

Touchstones Theme: Journey



A few years before, I was drifting across the country on a motorcycle trip when, like a wayward traveler in an Arabian Nights tale tripping over a golden nugget hidden under a tree root in the dark forest, I discovered an uncanny scene that struck me as being at the heart of the hero's journey. It was that of a crumbling tomb-

stone in Boothill Cemetery in Tombstone, Arizona, the gravemarker of an old gunslinger. The epitaph read: "Be what you is, cuz if you be what you ain't, then you ain't what you is."..."Be what you is...." *Phil Cousineau*

Here is where I found my voice and chose to be brave. Here's a place where I forgave someone, ...and unexpectedly, amazingly, I became wiser. Here's where I was once forgiven, ...and ...transformed. ...This is the place where I said *no* ...loudly.... Here's a time, ...when I laid down my fear.... Here's where cruelty taught me something. And ...gratuitous compassion.... It was a trembling time. ...Here's ...where I have stumbled.... I don't know yet what to learn there. On this site I was outraged and the rage sustains me still.... ...Here's where I was told that something was wrong with my eyes, that I see the world strangely.... Here is where I began to look with my own eyes and listen with my ears and sing my own song, shaky as it is. ...These are ...landmarks of conversion.

Victoria Safford



Join us in exploring Journey

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