



How Do I Love Thee

By Lurlene McDaniel

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Though written more than a century ago, Elizabeth Barrett Browning's beautiful sonnet rings true today for three young couples who believe in the power of love.

In "Night Vision," Brett finds a way to brighten a special girl's lonely existence. "Bobby's Girl" features Dana, who must choose between two brothers, both of whom she loves. "Laura's Heart," the third story, introduces 16-year-old Laura Carson, who is hospitalized on a regular basis because of her weak heart. But when tragedy strikes a loved one, she realizes her heart is stronger than she thought and that love lives on forever.

From the Hardcover edition.

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How Do I Love Thee By Lurlene McDaniel Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 6-9-The tone of these three love stories is set with a quotation from the Song of Solomon describing the strength of love in life, and in death; this is further accentuated in the prologue that contains Elizabeth Barrett Browning's "How Do I Love Thee" to explain the effects of unconditional love. In the first selection, high school senior Brett, a leukemia survivor, meets Shayla, who has a sun allergy. They fall in love, and the drama peaks when her skin becomes badly burned after she falls asleep in a boat and she dies. In "Bobby's Girl," Dana is dating Bobby but once had a secret fling with his brother, who has terminal brain cancer, and he wants her back. In "Laura's Heart," a high school junior hospitalized because of heart damage falls for the night intern, and, in spite of parental objections, they see one another. In a melodramatic turn, he is shot and killed, but his heart is salvageable. An element of love poetry is worked into each story. Characters are highly sensitive and emotional, and have intense personalities. Moods range from complete happiness to total devastation. There's a level of realism here; but there is also a strong dose of drama, which will attract established fans of this author. This short-story format will give new readers a taste of McDaniel's style.

Elizabeth Maggio, Palos Verdes Library District, Rolling Hills Estates, CA

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 6-10. Readers already know how these sad McDaniel tales will end, but they'll take the journey anyway. The three love stories in this small book are all about critical illness. Brett falls in love with a mysterious girl who has a rare, life-threatening condition. In another story, star football player and hometown hero Steve develops terrible headaches and blurred vision. His younger brother, always overshadowed, finally meets the girl of his dreams, Dana, who, it turns out, is a former girlfriend and lost love of the older boy. Dana's heart breaks for both brothers as she tries to play the role of dutiful girlfriend and comforter. The third story is about Laura, who's in the hospital for a heart transplant. She falls in love with a young orderly, who is trying to escape his former gang cronies but may not make it. The brave victims and the tenderhearted survivors all meet their fates transformed by love. McDaniel fans will want this. *Anne O'Malley*

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Review

"McDaniel fans will want this."—*Booklist*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Stephen Stover:

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Let's examine.

Lewis Dall:

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