

Thoughts That Inspire a Slower Way of Teaching



Words to anchor you when the world
moves too fast

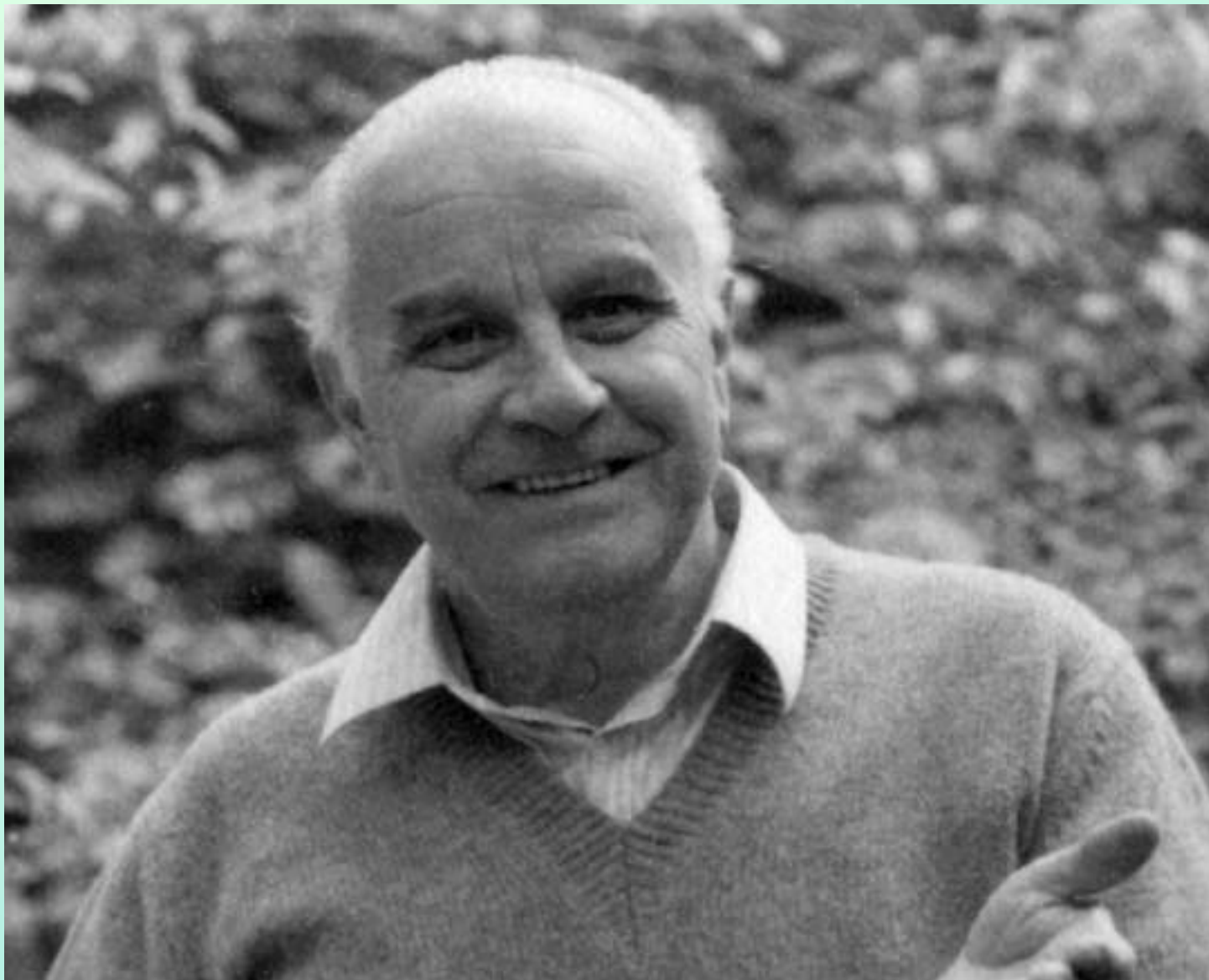


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"Nothing without joy."

— Loris Malaguzzi

A reminder that joy is essential to
meaningful learning.



"When you take a flower in your hand and really look at it, it's your world for the moment."

— Georgia O'Keeffe

Encouraging us to slow down and let children explore with full attention.



**"To be with children is to find
the rhythm of presence, not
productivity."**

— Carla Rinaldi

A powerful counter to the pace of outcome-
driven education.



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“Lingering grants an openness
for pause, for breath, an
experience, a duration and a
deepening of time so that
wisdom can grace one’s
presence.”

— Alison Clark

When we linger, we don’t lose time — we
invite insight.



"Engaged pedagogy does not seek simply to empower students. Any classroom that employs a holistic model of learning will also be a place where teachers grow, and are empowered by the process."
— bell hooks

Slow, relational teaching transforms everyone in the room.



**"We are hurried into adulthood,
then condemned for growing
old. Where, in all this, is the time
to simply be a child?"**

— Kim John Payne

Slow pedagogy protects the sacred space of
childhood from the rush to grow up.



"It is not enough to prepare the environment. The spirit of the teacher must be quiet, observant, and reverent."

— Maria Montessori

A slow teacher brings not just materials,
but presence and respect.



