## The Marriage Of Elizabeth Barrett And Robert Browning: A Love Story For The Ages

The marriage of Elizabeth Barrett and Robert Browning is one of the most celebrated and enduring love stories in English literature. Their courtship was unconventional, their marriage was passionate, and their life together was filled with both joy and sorrow.



Dared And Done: The Marriage of Elizabeth Barrett and

Robert Browning by Julia Markus

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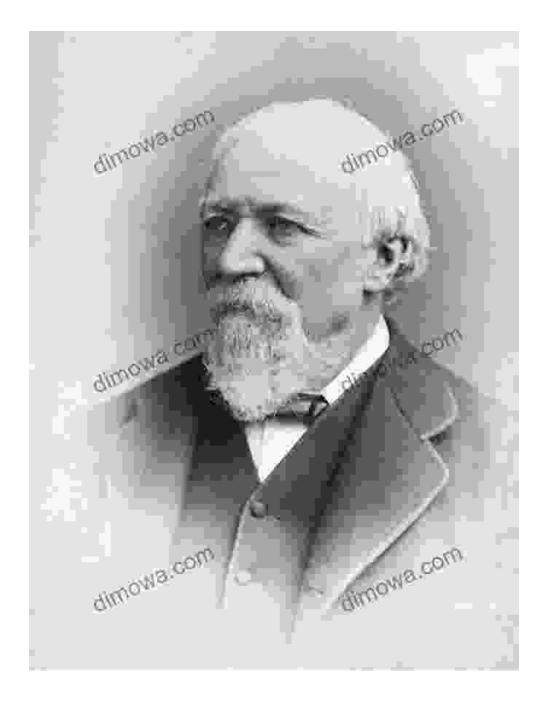
#### **Elizabeth Barrett: A Talented Poet**

Elizabeth Barrett was born in 1806 to a wealthy family in Coxhoe Hall, County Durham, England. She was a precocious child, and she began writing poetry at a young age. Her first collection of poems, *The Seraphim, and Other Poems*, was published in 1838. Barrett's poetry was praised for its beauty, passion, and originality.



#### **Robert Browning: A Rising Star**

Robert Browning was born in 1812 to a middle-class family in Camberwell, London, England. He was a gifted poet, playwright, and dramatist. His first play, *Strafford*, was produced in 1837. Browning's poetry was praised for its intelligence, wit, and dramatic intensity.



Robert Browning was a brilliant poet and playwright who became one of the most important literary figures of the Victorian era.

#### **Courtship and Marriage**

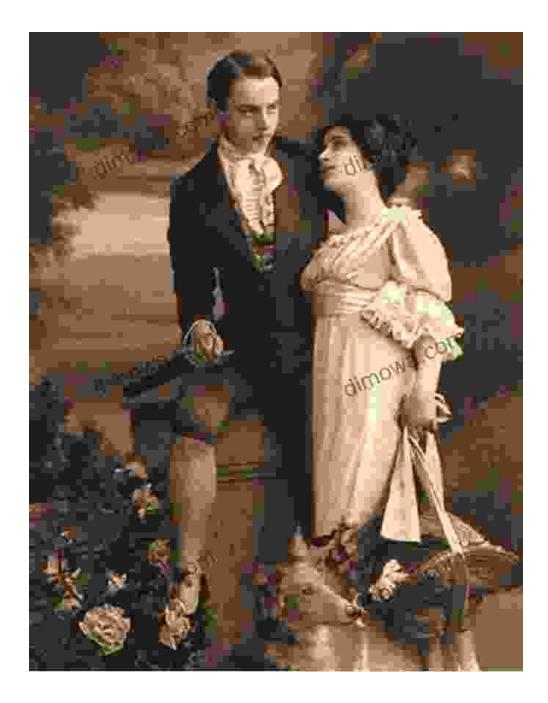
Barrett and Browning met in 1845 at a literary gathering. They were immediately drawn to each other, and they began corresponding regularly.

Their courtship was unconventional, as Barrett was an invalid and spent most of her time confined to her room. However, their love for each other grew stronger over time.

In 1846, Barrett and Browning were secretly married. Barrett's father was furious, and he disowned her. However, Barrett and Browning were determined to be together. They left England and settled in Italy, where they spent the rest of their lives together.

#### Life in Italy

Barrett and Browning's life in Italy was happy and productive. They wrote some of their most famous works during this time, including Barrett's *Sonnets from the Portuguese* and Browning's *Men and Women*. They also had a son, Robert Wiedeman Barrett Browning, known as Pen.



#### **Challenges and Triumphs**

Barrett and Browning's marriage was not without its challenges. Barrett was an invalid, and she suffered from chronic pain and ill health. Browning was often away from home on lecture tours, and Barrett had to cope with loneliness and anxiety. However, their love for each other remained strong, and they supported each other through all of their trials and tribulations. In 1861, Barrett died in Florence, Italy. Browning was devastated by her death, but he continued to write poetry and honor her memory. Browning died in Venice, Italy, in 1889. He was buried next to Barrett in the Protestant Cemetery in Florence.

#### Legacy

The marriage of Elizabeth Barrett and Robert Browning is a testament to the power of love. They overcame many challenges to be together, and their love for each other endured until the end of their days. Their poetry is a celebration of love, passion, and the human spirit.



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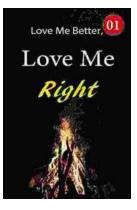
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