

Beauty & the Gospel



15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be pre-eminent.

**19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things,
whether on earth or in heaven, making peace
by the blood of his cross.**

Colossians 1:15-20

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Colossians 1:15-16

**31 And God saw everything that he had made,
and behold, it was very good.**

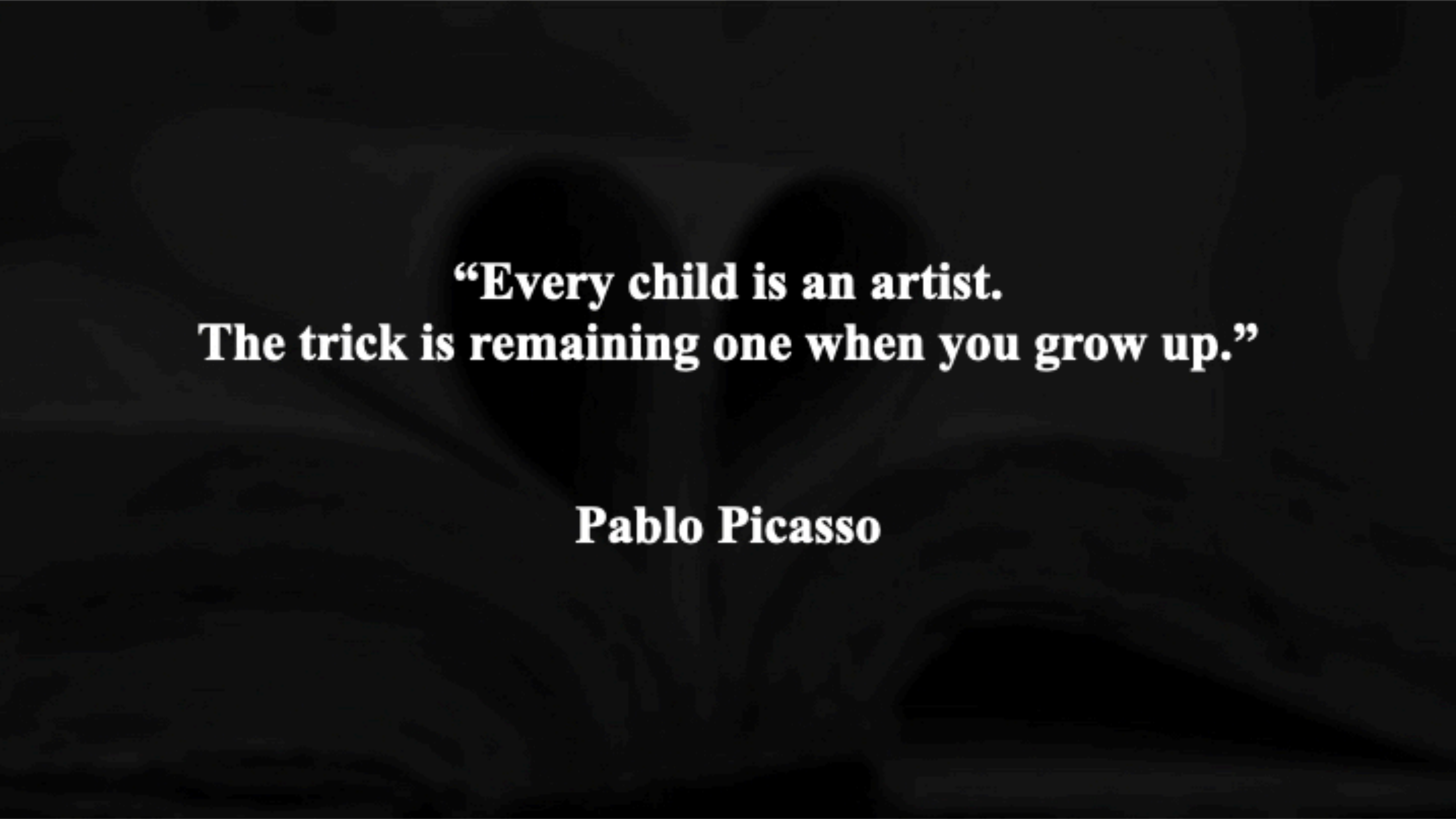
Genesis 1:31

“...creation was a result of the laughter of the Trinity”

