All his faults are locked securely
In a closet of her mind.

—Sara Teasdale

We like someone because.
We love someone although.

—Henri de Montherlant

We endow
Those whom we love, in our fond, passionate blindness,
With power upon our souls too absolute
To be a mortal's trust.

—Felicia Dorothea Hemans

Book Of Love

We perceive when love begins and when it declines by our embarrassment when alone together.

—Jean de la Bruyère

Love is a tyrant,
Resisted.

—John Ford

Love is much nicer to be in than an automobile accident, a tight girdle, a higher tax bracket, or a holding pattern over Philadelphia.

—Judith Viorst

Analysis kills love, as well as other things.

—John Brown

To practice this thin love;
I climbed from sex to soul, from soul to thought;
 But Thinking there to move,
Headlong I rolled from thought to soul, and then
From soul I lighted at the sex again.

—William Cartwright

In women pity begets love, in men love begets pity.

—John Churton Collins

If you to love would me incline,
Assert the man, forbear the whine;
Let time and plain sincerity
And faithful love your pleaders be.

—Jane Brereton

Most men need more love than they deserve.

—Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach

A mighty pain to love it is,
And 'tis a pain that pain to miss;
but of all pains, the greatest pain
It is to love, but love in vain.

—Abraham Cowley

One would always want to think of oneself as being on the side of love, ready to recognize it and wish it well — but, when confronted with it in others, one so often resented it, questioned its true nature, secretly dismissed the particular instance as folly or promiscuity.

—Shirley Hazzard

In fact, all loves but one's own have an element of the tiresome.

—C. P. Snow (Charles Percy)

Book Of Love

Love and Misery proverbially go together. There is a popular notion... that a lover could not get along without a little misery.

—Frances Greville

The pain of love is the pain of being alive.
It's a perpetual wound.

—Maureen Duffy

Love is a hole in the heart.

—Ben Hecht

Perhaps

A heart in love

Becomes a deep ravine?

—Izumi Shikibu

There is a melancholy pleasure
In tales of hapless love; — a treasure
From which the sadden'd bosom borrows
A respite short from present sorrows.

—Joanna Baillie

Once I thought my love was worth the name
If tears came.

When the wound is mortal, now I know
Few tears flow.

—Lesbia Harford

...tears

Those springs that water Love

—Mrs. Taylor

Though hopeless love finds
 comfort in despair,
It never can endure a Rival's bliss!

—Richard Brinsley Sheridan

My early life had been filled with dreams and a deep feeling that if I waited, did my part and was patient, love would come to me and with it such a family life as fiction depicted and romance built up. It seems to me that I have always been waiting for something better.

—Dorothy Reed Mendenall

Great passions don't exist — they are liar's fantasies. What do exist are little loves that may last for a shorter or longer while.

—Anna Magnani

Book Of Love

In everyone there sleeps
A sense of life lived according to love.
To some it means the difference they could make
By loving others, but across most it sweeps
As all they might have done had they been Loved,
That nothing cures.

—Philip Larkin

Ah me! poor heart! that love like thine
Should seek with dreams to be content!
With dreams — and what is life, alas!
But of the visions that we see?
Shadows of love, and hope, that pass
To mock us, like my dreams of thee.

—Mary Elizabeth Hewett

...jealousy must be the inseparable companion of Love in the breast of a libertine.

—Jane West

I sing of little loves that glow
Like tapers shining in the rain,
Of little loves that break themselves
Like moths against the window-pane

—Aline Murray Kilmer

It is not love that produces jealousy — it is selfishness.

—Mr. Justice Wallington

Jealousy is the fear of losing the thing you love most. It's very normal. Suspicion is the thing that's abnormal.

—Jerry Hall

Talk of love making people jealous and suspicious it's nothing to social ambition.

—Edith Wharton

We love the lie that saves their pride, but never an unflattering truth.

—Gertrude Atherton

The love of the famous, like all strong passions, is quite abstract. Its intensity can be measured mathematically, and it is independent of persons.

—Susan Sontag

The biggest of all differences in this world is between the ones that had or have pleasure in love and those that haven't and hadn't any pleasure in love, but just watched with sick envy.

—Tennessee Williams

Book Of Love

What passes for love in our competitive society is frequently envy: the phlegmatic husband who marries a vivacious wife is in the same position as a business man who buys up the stock of a rival corporation in order to kill it.

—Mary McCarthy

Love, please allow a little madness.

—Louise Labé

...love, you know, is strangely whimsical, containing affronts, jars, parleys, wars, then peace again. Now for you to ask advice to love by, is all one as if you ask advice to run mad by.

—Terrence (Publius Terentius Afer)

That sudden and ill-timed love affair may be compared to this: you take boys somewhere for a walk; the walk is jolly and interesting — and suddenly one of them gorges himself with oil paint.

—Anton Chekhov

...Fate forbids that Peace should dwell with Love!

—Hester Chapone

When love's delirium haunts the glowing mind,
Limping Decorum lingers far behind.

—George Gordon, Lord Byron

It is not love when one simply draws a beautiful picture in one's soul and endows it with every perfection; rather this is love: to love people as we find them, and if they have weaknesses, to accept them with a heart filled with love.

—Charlotte von Kalb

For love is but the heart's immortal thirst
To be completely known and all forgiven.

—Henry Van Dyke

Love consists in this, that two solitudes protect and touch and greet each other.

—Rainer Maria Rilke

Is it not by love alone that we succeed in penetrating to the very essence of a being.

—Igor Stravinsky

...by continual growth love keeps us strangers,
Despite the recognitions that descend
From sense into the soul, and there
Are stored against famine, exile, and despair.

—James Phillip McAuley

Book Of Love

What good is love without understanding? How can we love each other if we don't know each other and understand each other? How can we understand each other if we don't know each other? And how can we know each other if we don't love each other?

—Julie Anne Bovasso

Love slays what we have been
that we may be what we were not.

—Augustine of Hippo

To love without criticism is to be betrayed.

—Djuna Barnes

I have an inalienable constitutional and natural right to love whom I may, to love as long or as short a period as I can, to change that love everyday if I please.

—Victoria Claflin Woodhull

Faults are thick where love is thin.

—James Howell

The world's love runs thin.

—T'ang Wan

Every theory of love, from Plato down, teaches that each individual loves in the other sex what he lacks in himself.

—Granville Stanley Hall

The only abnormality is the incapacity to love.

—Anaïs Nin

When two people love each other, they don't look at each other, they look in the same direction.

