

How Do I Love Thee – A Poem by a Patent Attorney

INSPIRED BY A POEM BY ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING

Steven Michelson

*How do I love thee?
Let me count the plurality of methods.
What is claimed is the ability to love thee,
Wherein one method of loving thee includes to the depth and breadth and height
my soul can reach;
 Wherein said first method further includes the step of feeling
 out of sight;
 Wherein said first method further includes to the ends of Being
 and ideal Grace.
Wherein via a second method of loving thee, I do so to the level of every day's
most quiet need, by sun and candlelight.
Wherein a third method of loving thee includes the step of loving thee freely;
 Wherein said third method further includes the step of men
 striving for Right.
Wherein a fourth method of loving thee includes the step of loving thee purely;
 Wherein said fourth method further includes the step of turning
 from Praise.
Wherein a fifth method of loving thee includes the step of loving thee
with the passion put to use in my old griefs;*

Steven Michelson is an engineer and playwright who holds six United States patents. Copyright 2004 Steven Michelson.

*Wherein said fifth method further includes the step of
loving thee with my childhood's faith.*

*Wherein a sixth method of loving thee includes the step of loving thee
with a love I seemed to lose.*

*Wherein a seventh method of loving thee includes the step of loving thee
with breath, smiles, tears;*

*Wherein said breath smiles, and tears shall consist of the breath, smiles, and
tears, of all my life!*

*Wherein said seventh method further includes the step of
loving thee with my lost saints.*

*Wherein an eighth method of loving thee includes the step of loving thee better
after death;*

*Wherein said eighth method further includes the step of God
choosing whether I shall love thee better after death.*

*Wherein, the aforementioned methods notwithstanding, other methods of loving
thee are not precluded, including methods not specifically mentioned but obvious
to those skilled in the art of loving.*

