

DEATH ENDS A LIFE, NOT A RELATIONSHIP.


tuesdays with Morrie, p. 174

Quiet Oaks Fellowship for All, 8 November 2022

AnnElise Bergstrom

**“As long as we can love each other,
and remember the feeling of love that we had,
we can die without ever really going away.
All the love you created is still there.
All the memories are still there.
You live on- in the hearts of everyone you
have touched and nurtured
while you were here.”**

tuesdays with Morrie, p. 174



**We continue to be “in relationship”
with those we love,
whether they are in the room next door,
in another country
or if they have left this life.**

We are in relationship with those we love in Physical and Tangible ways:

- Recipes they loved
- Skills we learned from them
- Jokes they shared with us
- Hobbies we enjoyed together
 - Traditions we maintain
- Physical objects we associate with them
 - Words they shared in letters or stories

We are in relationship with those we love in

Emotional and Spiritual ways:

- Values they helped shape in us
- How they influenced our beliefs
- Memories we share and re-visit
 - The love we share
- Our disagreements and places of tension
 - Hurts we may need for forgive

And when great souls die,
after a period peace blooms,
slowly and always
irregularly. Spaces fill
with a kind of
soothing electric vibration.
Our senses, restored, never
to be the same, whisper to us.
They existed. They existed.
We can be. Be and be
better. For they existed.

- Maya Angelou

When Great Trees Fall

WE REMEMBER THEM

**In the rising of the sun, and in its going down,
we remember them.**

**In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,
we remember them.**

**In the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring,
we remember them.**

**In the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of the autumn,
we remember them.**

**In the beginning of the year and when it ends,
we remember them.**

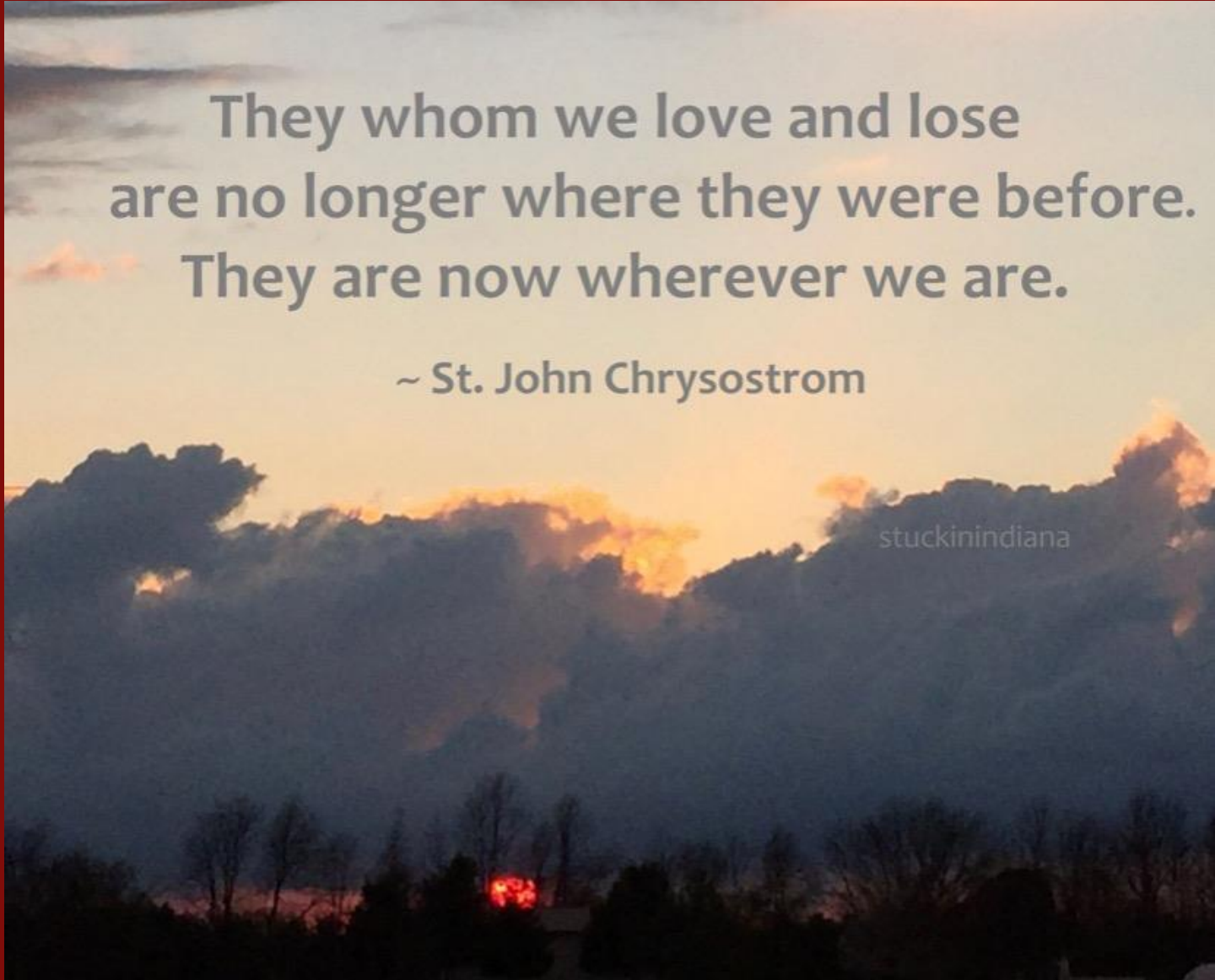
**When we are weary and in need of strength,
we remember them.**

**When we are lost and sick of heart,
we remember them.**

**When we have joys we yearn to share,
we remember them.**

**So long as we live, they, too, shall live,
for they are now a part of us, as we remember them.**

Mishkan T'Filah (Dwelling Place for Prayer)
For the House of Mourning
A Reform Siddur (Jewish Prayer Book), p. 33b



They whom we love and lose
are no longer where they were before.
They are now wherever we are.

~ St. John Chrysostom

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Recommendation:

All There Is with Anderson Cooper, podcast

Anderson Cooper takes us on a deeply personal exploration of loss and grief. He starts recording while packing up the apartment of his late mother Gloria Vanderbilt. Going through her journals and keepsakes, as well as things left behind by his father and brother, Cooper begins a series of emotional and moving conversations about the people we lose, the things they leave behind, and how to live on - with loss, with laughter, and with love.