



“Start Close In” by David Whyte

Here is the poem by David Whyte called "Start Close In" – if you wish to hear him reading it:

[Start Close In read by David Whyte](#)

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For me this poem evokes and inspires me to start something that may be challenging with a small action forward, whatever that can mean for me and especially when it feels scary or uncomfortable or I am resisting. It also helps me connect into trusting myself and not to listen or yield to what others may be saying that might stop me or cause me to hesitate to take even the smallest movement to shift the needle towards proactively creating something new for myself. David's words help me to trust being Unapologetically Me. I invite you to explore what your impressions and would love to hear from you if you wish to share.

- Rachel Newton

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*Start close in,
don't take the second step
or the third,
start with the first
thing
close in,
the step
you don't want to take.*

*Start with
the ground
you know,
the pale ground
beneath your feet,
your own
way of starting
the conversation.*

*Start with your own
question,
give up on other
people's questions,
don't let them
smother something
simple.*

*To find
another's voice,
follow
your own voice,
wait until
that voice
becomes a
private ear
listening
to another.*

*Start right now
take a small step
you can call your own
don't follow
someone else's
heroics, be humble
and focused,
start close in,
don't mistake
that other
for your own.*

*Start close in,
don't take
the second step
or the third,
start with the first
thing
close in,
the step
you don't want to take.*