

## How to Love Everything

*"If you love everything, you will perceive  
the divine mystery in things."*

*—Fyodor Dostoyevsky*

Jesus loved beggars, lepers,  
every fish in every ocean.  
Rumi welcomed all to his guesthouse.  
Even Billy Collins professed love  
for field mice and lavender soap.

Judging and choosing wore you out,  
so you decided to love everything too,  
hoping some mythical jailer  
would drop his keys at your feet.  
It's not like that.

You try, and the keys gleam,  
just out of reach.  
What you perceive dizzies.

The day undresses before you,  
shows its scars and bruises,  
its malleable strength.

You build hundreds of sandcastles,  
each with a tiny white flag.