

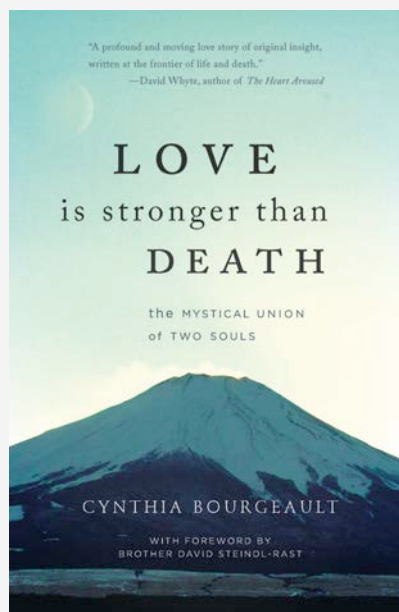
New Book Announcement



Monkfish Book Publishing Company, Rhinebeck, NY

National Publicity: Eileen Duhne • 415-459-2573 • eduhne@comcast.net

Monkfish Publicity: Shulin Chinilson • 845-876-4861 • shulin@monkfishpublishing.com



“...the communion between Rafe and Cynthia was a true ‘conversation of the heart’ (*sobbat*) that continues to this day. We are privileged to listen in.”

—Lynn C. Bauman,
author of *The Gospel of Thomas: Wisdom of the Twin*

“This is the most unconventional love story: two aging individuals in search of God meet and immediately recognize ‘the beloved’ in the other. Together they attain what they could not do alone. They discover the highest form of human love, a love that joins them as one soul and defies death. This is a spiritual book about human passion.”

—Isabel Allende, author of *The House of the Spirits*

Love is Stronger Than Death: The Mystical Union of Two

Souls is an intimate spiritual memoir and guide-book for those who are called to the path of conscious love. This powerful book, written by an Episcopal priest, tells of her intense relationship with Brother Raphael Robin, a seventy-year-old Trappist monk and hermit. The romantic, yet platonic relationship that ensued between the 50-year-old Bourgeault and the 70-year-old hermit lasted five years, until his death. Both believed that a relationship can continue beyond this life, and here Bourgeault describes her search for that connection before and after Rafe’s death. Both had studied Western esoteric traditions and believed it was possible for two souls to work and grow together "from here to eternity."

“One thing is certain: This is not an anti-monastic book. On the contrary. It is ablaze with passion for the one essential task of the monk: total inner transformation. This love story deserves a place in every monastic library. It is an exploration of the monk’s pursuit at its daring best...Its spirituality, far from violating monastic tradition, pushes the understanding of traditional values higher and deeper.”

– Brother David Steindl-Rast, from the *Foreward*



About the Author: Modern day mystic, Episcopal priest, writer, and internationally known retreat leader, Cynthia Bourgeault divides her time between solitude at her seaside hermitage in Maine, and a demanding schedule traveling globally to teach and spread the recovery of the Christian contemplative and Wisdom path. She is the founding Director of both The Contemplative Society and the Aspen Wisdom School.

Cynthia is the author of eight books: *The Holy Trinity and the Law of the Three*, *The Meaning of Mary Magdalene*, *The Wisdom Jesus*, *Centering Prayer and Inner Awakening*, *Mystical Hope*, *The Wisdom Way of Knowing*, *Chanting the Psalms*, and *Love is Stronger Than Death*. She has also authored or contributed to numerous articles and courses on the research at St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, MN, and the oblate of New Camaldoli Monastery in Big Sur, California.

Cynthia continues to contribute to The Contemplative Society in her role as Principal teacher and advisor. She passionately promotes the practice of Centering Prayer, and has worked closely with Thomas Keating, Bruno Barnhart, Richard Rohr, as well as many other contemplative teachers within the Christian tradition as well as other spiritual paths.

To learn more about Cynthia Bourgeault, visit <http://www.contemplative.org/cynthia.html>

“A lucid, brave, and significant contribution to the two deepest questions being asked by all seekers now: What really happens after death and how can human relationships help us to achieve an initiation into divine human love? Another dimension which this book opens up is that of the real place of *eros* in Christian mysticism and the act of living mystical experience.”

—Andrew Harvey, author of *Son of Man*

“This is a wonder inducing guidebook to the marvels of love and the spiritual life.”

—Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat,
Spirituality and Practice

“A profound and moving love story of original insight, written at the frontier of life and death.”

—David White, author of *The Heart Aroused*

Love is Stronger Than Death: The Mystical Union of Two Souls by Cynthia Bourgeault
Monkfish Book Publishing Company / Distributed by Consortium
Trade Paper 9781939681355 US \$16.95 /CAN \$18.50
Ebook 9781939681362 US \$7.69 /CAN \$8.50
Publication date: November 2014