—Ginger Rogers

And now poor Maria saw her happiness passing gradually from her, earthly cares were rapidly consuming the tender love which had so lately subsisted between herself and her husband.

—Mary Martha Sherwood

Love means that the attributes of the lover are changed into those of the Beloved.

—Junayd of Bagdad

I do not expect or want you to be otherwise than you are, I love you for the good that is in you, and look for no change.

—Mary Ann Lamb

We don't love qualities, we love persons; sometimes by reason of their defects as well as of their qualities.

—Jacques Maritain

Book Of Love

A sense of loving and being loved doesn't change one's nature. It gives men and women what it gives children a confidence in what they are, and more openness in being it.

—Hortense Calisher

And because they have been in love they have survived everything that life could throw at them, even their own failures.

—Ernest Havemann

Love is, above all, the gift of oneself.

—Jean Anouilh

If all the pangs are mine, I say
unequal parts in love we play.

—Beatriz de Dia

Love is the blinding revelation that some other being can be more important to the lover than he is to himself.

—J. V. Casserley

Love... is the extremely difficult realization that something other than oneself is real.

—Iris Murdoch

Love seeks one thing only: the good of the one loved. It leaves all the other secondary effects to take care of themselves. Love therefore, is its own reward.

—Thomas Merton

In real love you want the other person's good. In romantic love you want the other person.

—Margaret Anderson

The eyes, those silent tongues of love.

—Miguel de Cervantes

O dreamy eyes,
They tell sweet Lies of Paradise
And in those eyes the Love-Light Lies
And lies — and lies — and lies!

—Anita Owen

A man falls in love through his eyes, a woman through her ears.

—Woodrow Wyatt

When it comes to making love, a girl can always listen so much faster than a man can talk.

—Helen Rowland

Book Of Love

Love at eighteen is largely an attempt to find out who we are by listening to our echoes in the words of another.

—Gail Sheehy

Love understands love; it needs no talk.

—Frances Ridley Havergal

It is the same in love as in war; a fortress that parleys is half taken.

—Marguerite de Valois

To be able to say how much you love is to love but little.

—Francisco Petrarca

Far deeper is the glow-worm's love that speaks in silent points of flame, than all the passions idle courtiers prate with facile tongue.

—Murasaki Shikibu

We can talk of Murder, Theft, and Treason, without blushing: and surely there's nothing a-kin to Love that's half so wicked.

—Elizabeth Cooper

Hold your tongue, beautiful lovers, you err
to the extreme;

Taking turns a hundred times to say: I
love you

In love, one must speak with elegance.

—Marie-Catherine Desjardins

Love is the source of language, and also its destroyer.

—Isabel C. MacCaffrey

...the Eskimos had fifty-two names for snow because it was important to them; there ought to be as many for love.

—Margaret Atwood

What do I wish to do?

I wish to love:

that verb at whose source all verbs
take fire and learn to move.

Yes, could I rightly love,
all action, all event,

would from my nature spring
true as creation meant.

Love takes no pains with words
but is most eloquent.

—Judith Arundell Wright McKinney

Book Of Love

Adam invented love at first sight, one of the greatest labor-saving machines the world ever saw.

—Josh Billings (Henry Wheeler Shaw)

That old miracle —Love at first sight — needs no explanations.

—Owen Meredith

The hardest thing in the world
Is to reveal a hidden love.

—Ho Shuang-ch'ing

At one glance
I love you
With a thousand hearts

—Mihri Hatun

The power of a glance has been so much abused in love stories, that it has come to be disbelieved in. Few people dare now to say that two beings have fallen in love with each other. Yet it is in this way that love begins, and in this way only. The rest is only the rest, and comes afterwards. Nothing is more real than these great shocks which two souls give each other in exchanging this spark.

—Victor Hugo

If thou hast loved, re-ope the magic book;
Say, do its annals date not from a look?
In which two hearts, unguess'd perchance before,
Rush'd each to each, and were as two no more;
While all thy being — by some Power above
Its will constran'd — sigh'd, trembling, "This is Love."

—Edward George Earle Lytton (1st Bulwer-Lytton)

When a man falls in love suddenly, his whole center changes. Up to that point he has, probably, referred everything to himself considered things from his own point. When he falls in love the whole thing is shifted; he becomes a part of the circumference; perhaps even the whole circumference; someone else becomes the center.... His entire life is pulled sideways; he does not desire to get, but to give. That is why it is the noblest thing in the world.

—Robert Hugh Benson

There is an obsessive tenderness and passion, an eating out of one's heart, a sense of longing, an affection, which remains buried and unchanged from childhood, this is what is called falling in love.

—Penelope Mortimer

A very small degree of hope is sufficient to cause the birth of love.

—Stendahl (Marie Henri Beyle)

Book Of Love

First love, with its frantic haughty imagination, swings its object clear of the everyday, over the rut of living, making him all looks, silences, gestures, attitudes, a burning phrase with no context.

—Elizabeth Bowen

Carnations and my first love! And he
was seventeen,
And I was only twelve years — a
stately gulf between.

—Margaret Widdemer

My love is of a birth as rare
As 'tis for object strange and high;
It was begotten by despair
Upon impossibility.

—Andrew Marvell

Unremembered and afar
I watched you as I watched a star,
Through darkness struggling into view,
I loved you better than you knew.

—Elizabeth Chase Akers

It is difficult to know at what moment love begins; it is less difficult to know that it has begun.

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Love doesn't grow on trees like apples in Eden — it's something you have to make. And you must use your imagination to make it too, just like anything else. It's all work, work.

—Joyce Cary

The moon returns, and the spring; birds warble,
trees burst into leaf,
But Love once gone, goes forever, and all that
endures is grief.

—Mathilde Blind

It's our own mediocrity that makes us let go of love, makes us renounce it. True Love doesn't know the meaning of renunciation, is not even aware of that problem, never resigns itself; resignation is for beaten people, as beaten paths are for beaten men.

—Eugène Ionesco

Love, like Ulysses, is a wanderer,
For new fields always and new faces yearning...
Put by, O waiting ones, put by your weaving,
Unlike Ulysses, love is unreturning.

