

# Who are you not to be?

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate.  
Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond  
measure. It is our light, not our darkness,  
that most frightens us.

We ask ourselves, 'Who am I to be brilliant,  
gorgeous, talented, fabulous?' Actually, who are  
you not to be? You are a child of God.

Your playing small doesn't serve the world.  
There's nothing enlightened about shrinking so  
that other people won't feel insecure around you.  
We are all meant to shine as children do.

We were born to make manifest the glory of God  
that is within us. It's not just in some of us, it's  
in everyone. And as we let our own light shine,  
we unconsciously give other people permission to  
do the same. As we're liberated from our own fear,  
our presence automatically liberates others.

—Nelson Mandela