

The brilliant children's book "**Love**" written by Matt de la Peña, and illustrated by Loren Long, begins when we are babies - and get our first glimpse of love:

In the beginning there is light

and two wide-eyed figures standing

near the foot of your bed,

and the sound of their voice is love

Elsewhere in the book, they write about the child continuing to see parents — the "*love that wakes at dawn and rides to work on the bus*", and the "*slice of burned toast that tastes like love.*"

In "**Follies of God: Tennessee Williams and the Women of the Fog**" (by James Grissom), we read Tennessee say that "*we live in a perpetually burning building*", a "*world...violent and mercurial*", which "*will have its way with you.*" The acclaimed playwright goes on:

We are saved only by love — love for each other and the love that we pour into the art we feel compelled to share: being a parent; being a writer; being a painter; being a friend.



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The psychologist Erich Fromm writes in **“The Sane Society”**: *“In the experience of love lies the only answer to being human, lies sanity.”*

In **“How Should We Live: Great Ideas from the Past for Everyday Life”**, the philosopher Roman Krznaric writes of *“agape”* — a word that, in the Greek Old Testament, means *“unconditional Love”* - a word that tells us, as does the Book of John (**“1 John 4:8”**), that *“God is love.”*

Roman suggests that *“we should all make a place for agape in our lives, and transform love into a gift”* — a gift for everyone in our lives, and *“for strangers”* too. Roman goes on: *“That is how we can reach a point where our lives feel abundant....”*

Peace ☐

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