—Roselle Mercier Montgomery

Book Of Love

I wanted to escape from love but didn't know how.
—Ting Ling

Give me, I ask it, Nay I know no pride—
The love that's left when you
Have spent the greater part.
I have a beggarheart.
—Anne Elizabeth Wilson

True love is like seeing ghosts: we all talk about it, but few of us have ever seen one.
—François Duc de la Rochefoucauld

True love, to whom my heart is prey,
How dost thou hold me in thy sway,
That in each day I find no fault
But daily wait for love's assault.
—Pernette de Guillet

We don't believe in rheumatism and true love until after the first attack.
—Marie Ebner von Eschenback

'Tis better to have loved and lost than never to have lost at all.
—Samuel the Younger Butler

Love is, I think, like fever; one severe attack leaves the patient subject to relapses through youth; and each succeeding one renders him more weakened, and, consequently, more exposed to future assaults.
—Marguerite Blessington

For, you see, each day I love you more
Today more than yesterday and less than tomorrow.
—Rosemonde Gérard

Love has a tide!
—Helen Fiske Hunt Jackson

But to see her was to love her,
Love but her, and Love forever.
Had we never lov'd sae kindly,
Had we never lov'd sae blindly,
Never met — or never parted —
We had ne'er been broken hearted.
—Robert Burns

For every quarrel cuts a thread
That healthful Love has spun.
—Lydia Howard Sigourney

Book Of Love

Love at the lips was touch
As sweet as I could bear;
And once that seemed too much;
I lived on air.

—Robert Frost

The art of flirtation is dying. A man and woman are either in love these days or just friends. In the realm of love, reticence and sophistication should go hand in hand, for one of the great joys of life is discovery. Nowadays, instead of progressing from *vous* to *tu*, from Mister to Jim, it's "darling" and "come to my place" in the first hour.

—Marya Mannes

Love calls to war;
Sighs his alarms,
Lips his swords are,
The fields his arms.

—George Chapman

The crowning glory of loving and being loved is that the pair make no real progress; however far they have advanced into the enchanted land during the day they must start again from the frontier next morning.

—Sir James Matthew Barrie

When two people loved each other they worked together always, two against the world, a little company. Joy was shared; trouble was split. You had an ally, somewhere, who was helping.

—Paul Gallico

Love is the form of selection most conducive to the ennoblement of the species.

—Ellen Key

I love thee, I love but thee,
With a love that shall not die
 Till the sun grows cold,
 And the stars are old,
And the leaves of the Judgement Book unfold.

—Bayard Taylor

Love, all the hours are long
 That once so fleetly flew;
I am bereft of song
 Being bereft of you,
But when you come again
 How nimbly Time will run
To such a jocund strain,
 For you and song are one.

—Clinton Scollard

Book Of Love

I love you so passionately that I hide a great part of my love not to oppress you with it.

—Marie de Sévigné

Love passed between them like a field of light.

—Ellen Gilchrist

She smiled, and the shadows departed;
She shone, and the snows were rain;
And he who was frozen-hearted
Bloomed up into love again.

—John Addington Symonds

You have ravish'd me away by a Power I cannot resist; and yet I could resist till I saw you; and even since I have seen you I have endeavored often, "to reason against the reasons of my Love."

—John Keats

What is love without passion? — a garden without flowers, a hat without feathers, tobogganing without snow.

—Jennie Jerome Churchill

Ah love! could you and I with Him conspire
To grasp this sorry scheme of things entire,
Would not we shatter it to bits and then
Re-mold it near to the heart's desire!

—Omar Khayyám

To tell you, my love, that I desired you
With no instinctive hypocritic blush,
I was incapable, as tightly bound as Prometheus,
Until one day I burst my bonds.

—Alfonsina Storni

Let love between us so divided be
That thou may'st feel the fire that burns in me.
And let my days be e'en as God hath willed,
If only in thy arms they be fulfilled.

—Babikr Bedri

Youth's for an hour
Beauty's a flower,
But love is the jewel that wins the world.

—Moira O'Neill

Love alone can lend young people rapture, however transiently, in a world wherein the result of every human endeavor is transient, and the end of all is death.

—James Branch Cabell

Book Of Love

Young love-making —that gossamer web! Even the points it clings to — the things whence its subtle intertracings are swung — are scarcely perceptible: momentary touches of finger-tips, meetings of rays from blue and dark orbs, unfinished phrases, lightest changes of cheek and lip, faintest tremors.

—George Eliot (Mary Ann Evans)

I do not love thee! — no! I do not love thee!
And yet when thou art absent I am sad.

—Caroline Sheridan North

To hell with love, Margaret thought. It's an ache in my stomach, it's a terrible feeling in my head, it's a skin-crawling fear that I've done something wrong. I've forgotten the password. And the frog isn't going to change into Prince Charming, the secret door isn't going to open. And the world is going to end any minute.

—Shirley Ann Grau

And yet, 'tis ever sad to say good-night
I cannot choose but dream of thy return
Let us ere long that sorry word unlearn!
The lips of love pronounce it not aright.

—Marceline Desbordes-Valmore

...Over the seas tonight, love,
Dreaming beneath the spars —
Till in my dreams you shine, love,
Bright as the listening stars.

—William Stanley Beaumont Braithwaite

Will he always love me?
I cannot read his heart.
This morning my thoughts
Are as disordered
As my black hair.

—Horikawa

And what am I but love of you made flesh,
Quickened by every longing love may bring,
A pilgrim fire, homeless and wandering.

—Katherine Bowditch

O Love, a thousand, thousand voices,
From night to dawn, from dawn to night,
Have cried the passion of their choices,
To orb your name and keep it bright.

—William Rose Benét

Book Of Love

Tho' near the gates of Paradise,
Gladly I'd turn away,
Just to hear you say, "I love you!"
Sometime, somewhere, someday.
—Rida Johnson Young

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 and 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.
—Elizabeth Barrett Browning

My love of you is censored all in vain.
No oath could change my heart, I surely know,
No, nor my love, which cannot cease to grow,
Nor my desire, my longing sweet with pain.
—Castelloza

My love she is a kitten,
And my heart's a ball of string.
—Henry Sambrooke Leigh

Love, we are a small pond.
—Maxine Kumin

Do not smile to yourself
Like a green mountain
With a cloud drifting across it.
People will know we are in love.
—Otomo no Sakano-e no Iratsume

Mine was a love so exquisite that I
Rather than watch it wither chose to die:
So dress my grave, O friend, with no poor flower
Which in your quiet garden blooms an hour!
Zoë Akins

I shall have little hope for woman, till she learns to feel that to die for love is not
so much a pitiful as a disgraceful thing.
—Caroline Wells Dall

They love too much that die for love.
—John Ray

Book Of Love

I have heard much of these languishing lovers, but I never yet saw one of them die for love.

