

Contents

Foreword, xi

Author's Note, xiii

VIEWS

The History of Love, 3

Human Being, 6

So Close, 10

Impermanence and Love, 15

The Tree of Awe, 19

The Face that Lights the Candle, 22

God Is Not Something Already Made, 26

Children of Happiness, 31

Mystic Nonsense, 35

Springtime Reverie, 37

Tears in Heaven, 39

Love is the Highest Ground, 42
The Benediction of the Old Ones, 45
You Bring Rivers, 49
The Other Side of Death, 52
The Beloved Community, 57

PRACTICES

The Joy of Pausing, 63
Quietness, 67
Gentleness, 70
Selflessness, 73
The Place Where Nothing and Everything Meet, 76
Living in the Zero-Point-Now, 81
True Illusion, 85
The World's Mirror, 90
Good Work, 94
Befriending Unfriendliness, 97
Faith-Mind, 100
The Practice of Not Knowing, 104
The Practice of Living Presence, 108
The Middle of the Sky — A Practice, 113
 Bow Inside, 117
 Consent to Silence, 118
 Welcome Love, 119
The Welcoming Practice, 116

World Worry, 122
 Keep an Undefended Heart, 123
 Find What Matters, 125
 Do the Beautiful, 126

Sufi Tao, 128

STORIES

Morning Light: Five Scenes, 133
 Upstate New York, USA, 133
 Valparaíso, Chile, 134
 Hill Tribe Village, Northwest Thailand, 134
 Near Hyderabad, India, 134
 Avignon, France, 135

Dawn, 136

One Love, 138

Easter Egg, 141

Snowing God, 143

Beauty Will Save the World, 146

Letter to a Newborn Girl, 149

A Hundred Years from Now, 153

How to Survive the Apocalypse, 158

A New Year's Vow, 160

A Prayer in the Militant Mosque — 2010, 162

The Mosque, 162

The Battle, 163

The Prayer, 165

The Soul of the World – 2022, 168

Autumn Light, 171
Love and Death, 174
I Only Want to Say, 178

Permissions, 180

About the Author, 183