

Advice to Parents

When children try your soul, as they will,
When they cause you grief, as they do,
When they rouse your anger and provoke you to
wrath, as is their way,
When they reduce you to tears and prayers, as
often happens,
Love them.

Don't bother about anything at all
until you have first made clear to yourself
that your love for the child in question
is holding firmly,
swelling warmly in your heart.

Then, whatever you do will be as nearly right
as it is possible for human judgment to be.

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