

Contents

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	XIII
PREFACE	XV
1. BEGINNINGS	I
Family	
My First Love	
Pursuing a Priestly Vocation	
2. HIGH SCHOOL SEMINARY	II
Heartbreak	
Facing Family Alcoholism	
Spiritual Friendship	
Tragic Death of Uncle Dave	
Relationships with Women	
A New Meditation Practice: <i>Lectio Divina</i>	
3. UNSETTLED COLLEGE YEARS AND AN AWAKENING	24
Turbulence after the “Summer of Love”	
A Spiritual Awakening	
An Auspicious Journey to Mexico	
Exposure to Transcendental Meditation in a Factory	
Father Dunstan, a Modern-Day Desert Father	
4. VOCATIONAL CRISIS IN MEXICO	36
Arrival in Mexico	
Father Donald Hessler and <i>el Nuevo Guadalupanismo</i>	
An Undeclared Romance	
A New Host Family	
Vocational Crisis	

5. SIMONE WEIL, MEDITATION, AND JUNG	46
Simone Weil	
Transcendental Meditation	
Senior Year: Return to a Spiritual Routine	
The Psychology of Carl Jung	
Herman Hesse's <i>Narcissus and Goldmund</i>	
6. ENCOUNTER WITH CHRISTIAN MYSTICISM: MEISTER ECKHART	56
Eckhart's "Talks of Instruction"	
Eckhart's Experience of God	
The Unity of God and Human Beings	
7. ENCOUNTER WITH AN EASTERN TRADITION	64
Encountering Maharishi Mahesh Yogi	
Maharishi's Religious and Philosophical Tradition	
Spiritual Practices during the Course	
Aftereffects of the Course	
Processing with Father Dunstan	
8. GRADUATE SEMINARY AND A LIFE-CHANGING DECISION	74
Arrival at St. Patrick's Seminary	
Dogma	
Faith	
Jesus and the Avatars	
Decision to Leave the Seminary	
9. BREAKING THE NEWS	83
Challenged by Father Don McDonnell, Cesar Chavez's Mentor	
Breaking the News in Mexico	
10. SEEKING A NEW DIRECTION IN SPAIN	89
An Emotional Departure	
The East-West Dialogue Resumes	
Getting Serious about the Faith Again	
A Unique Christmas	
Bill Gibson Enters my Life	
The End of the Course	

II. EUROPEAN ODYSSEY	102
Tension with Old Friends	
A Providential Encounter	
Holy Week in Rome	
Encountering the Spirit of St. Francis	
Breathing the Spiritual Air of Assisi	
Synchronicity in Zurich	
12. A CRISIS BREWS DURING THE ODYSSEY	149
Synchronicity or Divine Providence?	
Study at the C. G. Jung Institute	
Connecting with My Swiss Family in the Alps	
Retreating to the Monastery of Taizé	
A Crisis Brews in Paris	
13. BREAKTHROUGH	122
Breakdown and Breakthrough during <i>Brother Sun, Sister Moon</i>	
Return to Taizé	
The Universal Value of Monasticism	
14 THE FINAL WEEKS OF THE ODYSSEY	133
The Monastery of la Pierre-qui-Vire	
Revelations	
Farewell to Pierre-qui-Vire and Leo	
A Surprise Trip to Mont Saint-Michel	
The World-Famous Monastery of Solesme	
The Last Week in Paris	
The Last Day: Chartres Cathedral	
15 FORGING A NEW PATH IN CALIFORNIA	148
Back with Family in Alameda	
Full Time at the School of Music	
A Spiritual Experiment That Failed	
A Prophetic Dream	
Withdrawing from the SJSU School of Music	
Painting Our Way to Hawaii	

16	ENCOUNTERING BUDDHISM IN HAWAII	160
	The Catholic Approach to Interreligious Dialogue	
	Fundamental Buddhist Teachings	
	Salvation in Buddhism and Christianity	
	Understandings of Jesus Christ	
	God and the Afterlife	
	Meditation Practices	
	The Fruit of the Hawaiian Experience	
17	TEACHING MEDITATION DURING THE “BOOM”	176
	Six Weeks on Cobb Mountain	
	Teaching Meditation	
	A Six-Month Advanced Meditation Course in Switzerland	
18	SEEKING ENLIGHTENMENT IN SWITZERLAND	182
	Serious Asceticism in the Alps	
	St. Teresa of Avila’s <i>Interior Castle</i>	
	The Vocation Question	
	Breakthrough	
19	A ROUGH LANDING BACK IN THE SEMINARY	193
	Deflation	
	A Supernatural Intervention	
	Ma’s Death	
	A Master’s Thesis and a Ph.D. Dissertation	
20	ST. TERESA OF AVILA, SPIRITUAL MASTER	204
	The Carmelites	
	St. Teresa’s Life as a Carmelite	
	St. Teresa’s Method of Meditation	
	St. Teresa’s Legacy	
	Comparing St. Teresa and Maharishi	
21	ORDINATION	214
	Language Study and Reconciliation in Mexico	
	Internship	
	Getting Ready for the Big Day	
	The Big Day	

22	CELEBRATIONS AND A SURPRISE ASSIGNMENT	224
	First Mass and Reception	
	More Celebrations	
	Two Weeks in Mexico	
	Climbing the Oaxaca Mountains	
	A Surprise Assignment	
23	DIVINE PROVIDENCE IS REAL	231
	ABOUT THE AUTHOR	236