

# The Prairie Light Review

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Volume 38 | Number 1

Article 41

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Fall 12-2015

## What Love is Not

Kassandra Galang  
*College of DuPage*

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### Recommended Citation

Galang, Kassandra (2015) "What Love is Not," *The Prairie Light Review*: Vol. 38: No. 1, Article 41.  
Available at: <http://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol38/iss1/41>

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## What Love is Not

Love is like a rose –  
 or so they say,  
 with its soft velvet petals,  
 whispering promises of comfort  
 within its silky hold.  
 But that is all they are –  
 promises.

Love is like a rose  
 with its sweet aroma  
 enticing you,  
 tempting you,  
 drawing you,  
 towards its beauty  
 like a bear towards honey.  
 And like a bee's sting,  
 the rose's thorns prick you  
 and stun you.  
 You pull back as fast as you can,  
 but it's too late.  
 The damage is done,  
 and a dull ache remains.

Love is like a rose  
 with its blood red petals  
 full of Love.  
 Red like Anger,  
 Red like Pain.

If this is truly Love,  
 then Love must be a weed,  
 harming others for selfish gain.

This cannot be Love.  
 For Love is Patient and Kind.  
 Love does not tempt you  
 towards danger,  
 but holds you in its arms  
 shielding you from any harm.

Love is gentle in every way,  
 whether with words  
 or fleeting touches.  
 Love does not make promises.  
 Love makes declarations.

Here I stand before the world and ask,  
 "Why should Love  
 be like a rose  
 when a rose is everything  
 Love is not?"