—Margaret of Navarre

Men have died from time to time and worms have eaten them, but not for love.

—William Shakespeare

We seem to love to death, but 'tis not so,
Because our passions moveth to and fro;
They are not fixed, but do run all about;
Every new object thrusts the former out.

—Margaret Cavandish

...for men, you know, compared to women, love in about the proportion of one to twenty.

—Frances Brooke

The love of man? Exotic flower,
Broken, crushed, within an hour.
The love of woman? Storm-swept sea
Surging into eternity.

—Ellen M. Carroll

Man's love with its glowing heat compared with the love of woman is as the fire of burning mountains, hard to extinguish, to the fire of burning wood that can easily be put out. Woman's love resembles the mild warmth of the sun producing fruit, so different from the burning of wood, because she too is mild and produces fruit: her offspring.

—Hildegarde von Bingen

To be a woman is to have the same need and longings as a man. We need love and we wish to give it. If only we all could accept that there is no difference between us where human values are concerned.

—Liv Ulmann

Between women love is contemplative... There is no struggle, no victory, no defeat; in exact reciprocity each is at once subject and object, sovereign and slave; duality becomes mutuality.

—Simone de Beauvoir

It is so true that a woman may be in love with a woman, and a man with a man. It is pleasant to be sure of it, because it is undoubtedly the same love that we shall feel when we are angels.

—Margaret Fuller

Love between the sexes is a sin in theology, a forbidden intercourse in jurisprudence, a mechanical insult in medicine, and a subject philosophy has no time for.

—Karl Kraus

Book Of Love

At last love has come. I would be
more ashamed
To hide it in cloth than leave it naked.
—Sulpicia

Love is not the dying moan of a distant violin it's the triumphant twang of a
bedspring.
—S. J. Perelman (Sidney Joseph)

Erotic love begins with separateness and ends in oneness. Motherly love begins
with oneness, and leads to separateness.
—Erich Fromm

...the old bland wink of spring that
quickens
the viscid sappy vitriol of love.
—Anne Josephine Chloe Elder

...Passion, which is often mistaken for Love, and is ordinarily more successful.
—Eliza Haywood

Love is the crocodiles in the river of desire.
—Bhartrihari

Love interferes with fidelities.
—Sylvia Ashton-Warner

Love's mysteries in souls do grow,
But yet the body is his book.
—John Donne

Love — bittersweet, irrepressible —
loosens my limbs and I tremble.
—Sappho

Love is the poetry of the senses.
—Honoré de Balzac

Your love turned my body
into water.
—Nur Jahan

Love had brought her here, to lie beside this young man; love was the key to
every good; love lay like a mirage through the golden gates of sex.
—Doris Lessing

If nobody had ever learned to undress, very few people would be in love.
—Dorothy Parker

Book Of Love

Love, which still pours into its ancient mould
The lashing seed that grows to a man again,
From whom by the same processes unfold
Unending generations of living men.

—Alex Derwent Hope

There are no instincts less harmful or more productive of delight in the whole range of human instinct and emotion, than the desire for sex-love and the desire for children.

—Dora Russell

In its essence, the delight of sexual love, the genetic spasm, is a sensation of resurrection, of renewing our life in another, for only in others can we renew our life and so perpetuate ourselves.

—Miguel de Unamuno

Youth is the season for love in both sexes; but in those days of thoughtless enjoyment provision should be made for the more important years of life, when reflection takes the place of sensation.

—Mary Wollstonecraft

Love is a conflict between reflexes and reflections.

—Magnus Hirschfeld

Love is a brilliant illustration of a principle everywhere discoverable: namely, that human reason lives by turning the friction of material forces into the light of ideal goods. There can be no philosophic interest in disguising the animal basis of love, or in denying its spiritual sublimations, since all life is animal in its origin and all spiritual in its possible fruits.

—George Santayana

In the religion of love the courtesan is a heretic; but the nun is an atheist.

—Richard Garnett

Of all the misconceptions about love, the most powerful and pervasive is the belief that “falling in love” is love.... Falling in love is a specifically sex-linked erotic experience. We do not fall in love with our children even though we may love them very deeply.

—M. Scott Peck

You mustn't force sex to do the work of love or love to do the work of sex.

—Mary McCarthy

A lady's imagination is very rapid; it jumps from admiration to love, from love to matrimony in a moment.

—Jane Austen

Love-making is radical, while marriage is conservative.

—Eric Hoffer

Book Of Love

A successful marriage requires falling in love many times, always with the same person.

—Mignon McLaughlin

...no man is in love when he marries. He may have loved before; I have even heard he has sometimes loved after: but at the time never. There is something in the formalities of the matrimonial preparations that drive away all the little cupidons.

—Fanny Burney

Love, N. A temporary insanity curable by marriage or by removal of the patient from the influences under which he incurred the disorder.

—Ambrose Bierce

Love is often a fruit of marriage.

—Molière (Jean Baptiste Poquelin)

Love, for too many men in our time, consists of sleeping with a seductive woman, one who is properly endowed with the right distribution of curves and conveniences and one upon whom a permanent lien has been acquired through the institution of marriage.

—Ashley Montagu

Some pray to marry the man they Love,
My prayer will somewhat vary;
I humbly pray to Heaven above
That I Love the man I marry.

—Rose Pastor Stokes

A lady of 47 who has been married 27 years and has six children knows what love really is and once described it for me like this: “Love is what you’ve been through with somebody.”

—James Thurber

Who knows what women can be when they are finally free to become themselves? Who knows what women’s intelligence will contribute when it can be nourished without denying love? Who knows of the possibilities of love when men and women share not only children, home, and garden, not only the fulfillment of their biological roles, but the responsibilities and passions of the work that creates the human future and the full human knowledge of who they are?

—Betty Friedan

Two pure souls fused into one by an impassioned love — friends, counselors — a mutual support and inspiration to each other amid life’s struggles, must know the highest human happiness; —this is marriage; and this is the only cornerstone of an enduring home.

—Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Book Of Love

Distaff, my pride and care, I vow to thee
That I shall love thee ever nor exchange
Thy homely virtue for a pleasure strange.

—Madeleine Fradonnet

A man in love is incomplete until he has married. Then he's finished.

—Zsa Zsa Gabor

There can be only one end to marriage without love and that is love without marriage.

—John Churton Collins

Marrying a man is like buying something you've been admiring for a long time in a shop window. You may love it when you get it home, but it doesn't always go with everything else in the house.

—Jean Kerr

I would like to have engraved inside every wedding band BE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER. This is the Golden Rule of Marriage and the secret of making love last through the years.

