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The Cube

By Shawn Hazel

Now there were two men walking towards a large city. They were both morally upright and had strong leadership abilities. They carried with them a crystal cube. The sunlight danced off its edges with blinding colors.

As they traveled down the dirt road, they came upon a man who was seated, his eyes looking straight ahead. Surrounding him were sheep who busied themselves by eating the green plants of the field.

The two men kneeled at each side of him.

"Sir," said the second man, "what color is this cube?" He held it in front of him.

The light danced and played on each corner and edge. "It is crimson, like lamb's blood," replied the man.

"I see," replied the second man as he took it to heart.

The first man responded, "No, it is translucent."

Further down the road, the two men came upon a woman selling buttercups.

The first man asked, "What do you see in this cube?"

Peering into its crystalline depths, she said, "I see gold, like the rays of the sun, and the petals of my flowers."

The second man nodded and agreed with the woman. The two men breathed in the buttercup's

fragrance, thanked the lady, and continued down the road.

Now, when they came very near to the city, the two men crossed the path of a juggler dressed in a multicolored robe. The robe complemented the energy of his display.

The men asked the juggler what he saw in the cube.

Without stopping his juggling, he surveyed the cube, taking in each corner, and every detail. Smiling, he said, "It is the color of the rainbow." His juggling changed to an arc that rounded gracefully in the evening sun.

The gates of the city were only a stone's throw away. Before they entered the city, both men turned towards each other.

"The juggler is the most correct," said the second man. "All colors are contained within the cube; each person saw the color and proclaimed it."

"No," said the first man. "The cube is clear; light is all that colors the cube."

At this, they parted ways, each to proclaim what he saw in the cube.

The cube was set upon a pedestal in the town square. Each person would gaze into it and make his or her judgement. Many followed the second man, few the first.