

My Guy and My Girl

A Villanelle

by [Cristina Nehring](#) (March 2025)



Woman at the Window (Gustave Caillebotte, 1880)

My dearest love, don't let me know
We've spent two decades beating round the bush:
We're doomed to distance, that I know.

We have a child, an angel, you must grasp
She's tethered to you, darling,
She loves you fast, however far we go.

Her name's Eurydice and she loves you plain
She shrieks your name nine times a day
We're doomed to distance, that I know.

She yells in joy; she yells in tears
She smiles her Macdonald smile
And begs for you to stay a while.

I love you too, my priceless heart,
I would we were joined closely at the lips
We're doomed to distance that I know.
She loves you fast however far we go.

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Cristina Nehring's most recent book is *The Child Who Never Spoke: 23 1/2 Lessons in Fragility*. She is also the author of *A Vindication of Love* which made the front page of the *New York Times Book Review* as well as two books in French. She writes for *Atlantic*, *Harper's*, the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*. She lives in Paris with her daughter. See more at www.cristinanehring.net.

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