



# American Inspiration

**Happy Valentine's Day** to all of you! I hope that you are planning a special evening with someone you love. For many of you, you are in the depths of cold weather so snuggle up and stay warm!

Here are some thoughts for today:

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"Love is a rock against the wind." Etheridge Knight (1931-1991) poet  
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"You cannot expect to win unless you know why you lose." Benjamin Lipson, consumer advocate and writer  
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"The only thing worse than a revolving door is a closed door." Frank W. Hale, Jr. educator  
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"What one heart finds hard to believe, a hundred find easy." Nancy Willard, *Things Invisible to See*  
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Here is a **safety idea** that was sent to me by a friend. A way to feel secure without spending more money! As a single Mom, you can bet I hear "noises" and now I feel better about living in an old house that doesn't have a security system. Put your car keys beside your bed at night. If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies.

I was looking through my books to find a **passage on love** and came across this fun one that is comments from children about love. It really puts things in perspective. I had a few chuckles but also enjoyed the simplicity of knowing how a child views love. I hope you enjoy them as much as I did today.

Have a wonderful week, and, as always, please *keep in touch!*

*Sincerely,*

*Joyce E. Pennington, Pres. CEO*

*American Dance/Drill Team®*

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## **In a survey of 4 to 8 year olds, kids shared their views on love:**

Love is that first feeling you feel before all the bad stuff gets in the way.

When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love.

When someone loves you, the way she says your name is different. You know that your name is safe in her mouth.

If life is an 'A,' love is the whole alphabet.

Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other.

Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs.

Love is what makes you smile when you're tired.

Love is when my Mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK.

Love is when you kiss all the time. Then when you get tired of kissing, you still want to be together and you talk more. My mommy and daddy are like that. They look gross when they kiss but they look happy, and sometimes they dance in the kitchen while they're kissing.

Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents for a minute and look around.

Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it everyday.

Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they've known each other so well.

During my piano recital, I was on a stage and scared. I looked at the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that. I wasn't scared anymore.

My mommy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night.

Love is when mommy gives daddy the best piece of chicken.

Don't feel so bad if you don't have a boyfriend. There's lots of stuff you can do without one.

Love is when mommy sees daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford.

Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day.

Love goes on even when you stop breathing and you pick up where you left off when you reach Heaven.

I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones.

You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot.

When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you.

Love makes you sweat a lot.

You never have to be lonely. There's always somebody to love, even if it's just a squirrel or a kitten.

You can break love, but it won't die.