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## Love at Any Age

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## This I Believe

By: Alexandra Kaliff

I BELIEVE IN TRUE LOVE AT ANY AGE. I know it may sound cliché, but I have experienced and witnessed relationships that could go up against the most compassionate love stories. When I was thirteen I met Henry. He seemed like the typical sixteen year old boy who was interested in girls, but in a more sexual than romantic way. We were in the same math class and although I had a crush on him it was no sort of love or real emotional connection. The next few years went on and something changed completely. Henry and I began dating and developed a relationship that seemed impossible. I was comfortable around him like no one else and he had the same level of comfort with me. This year he was at my father's birthday party with my entire extended family; he was amazing to say the least and I realized he could only be this way if he truly loved me. To put it point blank, my family is completely crazy and one has to be very tolerant or just as crazy as they are to deal with them. Through out the whole weekend Henry was socializing with everyone, being charming and not getting fed up once. I later asked him how he did it, and his only response was because I love you. At this moment I knew it was true; you don't know if someone really loves you in the fun and good times, but you know in the times when they suffer for you or put up with situations you know they aren't enjoying. They do it because it is all worth it in the end. The frustration seems like a small price to pay for something so amazing.

In addition to my own experience, witnessing my grandparent's relationship over my eighteen and a half years of life I have learned to admire them. After fifty-five years of being married, they love each other more then ever. My grandmother once told me that even when she hates my grandfather, she loves him more and more everyday. I can't even fathom their relationship because fifty-five years is more than double my lifetime, but just the way they act and feel, even at their age, shows me that you can truly love at any age.