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MUSIC AND LOVE

May I be frank with you? I do not yet understand current music trends. After a week of Isaac Hayes, Woodstock and Wes' djembe, we decided to watch the Grammy's. For the most part my nerves were rattled. It sounded like noise, not music. This may be the age of angry music. As I shared with our beloved friends, the beautiful duo of Aurah, when I hear their music I can BREATHE! Music is a challenge, and a channel for every emotion ever felt by humans.

From the Spiritualist Manual, “Harmony, or the Music of the Spheres, as it is sometimes called is the direct result of Spirit in definite harmonious action. The planes of action seem to be arranged and expressed, much as the octaves on the musical key board...All of these octaves melt and blend in perfect harmony for the individual who is in a high mental and spiritual attitude and condition. He is then “At One” with them all and grows conscious of each and it is then that he realizes that “All This Boundless Universe Is Life”...

As Spring approaches, we now have a new flock of little finches that may have flown all the way from Brazil. They are so tiny that they slide down the side of the fountain from the force of the water. However, they persist, and with the sweetest songs.

Do you ever want to resolve the noises in your life? Then what is the music in your life?

Then came Valentine's Day, too often a once-a-year obligation created by corporations. Did you know that the day was named for an early Christian martyr – St. Valentine, and established by a pope in 496 AD, then deleted from the Roman calendar of saints in 1969 by another pope? They cannot seem to make up their minds, especially about love.

Nor could the Greeks. Their definitions ranged from the sensual or erotic, named after their god of sensuality, Eros, to narcissistic love, to what was supposed to be the highest kind called Agape Love, meaning Divine or Spiritual. It is reported that an Ascended Master once said that there are at least seven or eight different kinds of love, and that there are degrees of each of the categories of love. In fact, love can be categorized into thousands of levels.

Most approach altruistic love with restrictions, different than the teaching through Jesus, “Love thy neighbor as thyself.” Some say they love the world, but find it challenging to be loving to those closest around. How do you speak about others in your life? Would you say to them what you say about them? There is no power, no knowledge, no energy in our possession greater than the force of Love. Love is the foundation of all personal creation. A writing that most depicts the reality of Love, the highs and perceived lows, which are opportunities yet to be resolved, was beautifully penned by Kahlil Gibran:

When love beckons to you, follow him,
Though his ways are hard and steep.
And when his wings enfold you yield to him,
Though the sword hidden among his pinions may wound you.
And when he speaks to you believe in him,
Though his voice may shatter you dreams as the north wind lays waste the garden.
For even as love crowns you so shall he crucify you.
Even as he is for your growth so is he for your pruning.
Even as he ascends to your height and caresses your tenderest branches that quiver in the sun,
So shall he descend to your roots and shake them in their clinging to the earth.
Like sheaves of corn he gathers you unto himself.
He threshes you to make you naked.
He sifts you to free you from your husks.
He grinds you to whiteness.
He kneads you until you are pliant;
And then he assigns you to his sacred fire, that you may become sacred bread for God's sacred feast.
All these things shall love do unto you that you may know the secrets of your heart, and in that knowledge
become a fragment of Life's heart.
But if in your fear you would seek only love's peace and love's pleasure,
Then it is better for you that you cover your nakedness and pass out of love's threshing-floor,
Into the seasonless world where you shall laugh, but not all of your laughter, and weep, but not all of your
tears.
Love gives naught but itself and takes naught but from itself.
Love possesses not nor would it be possessed;
For love is sufficient unto love.
When you love you should not say, "God is in my heart," but rather, "I am in the heart of God."
And think not you can direct the course of love, for love, if it finds you worthy, directs your course.
Love has no other desire but to fulfill itself.
But if you love and must needs have desires, let these be your desires:
To melt and be like a running brook that sings its melody to the night.
To know the pain of too much tenderness.
To be wounded by your own understanding of love;
And to bleed willingly and joyfully.
To wake at dawn with a winged heart and give thanks for another day of loving;
To rest at the noon hour and meditate love's ecstasy;
To return home at eventide with gratitude;
And then to sleep with a prayer for the beloved in your heart and a song of praise upon your lips.

May each day be filled with the love and respect of all others, especially those close around you, and
yourself.

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