—Randolph Ray

Where we love is home,
Home that our feet may leave, but not
our hearts.

—Oliver Wendell Holmes

Like a silkworm weaving
her house with love
from her marrow.

—Mahadeviyakka

The love of a mother is never exhausted; it never changes, it never tires.

—Washington Irving

Houses are like the hearts of men,
I think;
They must have life within,
(This is their meat and drink),
They must have fires and friends and kin,
Love for the day and night,
Children in strong young laps:
Then they live — then!

—Leonora Speyer

Book Of Love

To love the tender heart hath ever fled,
As on its mother's breast the infant throws
Its sobbing face, and there in sleep forgets
its woe.

—Mary Tighe

...Enrich us with your need of life
Draw from us now the power of love,
Strengthen, restore, since you return
Our love, in needing us to love.

—Rosemary de Brissac Dobson

Motherhood is a full-time occupation... especially during the first two years of a child's life, if not in a literal sense, at least in terms of the psychic energy we call mother love.

—Helene Deutsch

So when the great word "Mother!" rang once more,
I saw at last its meaning and its place;
Not the blind passion of the brooding past,
But Mother — the World's Mother — come at last,
To love as she had never loved before —
To feed and guard and teach the human race.

—Charlotte Perkins Gilman

...there is nothing so strong as the force of love; there is no love so forcible as the affectionate mother to her natural child.

—Elizabeth Grymeston

Work and build, my sons, and build
a monument to love and joy,
to human worth, to faith we kept
for you, my sons, for you.

—Ethel Rosenberg

Our father, while he lived, had cast a magic over everything, for us as well as for her. He held his love up over us like an umbrella and kept off the troubles that afterward came down on us, pouring cats and dogs.

—Mary Lavin

The most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother.

—Theodore M. Hesburgh

Give a little love to a child and you get a great deal back.

—John Ruskin

Book Of Love

Know you what it is to be a child?...
it is to believe in love, to believe in
loveliness, to believe in belief.

—Francis Joseph Thompson

Childhood, whose very happiness is love.

—Letitia Landon

And grownups have to act as if they know. That's how they show they love you,
by knowing more stuff; it makes you feel secure.

—Jill Robinson

Perhaps the best function of parenthood is to teach the young creature to love
with safety, so that it may be able to venture unafraid when later emotion comes;
the thwarting of the instinct to love is the root of all sorrow and not sex only but
divinity itself is insulted when it is repressed.

—Freya Stark

Love freely, wisely, that the child may grow strong and straight into creative
maturity. Love freely, love wisely, that the child may grow happily into manhood
or womanhood. Love freely, love wisely, that the child may become.

—Rudolph W. Nemser

Love and freedom are vital to the creation and upbringing of a child. I do not
advise anyone to rush into either legal or free marriage without, love, sympathy,
understanding, friendship, and frankness.

—Sylvia Pankhurst

The more you love your children the more care you should take to neglect them
occasionally. The web of affection can be drawn too tight.

—D. Suttan

So as long as little children are allowed to suffer, there is no true love in this
world.

—Isadora Duncan

Children begin by loving their parents. After a time they judge them. Rarely, if
ever, do they forgive them.

—Oscar Wilde

Love is presently out of breath when it is to go uphill, from the children to the
parents.

—The Marquis of Halifax

Forgiveness is a journey I must take
Alone into my childish fears, and these
Confront my fathers for children's sake
Forgiveness is a journey into love.

—Alistair Te Ariki Campbell

Book Of Love

I find as I grow older that I love those most whom I loved first.

—Thomas Jefferson

It's easy to understand love at first sight, but how to explain love after two people have been looking at each other for years?

—Dr. Laurence J. Peter

The love we have in our youth is superficial compared to the love that an old man has for his old wife.

—Will Durant

One has to admit, reluctantly, that old age has some (if few) compensations. It changes one's mind about the miracle of love.

—Fanny Butcher

Do not keep the alabaster boxes of your love and tenderness sealed up until your friends are dead. Fill their lives with sweetness. Speak approving, cheering words while their ears can hear them, and while their hearts can be thrilled and made happier by them.

—George William Childs

Will you love me in December as you do in May,
Will you love me in the good old-fashioned way?

When my hair has all turned gray,

Will you kiss me then and say,

That you love me in December as you do in May?

—James J. Walker

Yet I, this little while ere I go hence,
Love very lightly now, in self-defence.

—Laurence Hope

The tree of deepest root is found
Least willing still to quit the ground;
'Twas therefore said by ancient sages,
That love of life increased with years,
So much, that in our latter stages,
When pain grows sharp and sickness rages,
The greatest love of life appears.

—Piozzi (Hester Lynch Thrale)

So blind is life, so long at last is sleep,
And none but love to bid us laugh or weep.

—Willa Cather

The pain of leaving those you grow to love is only the prelude to understanding yourself and others.

—Shirley MacLaine

Book Of Love

There is a land of the living and a land of the dead and the bridge is love, the only survival, the only meaning.

—Thornton Wilder

Love, like death, a universal leveller of mankind.

—William Congreve

It is love, not reason, that is stronger than death.

—Thomas Mann

...love is the only thing that we can carry with us when we go, and it makes the end so easy.

—Louisa May Alcott

Still so gently o'er me stealing,
Mem'ry will bring back the feeling,
Spite of all my grief revealing
That I love thee, love thee still.

—Felice Romani

I know how the mind rushes back, in such moments, to infancy, when those stiffened hands were wrapped around us in twining love; when that bosom was the pillow of our first sorrows; when those ears, now insensible and soundless, heard our whispered confidence; when those eyes, now curtained by uplifted lids, watched our every motion. I know the pang that runs through the heart, and I can fancy the shrieking voice within which says, "Thou mightest have done more for thy mother's happiness for her who loved thee so!"

—Caroline Gilman

What's grief but the after-blindness
of the spirit's dazzle of love?

—Gwendoline Nessie Harwood

All the great things of life are swiftly done,
Creation, death, and love the double gate.

—John Masefield

Life is eternal; and love is immortal; and death is only a horizon; and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight.

—Rossiter Worthington Raymond

Great loves live on.
You need not die and dare the skies
In forms that poor creeds hinge upon
To pass the gates of Paradise.

