

Presents vs. Presence

As we give
our presents,
do we also offer
our presence?

Which is more important:
the worth of our presents
or the value of our presence?

Is our concern more with
the quantity of our presents
than the quality of our presence?

By our presents
we give what we have;
in our presence
we share who we are.

By giving a present
some engage in
a transaction;
by being present, however,
they should forge
a relationship.

As we buy each other presents,
are we trying to purchase
the other's presence?

A present is a thing;
but only a person
can be present.

You use presents,
but cultivate presence.
You hold on to presents,
but abide in presence.
You give a present to,
but you are present for.

The indigent
and the poor
do not want your presents,
but they need your presence.

The tragedy of materialism:
it feeds the craving
for presents,
but leaves you starving
for presence.

Presents should be
a manifestation
of your presence;
too often, however,
they are a mask
for your absence.

Present yourself,
therefore,
that is the best
present!

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