

One night a holy man, Abu Ben Adhem by name, suddenly woke up from a deep dream of peace and saw in his moonlit room an angel writing something in a book of gold. He did not feel at all frightened. The peaceful face of the angel made Abu bold and he said to the angel, "What are you writing?" The angel looked up and replied in a kind and sweet tone, "I am taking down the names of those who love God." "And is my name one among them?" Asked Abu. But the angel replied, "No, it is not." "I pray thee then," said Abu, "To write me down as one who loves his fellowmen." The Angel wrote and vanished. The next night the angel came again with a great light which awaked Abu Ben Adhem: and he showed Abu the names of those who had been blessed by the love of God. And behold! The name of Abu was at-the top of the list.

The importance of loving the humanity

One night, Abu Ben Adhem saw an angel making the list of God's lovers, but his name was not there. Thus, he asked that angel to add his name as one who loved his peers; and the angel wrote. In fact, the next night, he learned that his name was topping the list of those people whom God loved.

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