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“*COMING HOME* offers an opportunity to breathe and discover.”
—*Midwest Book Review*

An Inspired Collection of Insightful Stories for All Spiritual Seekers

January 2021

Dear Editor / Producer:

For the first time in the history of the modern world, a global social, political, and environmental rupture has made the fundamental yearning for “something to believe in” an operative part of the American discourse. Words such as “meditation” and “spirituality vs. religion” have energized the cultural narrative, and for many, this dialog precedes a moral imperative to live with greater meaning. In a recent study by the Fetzer Institute, 86% of the respondents identify as “being spiritual,” 60% aspire to be more spiritual, and 50% have regular transcendent experiences. (<https://spiritualitystudy.fetzer.org/>)

Prolific author and Art Therapist **Margaret Wolff** found her spiritual path in the mid-70’s through a series of seeming serendipitous encounters that led her to the Indian spiritual master and pioneering yogi, Paramahansa Yogananda. In *COMING HOME: Finding Shelter in the Love and Wisdom of Paramahansa Yogananda* (White Pearl Press, May 2021), Wolff curates 14 modern-day stories of spiritual awakening that reflect what she now sees as “the most creative and transformative experience life can offer—developing an intimate partnership with the invisible God of one’s heart.” That process, Wolff observes, “gradually gives you the confidence to let go of your fears and the limitations of your personality. You grow less subject to the ‘shoulds’ and ‘should nots’ that keep you a captive of the social trance. You see ‘signs and wonders.’ Your wounds become sacred and you live the stories that allow you to bear witness to others’ lives.”

In *COMING HOME*, 14 spiritual travelers from a diversity of backgrounds, national origins, and geographic locations—White, Black, Asian, and mixed race; lawyers to a Jungian analyst to a professional dancer; from Kenya to Vancouver, Saint Paul to L.A.—give readers a bird’s-eye view of what it is like to receive a Divine invitation that jumpstarts your spiritual life. Though their religious roots vary—Lutheran, Baptist, Presbyterian, Catholic, Jewish, and Muslim, as well as Atheist—their stories personify the collective hunger for firsthand spiritual experience. Told through the lens of Yogananda’s universal yoga teachings, their heartfelt accounts of what they describe as “coming home”

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capture the profound peace, the safety and acceptance, the love, joy and gratitude, that come from saying “Yes!” to the invitation.

A true believer in the magic and power of storytelling to not only inform but to “transform a heart,” Margaret Wolff is eager to open up the conversation about the coming home experience with your audience. Topics include:

- How the events 2020 and the yearning for “something to believe in” are shaping spirituality in America.
- The spiritual path as “the Hero’s Journey,” the quest to become, as mythologist Joseph Campbell calls it, “the hero of your own life” and live from your soul.
- How to create a meaningful, expansive *partnership* with a loving God vs. an ultimate authority, judge, and arbiter of heaven and hell that keeps you feeling small and afraid.
- The transformative power of yoga meditation that becomes—no matter your age, faith or personal history—“a portable paradise” that enables you to live life as a sacred encounter.
- The importance of telling your story to others, of letting your life speak, of making contributions to the cultural narrative that foster universal values, brotherhood, and community activism.

MARGARET WOLFF is the author of 21 books, including *In Sweet Company: Conversations with Extraordinary Women About Living a Spiritual Life*. She has written 150+ blogs, stories, interviews, and essays for outlets ranging from Beliefnet to *Yoga International* to the Chicken Soup for the Soul series to the Collective Women’s Initiative and Feminist.com. She earned degrees in Art Therapy, Psychosynthesis, and Leadership Studies and uses her passions for storytelling and “conversations that matter” as catalysts that help others connect with their best instincts and chart the life they long to lead. She has facilitated more than 250 keynotes and retreats for organizations such as The Parliament of World Religions, UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute, and American Montessori Society, and served as a delegate to the United Nations conference, The Global Peace Initiative of Women, in Geneva.

Wolff began to ask The Big Questions that sparked her own spiritual journey after the sudden death of her mother in 1974. Two years later, she read *Autobiography of a Yogi*, by Paramahansa Yogananda (1893-1952), founder of Self-Realization Fellowship, and began practicing meditation. Yogananda is widely regarded throughout the world as one of the preeminent spiritual figures of our time and is known as “the Father of Yoga in the West.” To learn more, visit: www.ComingHomeStories.com.

COMING HOME satisfies our need for transcendent stories in the wake of 2020. Wolff observes, “2020 has been a profound internal reckoning. The clarion call sounded: To thrive, we must live at the hub of the wheel—careening ’round the rim will no longer do. The big question on everyone’s lips these days is ‘what matters most?’ All of us have moments of connection to ‘Something More,’ experiences of grace that we let pass us by. Do we continue to wait for circumstances outside ourselves to change or do we move to the hub of the wheel and harvest the life that is calling us as the storytellers in **COMING HOME** have done? The deeper you go, the richer the harvest.”

I hope you will welcome Margaret Wolff to share her profound insights and tidings of comfort.

Sincerely,

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