

A LOVE LETTER TO GOD

by Jonathan Bohy

Dear God,

I was sitting on a bench the other day and an absolutely stunning woman walked by. It was funny the way she could look right through me... past me. I sort of laughed to myself. "It's OK," I thought. I know who and what I am in her eyes and the eyes of many others I'm sure – small, insignificant and mostly invisible.

The next morning you came over and somehow you were just radiant. Yesterday's view of alleged perfection was paled by the depth of your beauty. What was even more amazing is you love me. The way you looked at me was so different, as if you looked into me, and somehow filled every fiber with a dignity that seemed at once long lost and refreshingly new.

Undeserved but without shame, I could lose myself in your eyes. It wasn't that you didn't see my many faults, or that you winked at the fruit of my failings. You deserve so much better, yet I know you see who I am becoming and your faith in me makes me want to reach beyond my limitations. I feel cherished by you at a depth I cannot fathom, but am thrilled trying to.

Why have I never seen you this way before?

I make mistakes. Lots of them. I hurt us sometimes. You don't yell or scream or pound your fists. Sometimes I wish you would. You don't turn away or leave me either, though my own guilt may make it seem so. I can't get too defensive, because you're just being real and that leaves me no place to hide from my mistakes. That has taken some adjustment because I've been used to giving and receiving games in spite of best intentions – everybody hiding their true selves trying not to get hurt.

This is the most honest relationship I've ever had, the most "adult" relationship, though I'm well aware you've been carrying it. I know I'm wanting and meager, needy and quite helpless, but I'm giving you everything I have and everything I am, and with your help I know we can make it. With you by my side I know I can do anything.

For the first time in my life I look forward to a marriage I could never understand before: ours. Now it's all I can think about. I dream of the day we can finally be together forever, and even though we have to wait a bit, the promise you made strengthens me and keeps my hope alive. Strange for

someone who always thought of himself as being alone. (I've heard all the love songs on the radio but never thought it would happen to me.) I'm not quite sure how you did it.

I saw another stunning woman today... it's funny how natural it was to see her as a human being. I saw you later today, and it's funny how natural it is to see you as the love of my life.