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Magic

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Magic

By Anthony Carno

This I believe: magic exists in the world. Not just the magic found in fantasy and fiction. I believe that there is magic in this world as real as the pen and paper with which I write each day. It is a tangible force, not because of the method, but the result. It binds the people of this world together just as it binds the various facets of the world itself.

I believe that there are two types of magic. The first is often attributed to a higher power or divine figure. It's the magic found on a summer night as the sun paints the world in crimson and gold. It's the magic found in the pink and purple and white magnolia petals floating on a gentle breeze, drifting through one's path. It's the magic found in the peace of meditation, be it religious or otherwise. This magic is unpredictable and fragile – its power lies in the fleeting, instant perfection of the world. I see it in the life around me every day: it's the universe celebrating what it means to be *alive*.

The second type of magic is far more mysterious. For centuries it has baffled the greatest minds of each era, defying all explanation. Its extreme power lies in its supreme simplicity: there is no greater force on earth. This magic is, simply put, the magic within a human heart.

It's a power not fully understood; no one knows why it exists, or what it is that binds human beings so close that they can revel in their similarities while concurrently celebrating their differences. No one knows why it continues to be such a powerful presence in the world today, despite the great evils around us. No one knows why it only takes three words to create peace, cure sickness, end suffering: "I love you."

It's a magic found in the embraces of two lovers, in the laughter among friends, in a baby's smile. It's found in the hand extended to the beaten-down man, in the meal offered to the starving woman, in the gift given to the homeless child. It's found in every kind, loving decision we as human beings make. To me, it's the ultimate expression of the human soul.

It's a magic powerful enough to save the world. This I believe.