



On my trip to New York City I found many things surprising. The friendliness of the people, who identified themselves as lifelong residents; the ease of use and cleanliness of the subway system; how safe I felt walking its streets; and maybe the thing that surprised me most was the splendor of Central Park. I was unprepared for its size and beauty, amazed by the number of people enjoying it (Jogging on its tracks, walking its trails, reading on its benches, horseback riding, bicycling, skating, football, soccer, baseball, basketball, playing with pets, I could keep going but you get the idea). Yet with all these activities going on, it was never crowded. I walked in and out of it for four days and only saw a fraction of this immense park.

Pictured in this photo is part of the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis Reservoir and a piece of the city that borders this portion of the park. I am standing on a great walking trail that circles the lake on this gorgeous sunny day. The clouds in the sky, the cool breeze and the fall colors each add to the splendor of this fine day.

I have read of the homeless population living in Central Park for years; daily it is portrayed on television and movies as a crime scene with its lanes marked with white chalk and yellow tape; in my mind's eye I pictured narrow dimly lit paths crowded by dirty old men in trench coats. The reality of it was completely opposite to what I had imagined. I am sure that if I wanted to look for the bad instead of the good, I could have found it. But that is true about every city, every town, every life we meet. I ask you, with so much beauty all around us competing to be a part of our lives, why would we ever look for anything ugly? We are surrounded with so many good people and with so many blessings seeking entrance into our lives, why would we ever seek for anything negative or bad?

We find what we look for. Everything has its beauty, but not everyone sees it. If we could evaluate things as they really are, and not as people report them to be, then we would be wiser, and God would be our teacher. But because our eyes constantly seek the bright, shiny and spectacular we fail to see the beauty that is all around us. Look around you today, what do you see? We see what we are looking for.

**Something to think about:**

- It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.
- The tree which moves some to tears of joy is in the eyes of others only a green thing which stands in the way.
- We see things not as they are, but as we are.
- Your point of view is everything: the pond is an ocean to a tadpole.
- Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people.

Looking for a friend  
Rickey Moore