The Sacred Romance

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:27




**“Every child is an artist.
The trick is remaining one when you grow up.”**

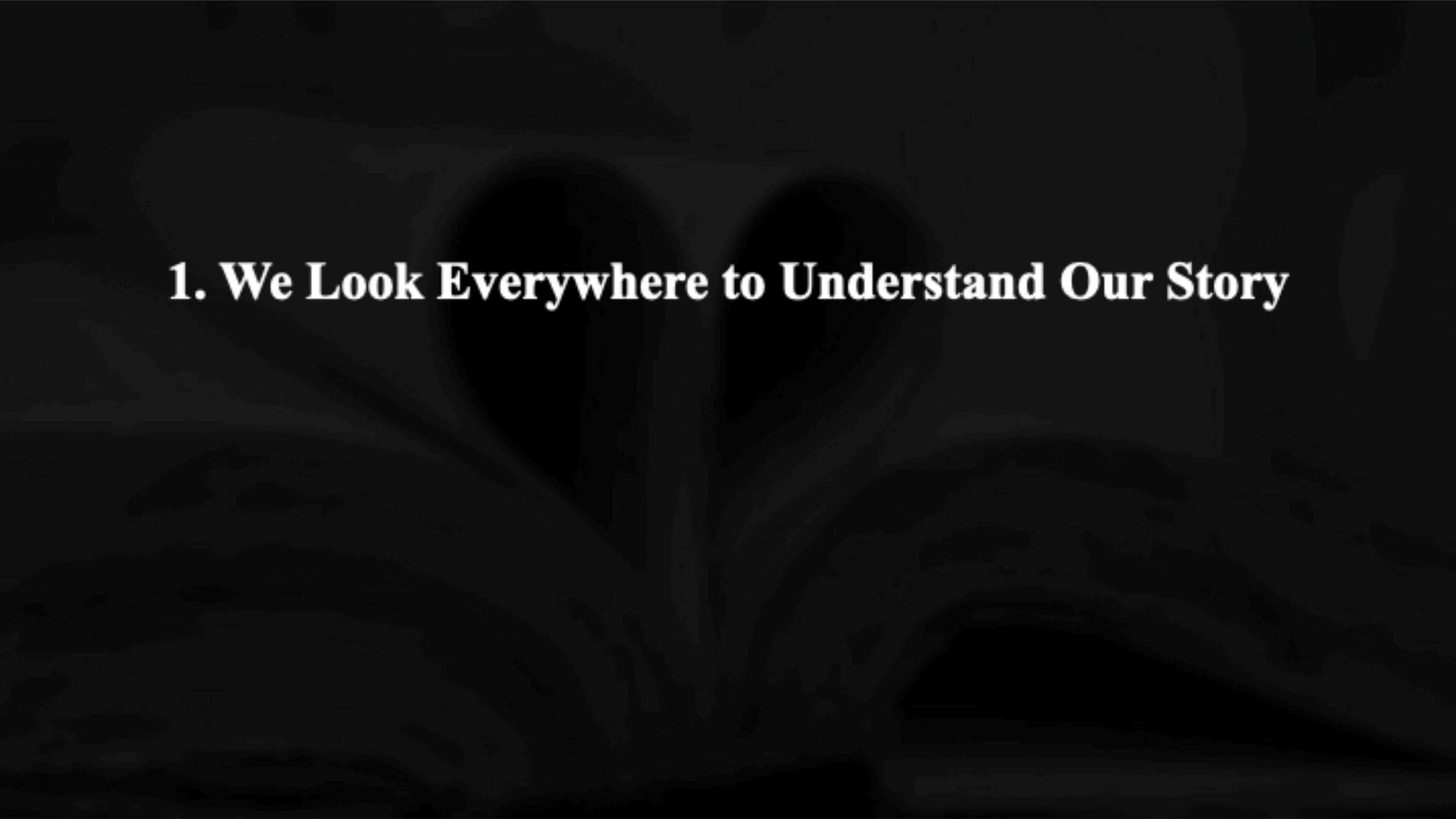
Pablo Picasso

A dark, atmospheric photograph of a forest interior. Sunlight filters through the dense canopy of trees, creating a dappled light effect on the forest floor. The scene is mostly in shadow, with the light highlighting the textures of the leaves and the structure of the trees.

