



Poetry • food of love • inspiration • gifts • quotes



# The Romance Book



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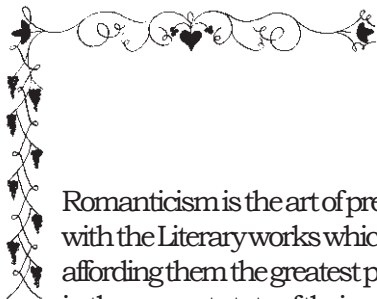
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Romanticism is the art of presenting people with the Literary works which are capable of affording them the greatest possible pleasure, in the present state of their customs and beliefs.

**Henri Beyle called Stendhal**



# Romantic Verse





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 every day's  
Most quiet need, by sun and candlelight.  
I love thee freely, as men strive for Right;  
I love thee purely, as they turn from praise;  
I love thee with 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 breadth,  
Smiles, tears, of all my life! - and, if God choose,  
I shall love thee better after death.

**Elizabeth Barrett Browning**





If ever two were one, then surely we.  
If ever man were lov'd by wife, then thee;  
If ever wife was happy in a man,  
Compare with me ye women if you can.  
I prize thy love more than whole mines of Gold,  
Or all the riches that the east doth hold.  
My love is such that rivers cannot quench,  
Nor ought but love from thee, give recompense.  
Thy love is such I can no way repay,  
The heavens reward thee manifold repay.  
Then while we live, in love let's so persevere,  
That when we live no more, we may live ever.

**Ann Bradstreet**





She walks in beauty, like the night  
Of cloudless climes and starry skies,  
And all that's best of dark and bright  
Meet in her aspect and her eyes;  
Thus mellow'd to that tender light  
Which heaven and gaudy day denies.

**Lord Byron**





Though weary, love is not tired;  
Though pressed, it is not straitened;  
Though alarmed, it is not confounded,  
Love securely passes through all.

**Thomas A. Kempis**





All love, at first, like generous wine,  
Ferments and frets until 'tis fine,  
But, when 'tis settled on the lee,  
And from th'impurer matter free,  
Becomes the richer still the older,  
And proves the pleasanter the colder.

**Samuel Butler**





Deare, when I from thee am gone,  
Gone are all my joyes at once;  
I loved thee, and thee alone,  
In whose love I joyed once.  
And although your sights I leave,  
Sight wherein my joyes do lie,  
Till that death do sense bereave,  
Never shall affection die.

**John Dowland**





Through all Eternity to thee  
A joyful song I'll raise,  
For oh! Eternity's too short  
To utter all thy Praise.

**Joseph Addison**





Never so happily in one  
Did heaven and earth combine;  
And yet 'tis flesh and blood alone  
That makes her so divine.

**Thomas D'Urfey**





O, my luv'e's like a red red rose  
That's newly sprung in June:  
O my luv'e's like a melodie  
That's sweetly played in tune.

**Robert Burns**





I love thee, I love thee,  
'Tis all that I can say,  
It is my vision in the night,  
My dreaming in the day.

**Thomas Hood**





What's in a name? that which we call a rose  
By any other name would smell as sweet;  
So Romeo would, were he not Romeo called.

**William Shakespeare**

