

Radical Forgiveness - Making Room for the Miracle, by Colin C. Tipping.
Book Review for ON COURSE magazine (September/October 1999 edition).

LOVE THROUGH FORGIVENESS IS "RADICAL."

As all Course students know, it is **always** a question of love or fear - with only love being real. And all that blocks that experience of love in our lives are the obstacles which we, through fear, place in love's way. And forgiveness - "God's plan for salvation" - the only one, we are told, that "works" (Lesson 71) - is the tool we have been given to remove **all** the obstacles **we** have placed in the way of love - and, strangely, most especially God's love for us. Such is the teaching.

So within the illusion, forgiveness works - **and nothing else does**. Indeed, anything less than forgiveness, we are told, is simply a "tragic" waste of time. The message is that clear, that direct, and that simple.

Colin Tipping understands this message at the most profound level, and has written a book for the average person in our culture which exemplifies this understanding in an extremely practical way - together with an honesty and passion which needs to be experienced to be fully appreciated.

Let me state at the outset that my purpose in this review is to do no less than inspire everyone who reads it to obtain a copy of the book, read it carefully, and actually **do** what **Radical Forgiveness** so helpfully teaches. And I would like to approach that goal by first quoting from a very personal and passionate article which the author himself wrote during the spring months of the Kosovo crisis, using what he describes as "the most transformational tool in the book," a tool called "Making Room For The Miracle - A Radical Forgiveness Worksheet."

In other words, this is how the author teaches **himself** how to forgive by willingly and fearlessly "taking darkness to light" via a very practical tool he has devised for us. As he states near the end of his book, "Doing this work takes enormous courage, willingness and faith. Honor yourself for doing it."

Here is a sample of how the author goes about taking his own advice within the context of "mass forgiveness":

"... America is big into denial. If I weren't into denial in a very big way, institutionally, corporately, governmentally and personally, society would look very different. Denial is a natural defense mechanism designed to protect us from sudden overload on the emotional system. But it has become more than that for me now ...

"Repression is just a deeper form of denial, but is always well below conscious awareness and is all the more insidious for being so. I repress and erase from my conscious awareness what I hate most about myself. This becomes my