



TO LOVE:

An Approach to Intimacy

Love people for what they are rather than what they do. ♥ Respect others, yet challenge 'em for valid principles. ♥ Rigor for all humans is wary about love, but recognize that time is limited. ♥ Be brave enough to answer when love whispers & wise enough to recognize it has many forms. ♥ Rigor of attraction as a seed of love and commitment a fruit. ♥ Recognize love is a decision, not merely something that happens. ♥ Consider love a vitamin. ♥ Give love to others in doses they can accept - be kind enough not to overwhelm them. ♥ Love as you would be loved, yet be aware that some people won't recognize (or want) your love. ♥ Don't take love for granted; consider it a language with many dialects. ♥ Take the time to communicate - don't let your heart fossilize. ♥ Acknowledge faith as indispensable to love. ♥ Don't worry about whether or not you're loved - give unconditionally and some flowers in your garden will bloom. ♥ If others spare your love, let 'em - freedom is the essence of love. ♥ Lighten up. Love creatively & intelligently. ♥ Don't sexualize all love - sex is merely one channel. ♥ Make your love both personally relevant and ethically valid. ♥ Moderate your love with a respect for privacy. ♥ Recognize the difference between love and dependence. ♥ Don't be afraid of losing love - put more energy into living each moment. ♥ Passion is fine - but compassion even better. ♥ Give people enough time and space to love. ♥ Don't expect love to be easy - consider it a life-long quest. ♥ Learn from love. ♥ Recognize love as a process that accepts both what is and what is not: it is a form of alchemy.

Aiko : Looking at this, what do you feel?

Bai-Luo : There's a hint of irony. Don't you feel the cynicism?

Aiko : Yes. Cynicism is like vinegar that curdles the milk of love.

Bai-Luo : We live in a culture that questions that everything, including love. Love often seems passé.

Aiko : (nodding) That's tragic. Isn't love what we want deep down?

- T Newfields

Beg.: 1998 Táoyuán ≙ Fin.: 2024 Yokohama

