

COULD YOU EMBRACE THAT?

St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)

**I said to God, “Let me love you.”
And God replied, “Which part?”**

“All of you, all of you,” I said.

**“Dear,” God spoke, “you are as a mouse wanting to impregnate
a tiger who is not even in heat. It is a feat way
beyond your courage and strength.**

**You would run from me
if I removed my
mask.”**

I said to God again,

“Beloved I need to love you—every aspect, every pore.”

And this time God said,

**“There is a hideous blemish on my body,
though it is such an infinitesimal part of my Being—
could you kiss that if it were revealed?”**

“I will try, Lord, I will try.”

And then God said,

**“That blemish is all the hatred and
cruelty in this
world.”**

*“Love Poems from GOD: Twelve Sacred Voices from the East and West”
Daniel Ladinsky, Penguin Books, 2002*