Embracing Our Own Light

from Marianne Williamson (1992) A Return to Love: Reflections on a Course of Miracles

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate, Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure

It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, and fabulous?

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Actually, who are you not to be?
You are a child of God.
Your playing small doesn't change the world.
There is nothing enlightened about shrinking
So that other people won't feel insecure around you.

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We are born to make manifest the glory
Of God that is within us.
It's not just in some of us. It's in everyone.

(38)

And as we let our own light shine,
We unconsciously give other people
Permission to do the same.
As we are liberated from our own fear
Our presence automatically liberates others.

(38)