

The Immortal Diamond

Then it was as if suddenly I saw the secret beauty of their hearts, the depth of the heart where neither sin nor desire nor self-knowledge can reach, the centre of their reality, the person that each of us is in the eyes of God.

If only we could see each other in this way always. We then wouldn't have any more wars or cruelty or avarice... I suppose the great problem then would be that we would fall on our knees and adore each other. But this cannot be SEEN. It can only be believed and 'understood' by a special grace.

In the centre of our being there is a point of nothing (nada) that has not been touched by sin or illusion, a point of pure truth, a point or spark that belongs entirely to God, which is never at our disposition, from where God disposes of our lives, that is inaccessible to the illusion of our minds or the brutality of our wills. This small point of nothing and of absolute poverty is the pure glory of God in us. It is like a pure diamond, radiant with the invisible light of heaven...

It is in everyone and if we could see it we would see billions of points of light uniting themselves in the face and splendour of a sun which would cause all the darkness and cruelty of life to disappear completely... I don't have a programme for this light. But the gate of heaven is everywhere.

Thomas Merton