

²¹ Peter came up and asked Jesus, “When a sister or brother wrongs me, how many times must i forgive? Seven times?” ²² “No,” Jesus replied, “not seven times; i tell you seventy times seven. ²³ And here’s why. “The kingdom of heaven is like a ruler who decided to settle accounts with the royal officials. ²⁴ When the audit was begun, one was brought in who owed tens of millions of dollars. ²⁵ As the debtor had no way of paying, the ruler ordered this official to be sold, along with family and property, in payment of the debt. ²⁶ “At this, the official bowed down in homage and said, ‘I beg you, your highness, be patient with me and I will pay you back in full!’ ²⁷ Moved with pity, the ruler let the official go and wrote off the debt. ²⁸ “Then that same official went out and met a colleague who owed the official twenty dollars. The official seized and throttled this debtor with the demand, ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ ²⁹ “The debtor dropped to the ground and began to plead, ‘Just give me time and I will pay you back in full!’ ³⁰ But the official would hear none of it, and instead had the colleague put in debtor’s prison until the money was paid. ³¹ “When the other officials saw what had happened, they were deeply grieved and went to the ruler, reporting the entire incident. ³² The ruler sent for the official and said, ‘You worthless wretch! i cancelled your entire debt when you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have dealt mercifully with your colleague, as I dealt with you?’ ³⁴ Then in anger, the ruler handed the official over to be tortured until the debt had been paid in full.

Ray's Notes/Handout

11/01/2022

House-Sitting for God

In this Chapter, Boyle addresses a difficult question for dogmatic leaders in conservative faith traditions. "Science and Jesus".

Simple answer: WWJD

Indoctrination by subjugation. P. 129

The compassionate heart of Jesus was about healing. (p. 129)

Inclusion first, then healing.

Above all, the gospel doesn't have a sexual ethic, it only has an ethic of love that longs to include and foster belonging.

True followers of Jesus aren't under siege but under the power of understanding love. P 131

Quotes in Chapter Seven

Rilke: p. 156

“Love and death are the great gifts that are given to us; mostly they are passed on unopened.

<https://www.theparisreview.org/blog/2018/09/06/rainer-maria-rilkes-letters-on-grief/>

From “The Farewell” from The Prophet Kahlil Gibran

<https://poets.org/poem/farewell-2>

But you do not see, nor do you hear, and it is well.
The veil that clouds your eyes shall be lifted by the hands that wove it,
And the clay that fills your ears shall be pierced
by those fingers that kneaded it.
And you shall see
And you shall hear.
Yet you shall not deplore having known blindness, nor regret having been
deaf.
For in that day you shall know the hidden purposes in all things,
And you shall bless darkness as you would bless light.

Kafka p. 158

“The meaning of life is that it ends.”

<https://ceforward.com/2019/09/the-meaning-of-life-is-that-it-ends/#:~:text=The%20quote%20does%20not%20appear,became%20famous%20after%20he%20died.>

Pedro Arrupe, S.J. p.158
“on the last Amen of my life.”

<https://www.artisticdailyprayers.org/pedro-arrupe-sj.html>

Mary Oliver p.161
“This is the first, the wildest, and the wisest thing I know...that the soul exists, and that it is built entirely out of attentiveness.”

<https://ravjill.com/a-hidden-wholeness/>

Czylaw Milosz p. 164

“When I die, I will see the lining of the world. The other side, beyond bird, mountain, sunset.”

<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/524>

As Sufis say, “Life is a dream and death is waking up.” P. 167

Sufism is a [mystic](#) body of religious practice, found mainly within [Sunni Islam](#) but also within [Shia Islam](#) which is characterized by a focus on Islamic [spirituality](#), [ritualism](#), [asceticism](#) and [esotericism](#).

Practitioners of Sufism are referred to as “Sufis”.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sufism>

David Whyte P. 160

“To remember the other world in this world is to live in your true inheritance.”

“What to remember when waking”

In that first hardly noticed moment in which you wake,
coming back to this life from the other
more secret, moveable and frighteningly honest world
where everything began,
there is a small opening into the new day
which closes the moment you begin your plans.

What you can plan is too small for you to live.
What you can live wholeheartedly will make plans enough
for the vitality hidden in your sleep.

To be human is to become visible
while carrying what is hidden as a gift to others.
To remember the other world in this world
is to live in your true inheritance.

You are not a troubled guest on this earth,
you are not an accident amidst other accidents
you were invited from another and greater night
than the one from which you have just emerged.

Now, looking through the slanting light of the morning window
toward the mountain presence of everything that can be
what urgency calls you to your one love?
What shape waits in the seed of you
to grow and spread its branches
against a future sky?

Is it waiting in the fertile sea?
In the trees beyond the house?
In the life you can imagine for yourself?
In the open and lovely white page on the writing desk?

Reviews

Pessimism? No, you won't find that here.

I am not a religious person, but I am a spiritual, hopeful one. Boyle's glass-is-half-full approach to a loving higher power lifts me up when I'm most in need of a boost. It helps me to better understand humanity, find empathy and embody grace. His stories of sworn enemies achieving commonality and friendship make me laugh and bring me to tears.

From a fellow Tenderoni, I can't find the words to describe this. This is theology at its finest. It's humbling, human love.

Boyle has worked for decades among gang members in Los Angeles, so his stories on the surface are of lives very different than mine. He writes about tattoo removals and young men shot in the stomach and women in a fistfight and poverty and addiction and despair. But I relate to every one of these stories because Boyle's book is also just story after story about God's love for people who are scared to believe that we are lovable. Over and over again, Boyle insists that God loves us as we are, comes to us as we are, heals us, and returns us to wholeness with delight in who we are.

I don't know of another author who so masterfully flies beneath my defenses and makes my heart sing, weep, and soften. Like a brilliant comedian whose joke is not about the joke but about the thing beneath the joke, Boyle's masterful storytelling catches me off guard — the best place to pull me into the WHAT of life and not just the HOW. Where I can see the garden again and not just analyze it. The field where the soul lies down to rest, so to speak, in tenderness.