**1. God creates from nothing.
Our creativity is a response.**



**2. Everything He creates is perfect.
Our creativity is always tainted.**



1. We Look Everywhere to Understand Our Story

**“We painted to see if what was lost was in the picture.
We composed to hear if what was lost was in the music.
We sculpted to find if what was lost was in the stone.
We wrote to discover if what was lost was in the story.”**

***Ken Gire
Windows of the Soul***

“True artists have always been interested in making the invisible...visible.”

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making the invisible...visible.”**

Mako Fujimura

“True artists have always been interested in making the invisible...visible.”

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16 For by him all things were created,

Colossians 1:15-16

“True artists have always been interested in making the invisible...visible.”

27 That they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way towards Him and find Him. Yet, He is actually not far from us, 28 for “In Him, we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your poets have said, “For we are his offspring.

Acts 17:27-28

“True artists have always been interested in making the invisible...visible.”

1. We Look Everywhere to Understand Our Story.

2. We Listen for Echoes in All the Great Stories.

in All the Good Stories.

“True artists have always been interested in making the invisible...visible.”

**...all things were created through him and for him.
17 And he is before all things, and in him
all things hold together.**

Colossians 1:16-17

in All the Good Stories.

“True artists have always been interested in making the invisible...visible.”

“Some artists may not know that they are consciously showing forth a world view. Nonetheless, a world view usually does show through. Even those works which were constructed under the principle of art for art’s sake often imply a world view. Even the world view that there is no meaning is a message”

Francis Schaeffer

in All the Good Stories.

“True artists have always been interested in making the invisible...visible.”

**...your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you. - Psalm 63:3**

**...my eyes grow dim with
waiting for my God - Psalm 69:3**

**Pour out your anger on the nations
that do not know you - Psalm 79:6**

in All the Good Stories.

“True artists have always been interested in making the invisible...visible.”

**We’re not into “Christian art”
but rather art that expresses
beauty and truths found in the Gospel.**

in All the Good Stories.

“True artists have always been interested in making the invisible...visible.”

- 1. We Look Everywhere to Understand Our Story.**
- 2. We Listen for Echoes in All the Great Stories.**
- 3. We Are Found and Rescued in His Greater Story.**

in All the Good Stories.

“True artists have always been interested in making the invisible...visible.”

**“In the gospel, you don’t have one more story
that points to a greater reality. It is the reality
to which all stories point”**

J.R.R. Tolkein (*On Fairy Stories*)

in All the Good Stories.

“True artists have always been interested in making the invisible...visible.”

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Colossians 1:16-17

in All the Good Stories.



