

I AM RIGHT THERE

(By Raina Bhattacharjee)

Don't search for me atop a mountain range.
Don't search for me in the depth of the jungles
Don't search for me in the core of a cave.
Search for me in your heart.
I am right there.

Don't search for me in the knowledge of the
volumes.
Don't search for me in the grandiosity of a
Cathedral.
Don't search for me in the din of the temple
Search for me in the goodness of your deeds
I am right there.

Don't search for me in the business of the linkman.
Don't search for me in the loudspeaker of a mosque.
Don't search for me in the rigidity of the rituals.
Search for me in your heart.
And I am right there in your inner voice.

Don't search for me in the silence of the Monastery.
Don't search for me in the chanting of the Temple.
Don't search for me with rigorous penance.
Search for me in the innocence of a child.
I am right there.

Don't search for me in the queue of The Slaughter
House.

Don't search for me in the bribe of the blood.
Don't search for me in the Gold of the Dome.
Search for me in the hut of the Devotee.
I am right there.

Don't search for me in the silken robes of the priest.
Don't search for me in the Wine of the Goblet.
Don't search for me in the maddening rush of the
masses to reach me first.
Search for me in the limp of the physically
challenged

I am right there.

Don't search for me only among humans.
Don't search for me in the beauty of the flower.
Don't search for me in the depth of the sea.
Search for me in the wound of a stoned stray dog.
I am right there.

Don't search for me in the loads of the Donation
Box

Don't search for me only among the lettered.
Don't search for me in the solemn celebrations.
Search for me in the simplicity of the peasant.
I am right there.

Don't search for me in the dogma of religion
And be so lost that you miss me totally because
I am right there
In the heart of all my children.

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