**"Time spent with children is
never wasted. It is invested."**

— Gisela Konopka

Being fully present with children isn't lost
time — it's where trust and learning begins.



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**"Attention is the rarest and
purest form of generosity."**

— Simone Weil

Giving a child your full attention is one of the
most respectful ways to show they matter.



"To listen is to lean in, softly,
with a willingness to be changed
by what we hear."

— Mark Nepo

True listening invites transformation, not just
for the child, but for us.

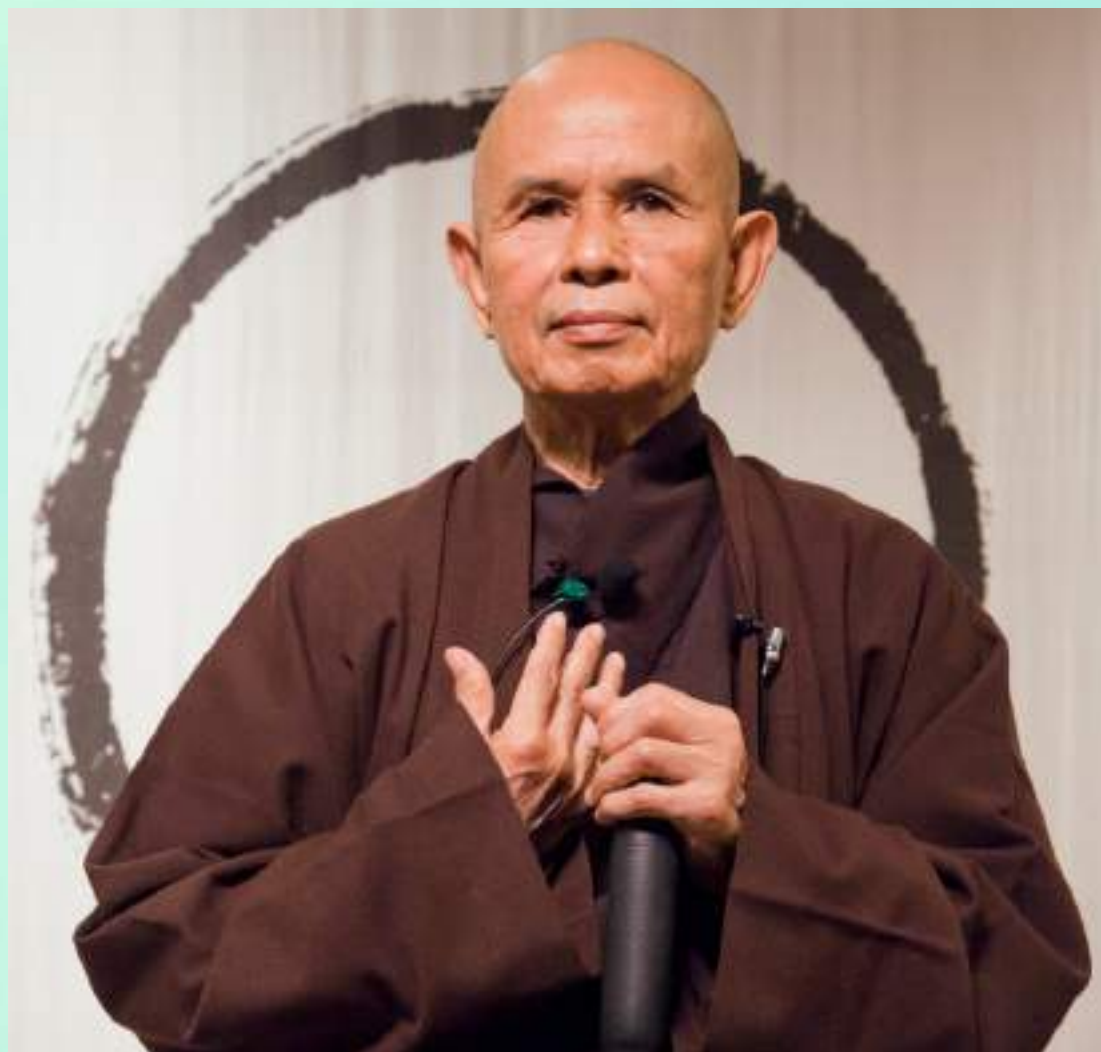


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**"Walk as if you are kissing the
Earth with your feet."**

— Thich Nhat Hanh

Moving slowly is a way of showing care, for
the ground we walk on, and for the moment
we're in.



"Hurry is the enemy of beauty."

— Kazuo Ishiguro

Beauty reveals itself in the moments we're
willing to wait for.



“The highest education is that which does not merely give us information but makes our life in harmony with all existence.”

— Vinoba Bhave

Education rooted in love nurtures connection
— with ourselves, others, and the world.



"Teaching is a sacred act. The
classroom is a place of
possibility."

— Renée Watson

When we slow down, the classroom becomes
more than a space for learning — it becomes a
space for becoming.



**"The quieter you become, the
more you are able to hear."**

— Jalal al-Din Rumi

In quiet moments, we begin to notice what's
often overlooked.



**"Time is not something we use.
It is something we honor."**

— Robin Wall Kimmerer

Speaks to Indigenous understandings of time
as relational, not linear.

