

# The Illusion of Love

by [Boyd Cathey](#) (October 2018)



*At the Lapin Agile*, Pablo Picasso, 1905

**She was mine from the** very first,  
Or, so I thought in my proud mind's eye,  
Awakening in my loins unslakened thirst  
Of desire and longing, and muted sigh.

But her one and twenty years  
And my forty and five, thus doubled,  
Spelled for me severest tears

And untold trouble.

Oh! What I desired from her  
She would not deign,  
And what she desired of me, alas,  
Was just my brain.

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