*How Do I Love Thee? (Sonnet 43)* Elizabeth Barrett Browning 1806-1861

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 feel / ing out / of sight
For the ends of being and ideal grace.
I love / thee to / the le/ vel of / every day's
Most quiet need, by sun and candle-light.
I love /. thee free. / ly, as / men strive /. for right.
I love /. thee pure. /. ly, as /. they turn /. from praise.
I love thee with the passion put to use
In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.
I love thee with a love I seemed to lose
With my lost saints. I love thee with the breath,
Smiles, tears, of all my life; and, if God choose,
I shall but love thee better after death.