

The Solace of Fierce Landscapes: Exploring Desert and Mountain Spirituality #5

A Time for Prayer and Solace

Wednesday, October 27, 2021

Thomas Merton: The Power of Acting while Expecting Nothing

Love is not itself until it is frail and can go wrong.

It does not run like a well-oiled machine...

Love runs best when it seems to break down..."

Overview of the Index

Part I - Purgation-Emptiness in a Geography of Abandonment

Part II - Illumination-Waiting in a Silence Beyond Language

Part III – Union-Love As the Fruit of Indifference

Reflections on Belden Lanes journey with his mother

Page 25 "...the pain of closing is antecedent to every new opening in our lives."

Page 88 "...The place was desolate and gaunt but offered a long view and adequate time for reflection. In retrospect, they may have been some of the gentlest and most healing years of her life."

Page 91 "...After the desert of purgation, the ascent of the mountain symbolizes for the illuminative way the acquisition of a deeper knowledge of God's mysteries."

John Donne's A Valediction Forbidding Mourning

"As virtuous souls pass slowly to their graves

and whisper to their souls to go..."

Scott Peck's **Bed by the Window**