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“True artists have always

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in All the Good Stories

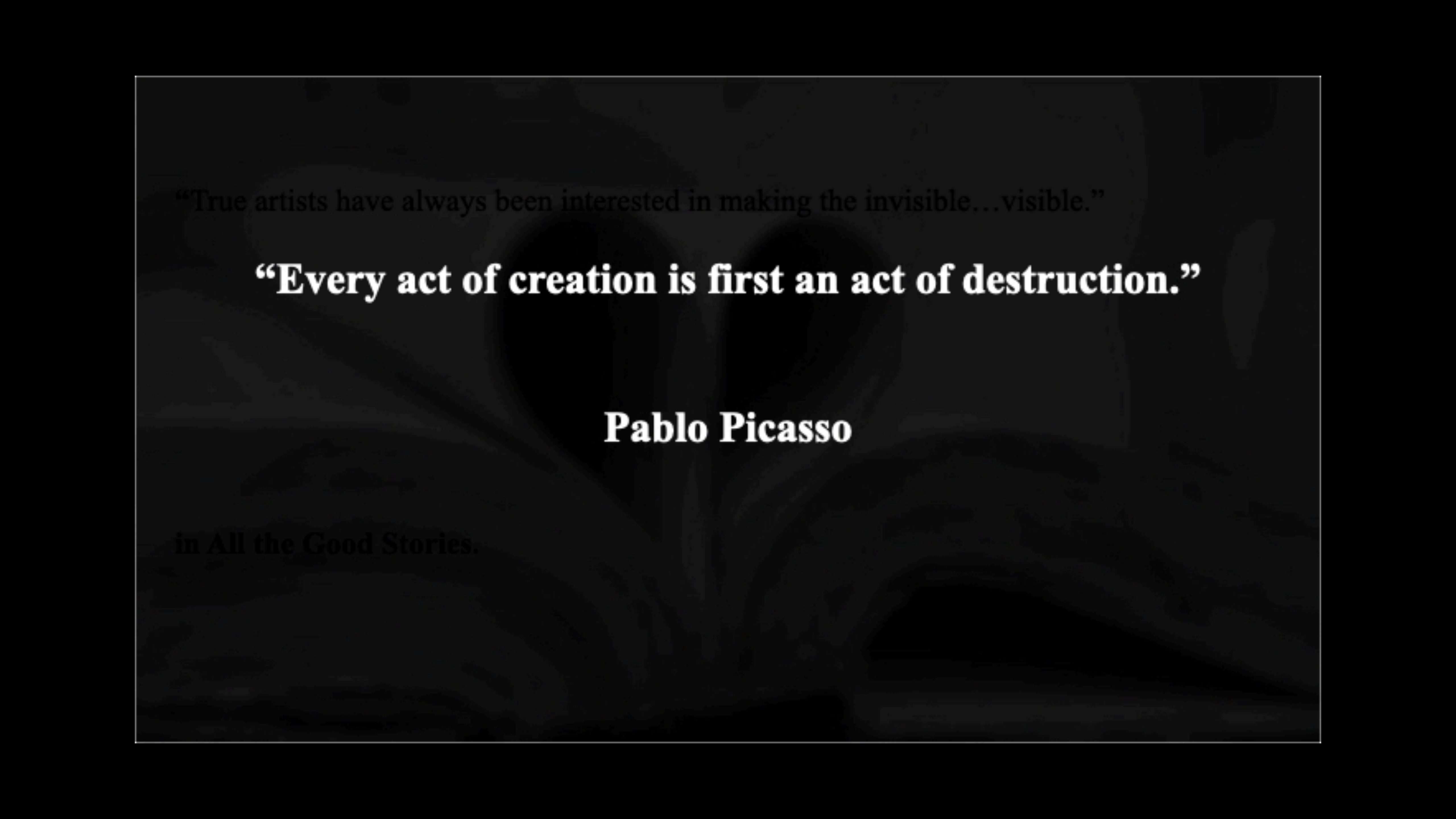
THE WALKING DEAD®

“True artists have always been interested in making the invisible...visible.”

**“If he’s just a hero to you...it won’t help.
If He’s a hero for you then eventually
He’ll be a hero through you” -**

Tim Keller
(The Story Beneath the Story)

in All the Good Stories.

