

Love is Not Wasted on Us

There is so much confusion regarding what love is and how it should be expressed. There are even notions of levels of love, you know, conditional and unconditional love. The whole notion of a loving family, our children and friends is a given, we need not think much about that; it is simply a part of our humanity. Although, there is thinking around the family unit that might be unpopular, but I'll save that for another talk. That said, when we begin to discuss that which surrounds us, another important dialogue evolves. I remember many years ago, a dear older friend talking with me as a teenager. She said, "we don't love things, (houses, jewelry, clothes), only people." We "like" our things. Then looking reflectively, she recanted unapologetically with a twinkle in her eye, "Well, maybe I do love my things after all."

My thinking today is that nothing is wasted in loving, whatever the love stems from, and it is the underlying energy that we must look at. How healthy is our love? We know it is a healthy kind of love, because this loving brings out the best in us, rather than the worst in us. Therefore, if we love money and it brings out the greed in us, perhaps rethink that love, as it leads to hunger and an additive need for more. However, if we love money, and it makes our life beautiful and full of peace, then this love brings the best out in us. We are said to love our lifestyle, not the underlying generator of that lifestyle.

We love our gardens, full of color, texture, and beautiful life-giving energy. Then there are those little entities, those little souls that we bring into our lives just to fill us with unconditional love. That would be as some people call them, *our pets*. I'll call them pets only to be more universal and to cover all beloved companions from the animal world. Pet lovers know the truth; these little guys are part of our family, an extension of Divine intention to allow another channel of love to flow into our lives. Whatever brings out that flow of love is certainly Divine, because it makes us more. We enjoyed many love-generating souls and no matter how old they grew, we called them *puppy and kitty loves*.

Our little Zoe was one of our puppy loves, who made us more, more of everything: funnier, lighter, filled with joy and peace. She was the energy of Divine passion, always giving, always loving, and always waiting for us to come home. Our little Zoe, a 10 year old Yorkie, passed through the veil, back to her real home a week ago, and, although we will see her again sometime, we miss her dearly. Our lives have its own kind of beauty without her, but she filled our life with a delightful sense of pleasure that only a *pet lover* would understand. She was a ball playing engine, right to the end! Even though, in the entire 5 years we had her, (she was sick with 2 kinds of opposing diseases that made her always feel bad), she still did her best to

play, love, and be with us. She made us smile and reminded us daily of the meaning of love and the meaning of joy.

If you would have asked us the night she passed if we would adopt another pet, we would have said, “no more, it’s too hard to let go.” Fast forward one week later and already we know that when the right time comes, Divine guidance will bring the right puppy to us with this challenge: ready to say hello, love, and let go again? We know what we will say, “you bet!” We are up for the challenge that this learning will bring. Her love was not wasted on us.

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