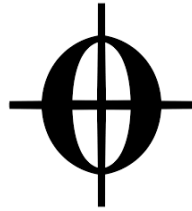


Excerpts from

With & Without

Lyrics, Prose, Stories, and Songs



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Press, LLC

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ISBN: 978-0-9798656-2-6



To Touch A Heart

It was surprising to see the events that unfolded, when I watched the news broadcast about the natural gas explosion that leveled an apartment building in the city. The segment showed the surveillance video from shops in the area presenting the responses of the folks going about their day when the explosion occurred. People had the following responses:

- Reaching out with their hands and holding onto the sales counter in front of them as they felt the earth rumble
- Looking around in an attempt to assess what was going on

But the response that several people exhibited is that they took their hand and gently placed it upon their chest as if to touch their heart with the very tips of their fingers. A simple solemn sign acknowledging the pain they saw, the despair they realized that a neighbor was facing, or that a friend or a sister was feeling.

It was a communion with those who they realized were in anguish, pain, and bewilderment. In the spirit of silence, they reached out to those in need.

What greater comfort can you give another than to touch a heart?

14Mar2014

When the simplest of acts can mean so much. The words can probably never capture those thousand words that lie inside a photograph.