—Joaquin Miller

Book Of Love

Love's very pain is sweet,
But its reward is in the world divine,
Which, if not here, it builds beyond the grave.
—Percy Bysshe Shelley

The souls we have loved here, we may love and meet again because we have once loved them; but our intercourse with them will not be tainted with the remembrance of this heart-breaking little world; we shall not recognize them in their personal limitations.
—Daisy, Princess of Pless

Love is Life, and Death at last
Crowns it eternal and divine.
—Adelaide Ann Procter

One word
Frees us of all the weight and pain of life:
That word is love.
—Sophocles

The Mintage of Wisdom is to know
that rest is rust, and that Real Life
lies in Love, Laughter, Work.
—Hypatia

When we are young
We long to tread a way none trod before,
But find the excellent old way through love.
—William Butler Yeats

...that biggest blessing of loving and being loved by those I loved and respected;
on earth no enjoyment certainly to be put in the balance with it.
—Rachel Russell

Love life and life will love you back. Love people and they will love you back.
—Arthur Rubenstein

Love is life, love is the lamp that lights the universe; without that light this goodly frame, the earth, is a barren promontory and man the quintessence of dust.
—Mary Elizabeth Braddon

It is my firm belief that it is love that sustains the earth. There only is life where there is love. Life without love is death. Love is the reverse of the coin of which the obverse is Truth.
—Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi (Mahatma)

Book Of Love

Without love, life is pointless and dangerous. Man is on his way to Venus, but he still hasn't learned to live with his wife. Man has succeeded in increasing his life span, yet he exterminates his brothers six million at a whack. Man now has the power to destroy himself and his planet; depend on it, he will — should he cease to love.

—Harper Lee

Bitterness imprisons life; love releases it. Bitterness paralyzes life; love empowers it. Bitterness sours life; love sweetens it. Bitterness sickens life; love heals it. Bitterness blinds life; love anoints its eyes.

—Harry Emerson Fosdick

When love is out of your life, you're through in a way. Because while it is there it's like a motor that's going, you have such vitality to do things, big things, because love is goosing you all the time. I found, after the love, that I needed help to keep going.

—Fanny Brice

Love is that splendid triggering of human vitality... the supreme activity which nature affords to anyone for going out of himself toward someone else.

—José Ortega y Gasset

Human nature was originally one and we were whole, and the desire and pursuit of that whole is called love.

—Plato

In the triangle of love between ourselves, God, and other people, is found the secret of existence, and the best foretaste, I suspect, that we can have on earth of what heaven will probably be like.

—Samuel M. Shoemaker

To be loved, be lovable.

—Ovid

Love is not only something you feel. It's something you do.

—David Wilkerson

Love doesn't just sit there, like a stone; it has to be made, like bread, re-made all the time, made new.

—Ursula K. Le Guin

It is natural to a man to love his own work; and the reason is that we love to be and to live, and these are made manifest in our actions.

—St. Thomas Aquinas

...for the existentialist, there is no love apart from deeds of love; no potentiality of love other than that which is manifested in loving.

—Jean Paul Sartre

Book Of Love

...I could not represent myself as talking about the religion of Love, but only as an actual putting it into practice.
—Albert Schweitzer

Little deeds of kindness, little words of Love
Make our earth an Eden, like the heaven above.
—Julia F. Carney

The best portion of a good man's life,
His little, nameless, unremembered acts
Of kindness and of Love.
—William Wordsworth

Love's secret is always to be
doing things for God, and not to
mind because they are such very little ones.
—Frederick W. Faber

Our Lord does not care so much
for the importance of our works
as for the love with which they
were done.
—Teresa of Avila

Faith has to do with the basis, the ground on which we stand. Hope is reaching out for some thing to come. Love is just being there and acting.
—Emil Brunner

While faith makes all things possible, it is love that makes all things easy.
—Evan H. Hopkins

And love and hope are twins...
—Maria Brooks

Love can hope where reason would despair.
—George, Baron Lyttelton

Love and the hope of it are not things one can learn, they are a part of life's heritage.
—Maria Montessori

Love feels no burden, thinks nothing of trouble, attempts what is above its strength, pleads no excuse of impossibility.
—Thomas A' Kempis

It is the special quality of love not to be able to remain stationary, to be obliged to increase under pain of diminishing.
—André Gide

Book Of Love

Love is much more
than it used to be.

—Michael Boyd

Love demands all, and has a right to all.

—Ludwig von Beethoven

Love conquers all; let us too yield to Love.

—Vergil (Publius Vergilius Maro)

Love's the weightier business of mankind.

—Colley Cibber

Joy is love exalted; peace is love in repose; long-suffering is love enduring; gentleness is love in society; goodness is love in action; faith is love on the battlefield; meekness is love in school; and temperance is love in training.

—Dwight L. Moody

I wonder why love is so often equated with joy when it is everything else as well. Devastation, balm, obsession, granting and receiving excessive value, and losing it again. It is recognition, often of what you are not but might be. It sears and heals. It is beyond pity and above law. It can seem like truth.

—Florida Scott-Maxwell

Knowledge is the parent of love; wisdom, love itself.

—Julius Charles and Augustus William Hare

To love is to admire with the heart; to admire is to love with the mind.

—Théophile Gautier

Love is
unworldly
and nothing
comes of it but love.

—William Carlos Williams

nothing false and possible is love
(who's imagined, therefore limitless)
love's to giving as to keeping's give;
as yes is to if, love is to yes

—Edward Estlin Cummings (E. E.)

The deepest truth blooms only from the deepest love.

—Heinrich Heine

Love is the supreme value around which all moral values can be integrated into one ethical system valid for the whole of humanity.

—Pitirim Sorokin

Book Of Love

Love decentralizes, truth universalizes: he who addresses all mankind, he who loves incarnates all mankind in himself.

—Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy

The world is too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but love.

—William Sloan Coffin

Human things must be known to be loved: but Divine things must be loved to be known.

—Blaise Pascal

Until I truly loved, I was alone.

—Caroline Norton

He who does not enjoy solitude will not love freedom.

—Arthur Schopenhauer

The lean man of the desert speaks:
Your hearts are stale from greed and care.
O come out in the desert air
And wash your hearts in the desert creeks
For love comes when the heart is bare.

—David Gordon Campbell

...all humans are frightened of their own solitude. Yet only in solitude can man learn to know himself, learn to handle his own eternity of aloneness. And love from one being to another can only be that two solitudes come nearer, recognize and protect and comfort each other.

—Han Suyin

Silence, uttering love that all things understand.

—Algernon Charles Swinburne

The silence of the mind is the true religious mind, and the silence of the gods is the silence of the earth. The meditative mind flows in the silence, and love is the way of the mind.

