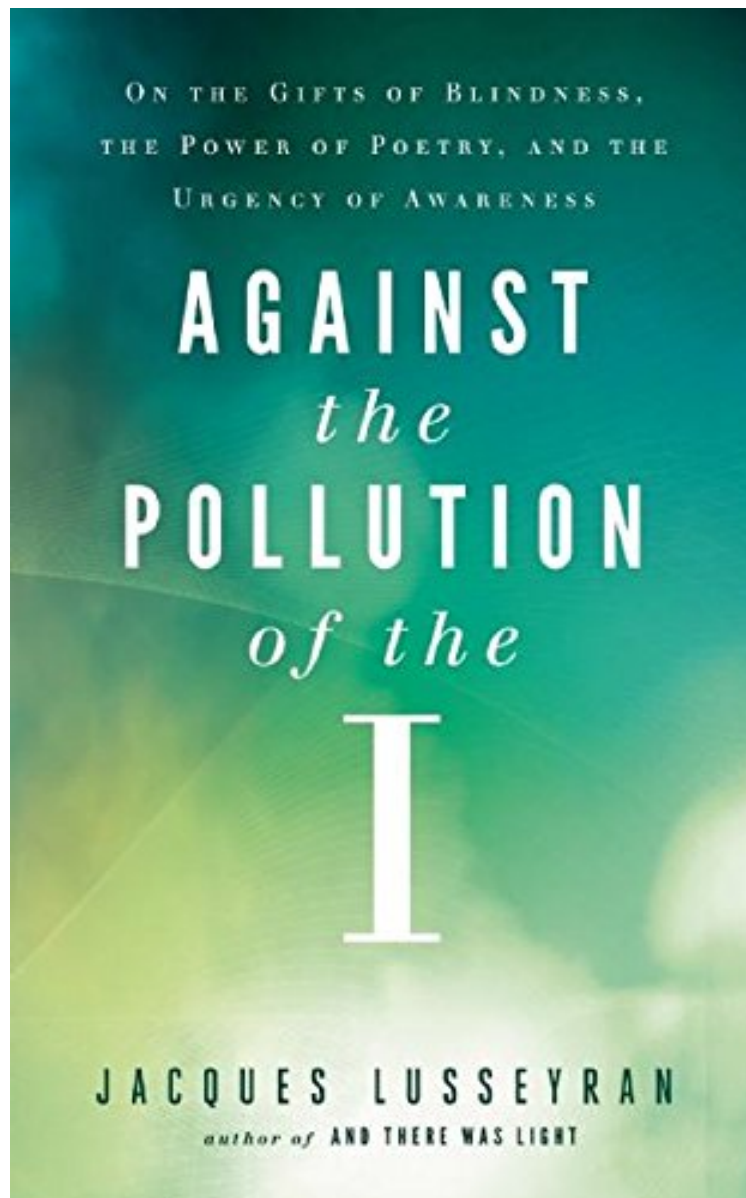


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Against the Pollution of the I: On the Gifts of Blindness, the Power of Poetry, and the Urgency of Awareness

Jacques Lusseyran

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Jacques Lusseyran : Against the Pollution of the I: On the Gifts of Blindness, the Power of Poetry, and the Urgency of Awareness before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Against the Pollution of the I: On the Gifts of Blindness, the Power of Poetry, and the Urgency of Awareness:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A true GIFT to humanity
By Axel Brostrom
This book provides insight into the flesh and soul of one of the greatest man to have ever lived. Amen.
5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. The substance of love in words
By Nareva
For those who do not know it, the book should be an incentive to read Jacques Lusseyran's auto-biography "And there was Light". In fact this book is a continuation and further analysis of his life experiences. The author manages to describe the subtle use of the senses, especially seeing of course, as an accident made him blind at the age of 8 or so. The experience he shares and the intelligent analysis of the interaction between emotions and the workings of the senses would inspire me to find out a lot more if I were a scientist. As an amateur philosopher I am grateful for his insights and descriptions confirming the importance of a positive attitude at least, as well as guarding closely what one allows in the mind and heart. He has helped many people while in a concentration camp during World War II. How he did this, including the recitation of poetry, inspired me to learn more poetry by heart. It could be an inspiration to many in some of today's grueling circumstances. I found his books still help people, with his sharing and giving, which combined with acute attention make for the very substance of love. I would give it to all my loved ones.
3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Spiritually Stunning
By G. Miki Hayden
Anyone with a spiritual cell in his body will want to read this. I read his autobiography, but I forgot what an amazing human being he was and how revolutionary the disclosure of his experiences. I regularly read and listen to the illumined masters, but this adds an extra dimension. Even the introduction allowed me to make a turn in my thinking about the human body in these words: "His body 'became indescribably touching to him and of no other use than that he might be present in it.'" The body, then, in my understanding, shows up as spirit and not as matter...

Despite being blinded as a child, Jacques Lusseyran went on to help form a key unit of the French Resistance and survive the Nazis Buchenwald concentration camp. He wrote about these experiences in his inspiring memoir, *And There Was Light*. In this remarkable collection of essays, Lusseyran writes of how blindness enabled him to discover aspects of the world that he would not otherwise have known. In *Poetry in Buchenwald*, he describes the unexpected nourishment he and his fellow prisoners found in poetry. In *What One Sees Without Eyes* he describes a divine inner light available to all. Just as Lusseyran transcended his most difficult experiences, his writings give triumphant voice to the human ability to see beyond sight and act with unexpected heroism.

In this luminous book, Lusseyran demonstrates once again his place among the illustrious sightless sages. . . . Clear and insightful prose inspires the reader to look beyond the limitations of the senses, as Lusseyran speaks of an inner seeing, reminiscent of the finer works of Martin Buber and Viktor Frankl. . . . The clarity of the writing, and the force of both grim and exalted experience behind the words, carry an extraordinary authority and wisdom. Publishers Weekly (starred review) Exalts the soul in ways that are universal, breathtaking, and marvelous. Spirituality and Health [Lusseyrans] writing has a mythical power capable of transforming those who contact it. This is gritty, spiritual writing at its best. Larry Dossey, MD, author of *Healing Words* These posthumously collected essays remind us anew that eyes are merely a concentration of the human talent to see with the body and that each of us contains all beings, as the old teachers said. Roshi Robert Aitken, author of *Taking the Path of Zen*