

Symposium.

Phaedrus. — Love is a mighty god.

The principle which ought to be the guide of men who would nobly live — of that principle, I say, neither kindred, nor honour nor wealth, nor any other motive is able to implant so well as love.

Pausanias. — Love should not be praised in such an unqualified manner as Phaedrus. For there are more than one love in the world.

The love of youth and the practice of philosophy and virtue in general ought to meet in one and then the beloved may honourably indulge the lover.

Eryximachus. — Love is universal.

Aristophanes — Lovers cannot be out of sight of each other even for a moment. yet they do not know what they want. The reason is that human nature was originally one and we were a whole, and the desire and pursuit of the whole is called love.

Agathon — Love is soft, just, temperate, brave, wise

Socrates. — Diotimos' Love: He is a great spirit, is intermediate between the divine and the mortal. He interprets between gods and men. Love is the everlasting possession of the good.

Love is not only the love of the beautiful but the love of generation & of birth in beauty, because to the mortal, generation is a sort of eternity & immortality.

The beauty of one form is akin to the beauty of another. Therefore one should adore the violet & love of the one & become a lover of all beautiful forms.

He must contemplate the vast sea of beauty & create many fair & noble thoughts & notions, in boundless love of wisdom, at last the vision is revealed to him of a single science, which is the science of beauty everywhere.

A nature of wonderful beauty which is everlasting, not growing & decaying, or waxing & waning.