



**The care of human life and happiness, and NOT their destruction, is [the first and only object of good government](#).**

**When the [power of love](#) exceeds the love of power, the world shall know durable peace; AND it starts WITH one neighbor at a time.**

### **Desiderata**

**Go placidly amid the noise and haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence.**

**As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons.**

**Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even the dull and ignorant; they too have their story.**

**Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit.**

**If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain and bitter;**

**for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.**

**Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans.**

**Keep interested in your career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.**

**Exercise caution in your business affairs; for the world is full of trickery.**

**But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism.**

**Be yourself.**

**Especially, do not feign affection.**

**Neither be critical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is as perennial as the grass.**

**Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth.**

**Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune.**

**But do not distress yourself with imaginings.**

**Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.**

**Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself.**

**You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here.**

**And whether or not it is clear to you, [no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should](#).**

**Therefore, be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be, and whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul.**

**With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world.**

**Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.**

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