—Jiddu Krishnamurti

Isolation has led me to reflection, reflection to doubt, doubt to a more sincere and intelligent love of God.

—Marie Lenéru

Nothing cures like time and love...

—Laura Nyro

Love cures people, the ones who receive love and the ones who give it, too.

—Karl A. Menninger

Book Of Love

A noted doctor has listed several emotions which produce disease in human beings. Heading the list is fear, followed by frustration, rage, resentment, hatred, jealousy, envy, self-centeredness, and ambition. The one and only antidote that can save men from these, he says, is love.

—Cadle Call

Sometimes give your services for nothing, calling to mind a previous benefaction or present satisfaction. And if there be an opportunity of serving one who is a stranger in financial straits, give full assistance to all such. For where there is love of man, there is also love of the art. For some patients, though conscious that their condition is perilous, recover their health simply through their contentment with the goodness of the physician.

—Hippocrates

Loving, like prayer, is a power as well as a process. It's curative, it is creative.

—Zona Gale

And yet, a single night of universal love could save everything.

—Roland Giguère

The cure for all the ills and wrongs, the cares, the sorrows, and the crimes of humanity, all lie in that one word "love." It is the divine vitality that everywhere produces and restores life.

—Lydia Maria Child

The giving of love is an education in itself.

—Eleanor Roosevelt

You can give without loving, but you can't love without giving.

—Amy Carmichael

That man may last, but never lives,
Who much receives, but nothing gives;
Whom none can love, whom none can thank —
Creation's blot, creation's blank.

—Thomas Gibbons

You cannot endure yourselves and do not love yourselves sufficiently; so you seek to entice your neighbor to love you and gild yourselves with his error.

—Friedrich Nietzsche

The love of our neighbor is the only door out of the dungeon of self.

—George MacDonald

Every time a man unburdens his heart to a stranger he reaffirms the love that unites humanity.

—Germaine Greer

Book Of Love

We have careful thought from the stranger,
And smiles from the sometime guest;
But oft from “our own” the bitter tone,
Though we love our own the best.
—Margaret Sangster

Love of God the root, love of our neighbor the fruit...
—William Temple

...the unity that binds us all together, that makes this earth a family, and all men
brothers and the sons of God, is love.
—Thomas Wolfe

We cannot know whether we love God, although there may be strong reasons for
thinking so, but there can be no doubt about whether we love our neighbor or no.
—Saint Theresa

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.
—Bible

To serve thy generation, this thy fate:
“Written in water,” swiftly fades thy name;
But he who loves his kind does, first or late,
A work too great for fame.
—Mary Clemmer

After the verb “To Love,” “To Help” is the most beautiful verb in the world!
—Baroness Bertha Von Suttner

True love of man is to know his pain and bear his sorrow.
—Moshe Leib

Help the weak ones that cry for help, help the persecuted and the victim... they
are the comrades that fight and fall... for the conquest of the joy of Freedom for
all the poor workers. In this struggle for life you will find more love and you will
be loved.
—Nicola Sacco

You must love the poor very much, or they will hate you for giving them bread.
—St. Vincent de Paul

This is love as I see it: an act of the human spirit reaching out in tenderness and
concern toward all people.
—Lillian Smith

Book Of Love

My heart is open wide tonight
For stranger, kith or kin.
I would not bar a single door
Where Love might enter in.
—Kate Douglas Wiggin

I leave you love. Injuries quickly forgotten quickly pass away. Personally and racially our injuries must be forgiven. Our aim must be to create a world of fellowship and justice where no man's color or religion is held against him. "Love thy neighbor" is a precept which could transform the world if it were universally practiced. It connotes brotherhood and to me, brotherhood of man is the noblest concept of all human relationships. Loving your neighbor means interracial, interreligious, and international.
—Mary McLeod Bethune

Do not love your neighbor as yourself. If you are on good terms with yourself, it is an impertinence; if on bad an injury.
—George Bernard Shaw

I have ever hated all nations, professions, and communities, and all my love is toward individuals.... But principally I hate and detest that animal called man; although I heartily love John, Peter, Thomas, and so forth.
—Johnathan Swift

Love is the extra effort we make in our dealings with those whom we do not like.
—Quentin Crisp

He who truly loves another can read his thoughts.
—Phineas Ben Abraham of Korets

Perhaps telepathy will remain a mystery for many more years, but it has always been within the power of a few people in every generation to transmit and receive thoughts. People in love often claim this power. Maybe we are being forced to realize that love is in itself a magical power and that awareness may be instrumental in preventing our own destruction.
—Sybil Leek

An atheist may be simply one whose faith and love are concentrated on the impersonal aspects of God.
—Simone Weil

The devil loves nothing better than the intolerance of reformers.
—James Russell Lowell

I was deeply conscious it [religion] is one of the most delicate subjects in the world, and requires both much wisdom and much love, to extinguish false fire, and yet keep up the true.
—Mary Fletcher

Book Of Love

All thoughts, all passions, all delights,
 Whatever stirs this mortal frame,
All are but ministers of Love,
 And feed his sacred flame.
 —Samuel Taylor Coleridge

...all creatures are flames of love.
 —Caterina Cibo

...he shall straightway step into The Valley of Love and be dissolved in the Fire of Love... and when the Fire of Love is ablaze, it burneth to ashes the harvest of reason.
 —Bahá'u'lláh

He who loves well is consumed in the flames of his love.
 —Michelangelo Buonarroti

Love without attachment is light.
 —Norman O. Brown

Who can blame me if I love,
Since Love before the world did move.
 —Mary Sidney Wroth

Have you ever been at sea in a dense fog, when it seemed as if a tangible white darkness shut you in and the great ship, tense and anxious, groped her way toward the shore with plummet and sounding-line, and you waited with beating heart for something to happen? I was like that ship before my education began, only I was without compass or sounding line, and no way of knowing how near the harbor was. "Light! Give me light!" was the wordless cry of my soul, and the light of love shone on me in that very hour.
 —Helen Keller

Love is a circle, that doth restless move
In the same sweet eternity of love.
 —Robert Herrick

Love the moment and the energy of that moment will spread beyond all boundaries.
 —Corita Kent

Any time that is not spent on love is wasted.
 —Tasso

Love vanquishes time. To lovers, a moment can be eternity, eternity can be the tick of a clock.
 —Mary Parrish

Book Of Love

Gratitude looks to the past and love to the present; fear, avarice, lust, and ambition look ahead.

