## Never Apart

ecause we are conditioned from birth to see, and experience ourselves as separate from—"other than"—what we imagine is needed to make ourselves whole, our search for this missing sense of holiness that we believe is somewhere "outside" of us...ensures we never realize it.

The real journey back "home" begins with a necessary shock: the painful end of this deceptive perception, along with the false sense of self imprisoned within its imagined realm.

So that, when all is said and done, our first step toward a conscious, "real-time" relationship with the Divine requires we not only agree to enter into this ensuing, unwanted sense of emptiness, but that we remain there until comes what has always awaited us within it: a realization that we have never been apart from the Holiness we seek, and that all along, the only thing missing from our search was the faith to prove the same.

— Guy Finley