

# The Person Next To You

Look around you. *Who is the person - sitting next to you?*

The person next to you

is the greatest miracle and greatest mystery you will ever meet at this moment  
is a testament of the Word made flesh and of God's continuing advent into the  
world - into our midst

The person next to you

. is an inexhaustible reservoir of possibility - with possibilities which have  
only partially been discovered

The person next to you

is a unique universe of experiences, seething with necessity, dread and desire, smiles and  
frowns, laughter and tears, fears and hopes, all hoping to find expression

The person next to you

.is surging to become something in particular, to arrive at some destination,  
to have a story and a song, to know and to be known

The person next to you

can live with you, not just alongside;  
can live not just for him or her self, but also for you;  
can comfort, encounter and understand you - if that is what you want

The person next to you

can never be fully understood;  
is more than any description or explanation or label; . can never be fully controlled -  
nor should be

The person next to you

believes in something - something precious;  
stands for something, counts for something, lives for something,  
labors for something, waits for something,  
runs for something, runs from something, runs toward something

The person next to you

has problems and fears,  
wonders how he or she is doing - and often doesn't feel very good about it;  
is often undecided and disorganized and painfully close to chaos -  
but endowed with great toughness in the face of adversity, able to survive the most  
unbelievable difficulties and challenges.

The person next to you

is a whole colony of persons - people met during his or her lifetime;  
is really a community in which still live a mother and a father, a friend  
and an enemy.

The person next to you

has some things he or she can do well,  
some things better than anyone else in the whole world;  
there is something his or her one life on earth means - but does he or she  
dare speak of it to you?

The person next to you

is Mystery, and the *WORD Made Flesh* is MYSTERY and the *WORD WAS MADE FLESH and  
dwelt among us...*"

So, brothers and sisters, look around you, Look around you... HE IS HERE!