—C. S. Lewis (Clive Staples)

Love is an attempt to change a piece of a dream world into reality.

—Theodor Reik

Love is space and time made directly perceptible to the heart.

—Marcel Proust

The truth (is) that there is only one terminal dignity — love. And the story of a love is not important what is important is that one is capable of love. It is perhaps the only glimpse we are permitted of eternity.

—Helen Hayes

Love is immortality struggling within a mortal frame.

—A. Victor Murray

Love — is anterior to Life —

Posterior — to Death —

Initial of Creation, and

The Exponent of Earth.

—Emily Dickinson

Though love is all of earth that's dear,

Its home, my children, is not here;

The pathos of eternity

Does in its fullest pleasure sigh.

—Coventry Patmore

To love is to know the sacrifices which eternity exacts from life.

—Pearl Craigie

As a source of reflection, love has no bounds: it is as profound as eternity, as lofty as the heavens, and as vast as the universe.

—Comte Alfred Victor de Vigny

There is no harvest for the heart alone;

The seed of love must be

Eternally

Resown

—Anne Morrow Lindbergh

Eternity is in love with the
productions of time.

—William Blake

Book Of Love

Love is the way, love by which all is brought into existence. By such fervent love we are upheld.

—Luisa Sigea

O, human love! thou spirit given
On Earth, of all we hope in Heaven!

—Edgar Allan Poe

Let Loving-kindness and Mercy
pass through you,
And Truth be the law of your mouth.
For so ye are channels of the divine sea,
Which may not flood the earth,
but only steal in
Through rifts in your souls.

—Zangwill

Every soul speaks the same language. Know that language of love which swells within the human temple.

—Maharaj Ji

Love should be a tree whose roots are deep in the earth, but whose branches extend into heaven.

—Bertrand Russell

Love is the marrow of the bones
of fidelity, the blood in the veins
of piety, the sinew of spiritual
strength...

—Charles H. Spurgeon

Divine love is a sacred flower, which in its early bud is happiness, and in its full bloom is heaven.

—Eleanor Louisa Hervey

The rock of the divine love is deeper down than the human buildings that have been reared upon it.

—Alexander MacLaren

Love is indestructible,
Its holy flame forever burneth;
From heaven it came, to heaven returneth...
It soweth here with toil and care,
But the harvest-time of love is there.

—Robert Southey

Divine Love always has met and always will meet every human need.

—Mary Baker Eddy

Book Of Love

Love is found in the secret of divine unity.
—Zohar

Love cannot be forced, love cannot be coaxed and teased. It comes out of heaven,
unasked and unsought.
—Pearl Sydenstricker Buck

All Nature's sweets in joyous circles move
And wake the frozen soul again to love.
—Anne Yearsley

Lord of heaven, sustain us,
For vain else is all our endeavour,
Be we not drawn by Thy Love
And fainting upheld by Thy spirit.
—Zofia Olesnicka

Creation will appear... as God undertaking to create creators, that He may have,
besides Him self, beings worthy of His love.
—Henri Bergson

In this sublime description of the creation of man, (which is a generic term including man and woman) there is not a particle of difference intimated as existing between them. They were both made in the image of God; dominion was given to both over every other creature, but not over each other. Created in perfect equality, they were expected to exercise the vice-regence entrusted to them by their Maker, in harmony and love.
—Sarah Moore Grimké

And we must dare to affirm that the Creator, by reason of Love, is drawn from his transcendent throne above all things to dwell within the heart of all things, while he yet stays within himself.
—Dionysius the Areopagite

Honour to Woman kind! It needs must be
That God loves Woman, since He fashioned Thee.
—Christine de Pisan

...Meditation has come to be called "the Mother of Love."
—Richardson Wright

The goal of meditation is nothing but living constantly in the supreme love for God.
—Gurumayi Chidvilasananda

The best way to know God is to love many things.
—Vincent van Gogh

Book Of Love

...we are commanded to love God with *all our minds*, as well as with our hearts, and we commit a great sin if we *forbid or prevent* that cultivation of the mind in others which would enable them to perform this duty.

—Jeanne-Françoise Deroin

He who loves brings God and World together.

—Martin Buber

...God will love thee,
More for worship of our lord
Than for pride of the world.

—A Northern Mother

Two sentiments alone suffice for man were he to live in the age of rocks — love, and the contemplation of the Deity.

—Isaac Watts

He whom God loves, hears, but he whom God hates, hears not. It is the heart that makes the owner into one that hears or one who hears not. His heart is a man's fortune.

—Ptahhotep

I am so washed in the tide of His measureless love that I seem to be below the surface of a sea and cannot touch or see or feel anything around me except its water.

—Catherine of Genoa

Love is the voice of God. Love is the rule of heaven!

—Aguilar

Nay, brothers of the sod,
What part hast thou in God?
What spirit art thou of?
It answers, "Love."

—Katherine Lee Bates

God, from a beautiful necessity, is Love.

—Martin Farquhar Tupper

By this thy glorious lineage thou dost prove
Thy high descent; for GOD himself is Love

—Elizabeth Rowe

It is always spring time in the heart that loves God.

—Jean-Marie Vianney

There is no surprise more magical than the surprise of being loved: it is God's finger on man's shoulder.

—Charles Morgan

Book Of Love

By aspiring to a similitude of God in goodness, or love, neither man nor angel ever transgressed, or shall transgress.

—Francis Bacon

I bit the core of pain, to find
this world's true sweetness on my lips,
the virtuoso senses priced
at nothing, in one vast eclipse.
A moving fingertip sufficed
to draw love's orbit through the mind.

—Gwendoline Nessie Harwood

If we had the love of God printed in our hearts, it would keep us back from running astray.

—Catherine Parr

Man's love of God is identical with his knowledge of Him.

—Maimonides

God loves all men, but is enchanted by none.

—Isaac Asimov

God's love elevates us without inflating us, and humbles us without degrading us.

—B. M. Nottage

As the love of God is man's highest happiness and blessedness, and the ultimate end and aim of all human actions, it follows that he alone lives by the divine law who loves God not from fear of punishment, or from love of any other object, ... but solely because he has knowledge of God.

—Baruch Spinoza

God is not a hypothesis formulated to unify the human concepts of truth, beauty, and goodness; he is the personality of love from whom all of these universe manifestations are derived.

—Urantia Book

This book began with love, and with love it shall end; for there is not anything as wise, as holy, as beautiful, as strong, or as perfect as love.

—Mechtild von Magdeburg

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

—Jesus Christ

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