

## The Truelove – David Whyte

There is a faith in loving fiercely  
the one who is rightfully yours  
especially if you have  
waited years and especially  
if part of you never believed  
you could deserve this  
loved and beckoning hand  
held out to you this way.

I am thinking of faith now  
and the testaments of loneliness  
and what we feel we are  
worthy of in this world.

Years ago in the Hebrides  
I remember an old man  
who walked every morning  
on the grey stones  
to the shore of baying seals  
who would press his hat  
to his chest in the blustering  
salt wind and say his prayer  
to the turbulent Jesus  
hidden in the water

and I think of the story  
of the storm and everyone  
waking and seeing  
the distant  
yet familiar figure  
far across the water  
calling to them

and how we are all  
preparing for that

abrupt waking,  
and that calling,  
and that moment  
we have to say yes,  
except it will  
not come so grandly  
so Biblically  
but more subtly  
and intimately in the face  
of the one you know  
you have to love

so that when  
we finally step out of the boat  
toward them, we find  
everything holds  
us, and everything confirms  
our courage, and if you wanted  
to drown you could,  
but you don't  
because finally  
after all this struggle  
and all these years  
you don't want to any more  
you've simply had enough  
of drowning  
and you want to live and you  
want to love and you will  
walk across any territory  
and any darkness  
however fluid and however  
dangerous to take the  
one hand you know  
belongs in yours.

