

The Many Ways of Love

by Cathy Batson

Love recognizes no barriers, it jumps hurdles, leaps fences, penetrates walls to arrive at its destination full of hope.

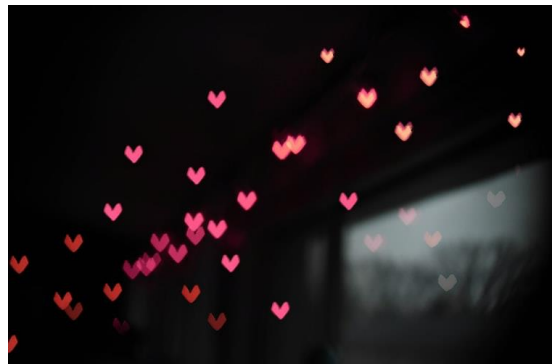
--Maya Angelou

Wow! I imagine love doing whatever is necessary to change the landscape, the hearts, spirits, and souls of humans that find it easier, to hate, criticize, vilify, judge, fight, beat, and kill each other.

Last year as well as the beginning of this new year has been difficult to say the least. I miss hugging, visiting and connecting with my tribe on a deep level. I'm a very social person communicating behind the barriers better known as Zoom, Skype, and Facebook—which are not my idea of connection.

However, I'm grateful that these platforms at least provide an opportunity to look into the eyes and faces of those I miss the most. But it is the love of my wife that keeps me grounded. She cuddles, supports and prays for me. When I arrive home at the end of the day she sweetly announces "as soon as you get settled I will rub your feet" because she knows rubbing my feet calms and lulls me to sleep much like a baby when its mother gently rocks and holds them close.

I don't know if my wife fully knows how her expressions of love fill me with hope. Hope that we will soon join our friends again for a back yard cook out, hope that we will be able to travel to Gullah country again and eat the local cuisine, hope that I will be able to fly to Indiana to see my sweet niece who is fighting breast cancer, hope for the day we worship in body to body again, hope, hope and more hope.



I'll be the first to say that we're not perfect but we have perfect love, love that leaps fences and walls, love that feeds hope. I can go a day without food, and trust me that's hard for a foodie like me, but I can't go a day, an hour or a second without love. Yes, love makes a way out of no way... God thank you for being the model for perfect love.

Amen, Amen and Amen