

February 25, 2025

Daily Reflections



MENAGERIE

By Julie Mussché

A Quote

"I believe in the essential unity of all people and for that matter, of all that lives. Therefore, I believe that if one person gains spiritually, the whole world gains, and if one person falls, the whole world falls to that extent."

MAHATMA GANDHI

Reflection

Every morning while making the bed I assemble a collection of stuffed animals. They are properly placed as the daytime guardians of the bedroom. It is noteworthy that the animals they represent in the natural world do not get along very well. Bunnies, kitties, and bears compete for territory and, in some cases, may have a predator-prey relationship. In the ideal of my universe, the stuffed critters all get along as they stand sentry throughout the day. Positioning changes regularly; there is no set place for one or another in their

respective galaxy, no one is in charge or in control. They are equals, regardless of size, color, or species.

In my imaginary world, all get along regardless of background. This speaks to my heart's desire for unity and peaceful co-existence. Could it be so simple as arranging stuffed animals? This is my gentle reflection of hope. Have you noticed how the rancor and disrespectful talk has escalated on social and other media? There is a toxicity that seems to be spilling over into all aspects of life. It is so easy to get caught up in the ooze.

In spiritual direction, we often ask, "Where or how is God present?" in a particular circumstance. In times of discord, it may be more of a challenge to find the Sacred in such moments of chaos. Yet God continues to persevere, and is on call, the true Guardian of the Galaxy. The invitation: be on the lookout for the Divine in all things.



Collection of Stuffed Animals
Photo by Julie Mussché

For Pondering

- Where do you find God in the simple things in life?

- How are you challenged spiritually by the shifting sands of our times?
 - When has the Spirit surprised you with inspiration recently?
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For Prayer

*I lift up my eyes to the mountains—
where does my help come from?
My help comes from the LORD,
the Maker of heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot slip—
he who watches over you will not slumber;
indeed, he who watches over Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.*

*The LORD watches over you—
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;
the sun will not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night.
The LORD will keep you from all harm—
he will watch over your life;
the LORD will watch over your coming and going
both now and forevermore.*

PSALM 121: 1-8

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