

## What the World Needs Now

by Cathy Batson

I was thinking about the song, “What The World Needs Now,” lyrics by Hal David in 1965, music composed by Burt Bachrach and originally sung by Jackie DeShannon.

The first time I heard the song I was about 13 years old. Dionne Warwick had recorded it and made it a big hit. As a young girl I remember thinking, “how can you tell God, what you have enough of?” For me at that age, much was still filtered through a child’s eyes, but as I grew older I began to see that one thing we could surely use more of in the world is love.

Now I think If I had to give up an ocean, a field of beautiful wild flowers or a mountain side or two, I would gladly do so for more love in the world. We are exactly where we were in 1965—devoid of love, craving to be seen and heard, marching for an ounce of equality, needing to be reader of hearts as opposed to futile attempts to be readers of minds.

I’ve decided that I can add more love to the world every time I touch a soul by looking into their heart. My mask may conceal my smile, but my eyes smile too, my eyes convey what my mouth could never put into words. I remain hopeful that once we are on the other side of the pandemics that have left us bruised, traumatized, and humbled, we will be more loving to one another, eager to know our brothers and sisters.

The world needs more love and I for one am willing to give it.  
Amen!

Please take the time to listen to the virtual orchestra What the World Needs Now! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QagzdvvzHBQ>