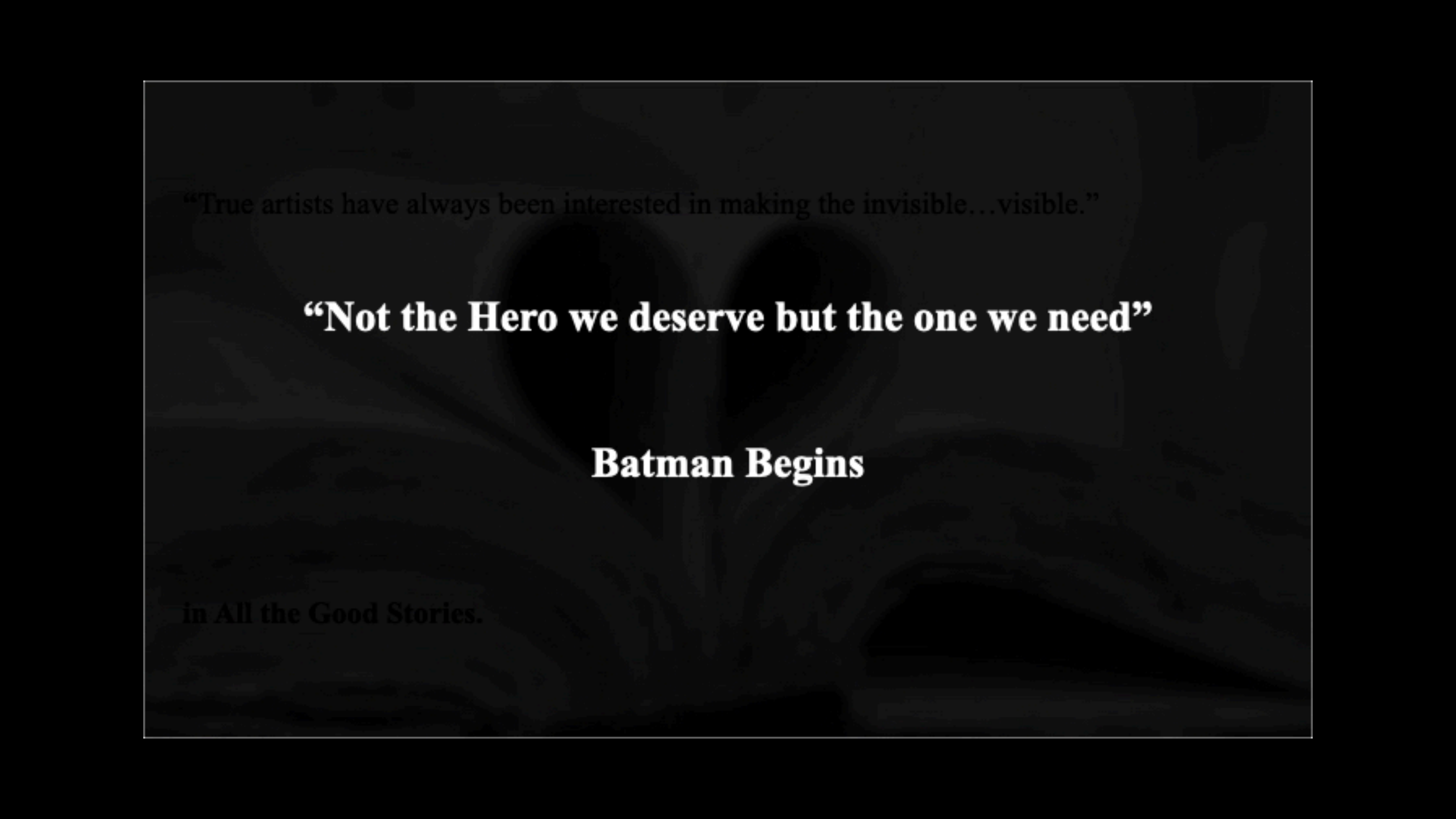


“True artists have always been interested in making the invisible...visible.”

“Every act of creation is first an act of destruction.”

Pablo Picasso

in All the Good Stories.



“True artists have always been interested in making the invisible...visible.”

“Not the Hero we deserve but the one we need”

Batman Begins

in All the Good Stories.

“We do not want merely to see beauty, though, God knows, even that is bounty enough. We want something else which can hardly be put into words — to be united with the beauty we see, to pass into it, to receive it into ourselves, to bathe in it, to become part of it...The books or the music in which we thought the beauty was located will betray us if we trust to them; it was not in them, it only came through them, and what came through them was longing...For they are not the thing itself; they are only the scent of a flower we have not found, the echo of a tune we have not heard, news from a country we have never yet visited.

...At present we are on the outside...the wrong side of the door...We cannot mingle with the pleasures we see. But all the pages of the New Testament are rustling with the rumor that it will not always be so. Someday, God willing, we shall get “in”... We will put on glory... that greater glory of which Nature is only the first sketch.”

C.S. Lewis (*Weight of Glory*)

in All the Good Stories