

The Lakeside

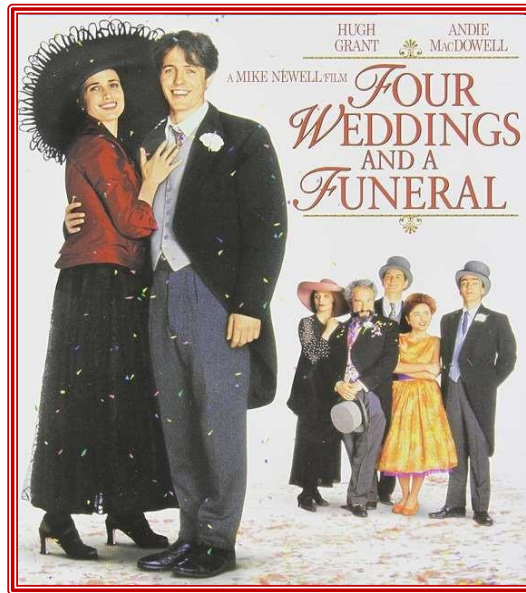


Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday October 28, 2024 - Matthew 10: 28

28 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Read Matthew 10 for meditation and inspiration.



Love is Forever

Dear Lakesiders and Friends,

In the 1994 film, "Four Weddings and a Funeral," the humor present in the first three weddings is absent when death comes to one of the characters in the fourth -- a man who loved life. At the funeral service, W.H. Auden's sad poem, "Funeral Blues," is read. And the scene is filled with an overwhelming sense of heartbreak. Here follows that portion of the reading from "Funeral Blues":

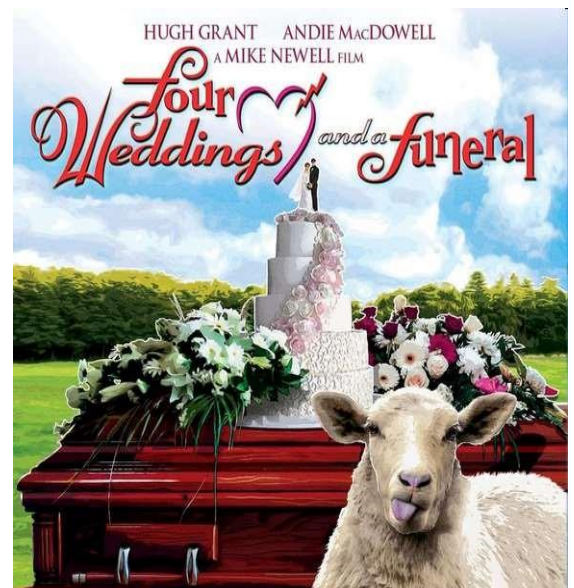
“He was my North, my South, my East, and West, My working week and my Sunday rest, My noon, my midnight, my talk, my song; I thought love would last forever, but I was wrong.” The whole poem goes like this as an outpouring of despondency and grief.

Funeral Blues

Stop all the clocks, cut off the telephone,
Prevent the dog from barking with a juicy bone,
Silence the pianos and with muffled drum
Bring out the coffin, let the mourners come.

Let aeroplanes circle moaning overhead
Scribbling on the sky the message 'He is Dead'.
Put crepe bows round the white necks of the public doves,
Let the traffic policemen wear black cotton gloves.

He was my North, my South, my East and West,
My working week and my Sunday rest,
My noon, my midnight, my talk, my song;
I thought that love would last forever: I was wrong.



The stars are not wanted now; put out every one,
Pack up the moon and dismantle the sun,
Pour away the ocean and sweep up the wood;
For nothing now can ever come to any good.

Overwhelmingly sad though those lines may be, they too are wrong. By the Resurrection Power of God, love does last forever. And isn't that what we come together to celebrate over and over again? Isn't that the Good News we've just heard in the Gospel and in every Sermon, which Jesus describes as a "wisdom" no one can "resist or contradict"?

Grief is a natural emotion but Spiritual Strength can creep back in to push away that sense of grief and loss to an eternal hope in God and a peace that the World cannot give but comes from our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ.

In God's Blessed Hope Eternal,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roger". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned to the left of the printed name.

Roger