

TWO LOVES

There are two main loves in life.

Vertical love. Love for the Lord.

Horizontal love. Love for the universe and humanity.

This is what American scientist Carl Sagan has to say about lack of love: **“We have held the peculiar notion that a person or society that is a little different from us, whoever we are, is somehow strange or bizarre, to be distrusted or loathed. Think of the negative connotations of words like alien or outlandish. And yet the monuments and cultures of each of our civilizations merely represent different ways of being human.”**

In his book titled, “Adultery”, Latin American writer Paulo Coelho writes, **“During the ice age, many animals died of cold, so the porcupines decided to band together to provide one another with warmth and protection. But their spines or quills kept sticking into their surrounding companions, precisely those who provided most warmth. And so they drifted apart again. And again many of them died of cold. They had to make a choice: either risk extinction or accept their fellow**

porcupines' spines. Very wisely, they decided to huddle together again. They learned to live with the minor wounds inflicted by their relatives, because the key to their survival was that shared warmth."

Yes, we ought to learn to see the rose and ignore the thorns... !

Because the essence of human love is to leave every kind of supremacy behind and fulfil every shortcoming.

Let's not forget that love requires a heart, longevity demands effort.

Yusuf Beğtaş