

The Scandal of the Monastic Life

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Study

THE MOST ASTOUNDING THING ABOUT THE INTERIOR LIFE is accepting that you are beloved and cared for by the Divine. There is a force of consciousness working in you for the good. This is the scandal of the monastic life—not asceticism, not nonattachment—that we are the recipients of Divine Love, continually.

Because monasticism is often counter to how we live out our lives, its radically uplifting perspective can be unsettling, challenging how and why we do things. Even the degree to which we have learned to surrender and to give up our will, there is more. There is always that mysterious capacity for intimacy, which will never be exhausted.

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