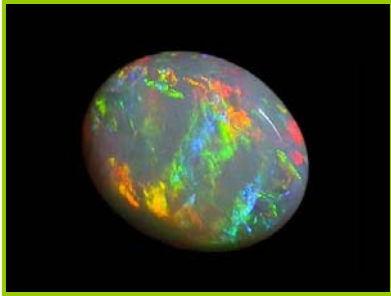


The Sympathetic Jewel

A gentleman once visited a great jewelry store owned by a friend, who showed him magnificent diamonds and other splendid stones.

Amongst these stones, the visitor's eye spotted one that seemed quite lusterless. Pointing to it, he said, "That stone has no beauty at all."



But the jeweler put it in the hollow of his hand, shut his hand, and then in a few moments opened it again.

What a surprise! The entire stone gleamed with all the splendors of the rainbow.

"What have you done to it?" asked the astonished gazer.

His friend answered: "This is an opal. It is what we call the sympathetic jewel. It only needs to be gripped with the human hand to bring out its wonderful beauty."

The power of the human hand is remarkable, indeed, whether it be:

- Giving a warm handshake.
- Wiping away a tear.
- Encouraging a Little League baseball player with a high-five.
- Holding a book as a child begins to read.
- Extending a glass of water to a thirsty resident in a nursing home room.
- Sending a praise of God heavenward as it extends toward the ceiling.
- Cuddling a newborn baby.
- Pressing money into the pocket of a needy friend.
- Sharing love in a tender embrace.



Ah, yes. The human hands. These wonderful hands. Share the power of your hands with someone today.

– Beecher Hunter