# The Word: Before the Conversation

TONI SCORSESE

It doesn't reside at the bottom of a glass. But where does one find it when the glass is empty?

# Appetite?

Not as aversive as we expect. It is palatable, but suppressed.

## Reality?

Not as cloaked as we believe. It might be relative, but surreal.

# Courage?

Not bestowed by some *Wizard*. It probably comes from within, but it's cagey.

### Honesty?

Not the gridlock we dread. It must live in the mirror, but it is so ugly.

#### Forgiveness?

Not about forgiving THEM. It is about forgiving oneself, but it's elusive.

#### Life?

Not the mystery we claim. It is existential, but confounding.

#### Future?

Not as distant as it seems. It's within reach, but wholly anonymous.

Find the appetite to face reality. Muster the courage to be honest with yourself. Start by forgiving your humanity to appreciate your life. Then build the future.

It's time to put your big-girl pants on and have a conversation.

1/17/2023 [I Know Who I Am]