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 and 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 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
consciously give other people permission
to do the same.

As we are liberated from our own fear, our
presence automatically liberates others.

1994 Inaugural Speech of Nelson Mandela