

A woman is shown in profile, facing right. She is wearing a dark headband with a row of light-colored, teardrop-shaped beads. Her hair is pulled back. She is wearing a patterned skirt with a green and yellow design. The background is a bright, hazy outdoor setting with palm fronds visible. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white rectangular area in the center of the image.

AN EXCERPT FROM "A RETURN TO LOVE"  
BY MARIANNE WILLIAMSON

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.

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