

Title your paper—EBB Sonnet #43. Please put your name, date, and period on the paper. Answer each question in complete sentence(s). One-word answers will not receive points.

How do I love thee...(SONNET #43) - By Elizabeth Barrett Browning

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.

5 I love thee to the level of everyday's

Most quiet need, by sun and candle-light.

I love thee freely, as men strive for Right;

I love thee purely, as they turn from Praise.

I love thee with the passion put to use

10 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.

Poem Analysis

Literal Meaning

1. After you read the poem, what does the literal meaning seem to be? What is happening in the poem?

Imagery

2-4. Pick out three uses of sensory details/imagery and write them below (this will most likely be a phrase or line from the poem), then explain what the poet is trying to convey with this image. (One sentence should be the line or detail. The other sentence should be the explanation. You CAN use bullets but need complete sentences.)

Figurative Language

5-9. Find at least five examples of figurative language devices (this will most likely be a phrase or line from the poem), identify it, and explain what they mean. You are looking for terms like: simile, metaphor, allusion, symbolism, personification, etc. (Say what the device is. Copy the line—or reference the line number. Explain what is meant.)

Theme

10. What do you think is the message of this poem? Why do you think this is the message? Give at least two reasons from the poem—these should be answers you've already written above.

11. Did you like this poem? Why/Why not?