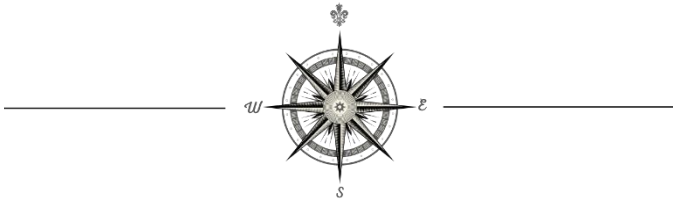


MICHAEL ROYER



Lessons From Heaven and Beyond

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This book is a work of non-fiction. All the places, incidents, and accounts reported occurred exactly as they are described. Several names have been changed or omitted to provide a level of anonymity to those individuals.

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First and foremost, I must dedicate this book to God. Without him, none of this would have been possible. I want to thank him for this experience and for trusting me with his heavenly message of love and peace. I just hope that the effort I put into recreating that message, met with whatever expectations he has for me.

I must also thank the thousands of people who unknowingly assisted with the development of this book. Through our encounters, I gained the experience, knowledge, and wisdom necessary to connect all of the heavenly puzzle pieces I was given.

I also need to extend a thank you to Maddi V. Her help, support, and patience in the editing of this book was invaluable.

Finally, I must thank my wife, Cristine. Although this life we share has been extraordinary, it certainly was not what she signed up for. The fact that she has stayed with me through the uncertainties of this journey, lending support, insight, and encouragement, shows what a phenomenal person she is. That is why I refer to her as the wonderfully fabulous Cristine. Without her, this book would never have been written. My love for her is immeasurable and will endure through this lifetime and beyond.

EXPLANATION

One of the early questions I received from test readers of this book was why I continually capitalized the word “Heaven” and always left the word “hell” in lowercase.

I am not sure I have a specific explanation for this other than it was the author's discretion.

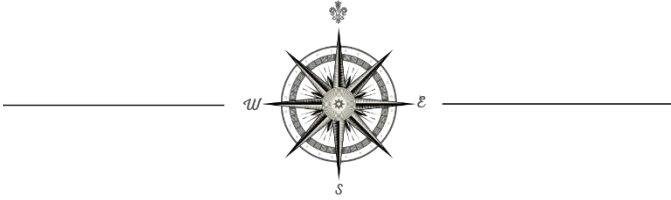
From a strictly English grammar point of view, I understand this is improper. However, I chose to do this because of my heavenly inspired respect for God as well as Heaven, which is his creation.

Part One



Death and Heaven

Chapter One



The Gift

If I tell you this book will provide the most extensive and factual description of Heaven ever offered, you might greet that claim with a great deal of skepticism. Such a statement might even draw your outright laughter. Heaven is a topic discussed from a perspective of faith, personal belief, and conviction. It cannot be a conversation rooted in fact. However, a factual account of Heaven is just what I am going to provide.

In the spring of 1992, I experienced an extraordinary event. I was unexpectedly transported off this earthly plane to a location we commonly refer to as Heaven. This event was not a mere glimpse, but a comprehensive journey that took me to various locations on that heavenly plane. Each of these locations, or

venues, imparted invaluable lessons about Heaven. This is how I came to possess the most comprehensive and definitive first-hand account of Heaven ever compiled.

It is now my task to recount this journey through Heaven in precisely the same manner as it was presented to me. What you will receive is a factual account of Heaven's workings and the spiritual beings that exist there. It is important to note that this retelling is offered without one inch of deviation or a single ounce of embellishment from how it was presented to me.

Before we even take our first step into Heaven, I must provide a pre-flight briefing. First, understand that Heaven is the most remarkable place imaginable. In a single word, Heaven is perfect. That assertion should surprise no one. However, you also need to understand that whatever your current belief or understanding of Heaven is, the actual truth of Heaven will differ from those beliefs. Let me say that again because it bears repeating: Whatever your current beliefs about Heaven are, the actual truth of Heaven and how it operates will differ from your current beliefs. I warn you in advance that not only will your understanding of Heaven

be challenged, but there will also be certain truths of Heaven presented along the way that will make you uncomfortable. I would say that, in several instances, you will not want to believe that Heaven operates in the manner it does. At least not initially.

When I finally decided to come forward with this book about my journey through Heaven, there were several monumental challenges I had to overcome. First, recounting my excursion to Heaven was not as simple as retelling the story. It was much more complex. The most significant challenge was finding ways to explain things from a heavenly perspective. Now, what does that mean?

For starters, you must begin by understanding that in our current human form, we operate much differently than we do on the heavenly plane. Presently, we think, act, and operate from an earthly perspective. We measure and evaluate everything through this limited earthly point of view because that is all we have. I am not saying this to criticize our current abilities but to express a point. Spiritual beings in Heaven operate via a heavenly perspective. This perspective is vastly different and more

expansive than our current earthly one. It is so different that trying to explain this difference is, at times, as difficult as trying to describe color to a color-blind person.

After decades of contemplation, I felt the best way to illustrate how great a difference exists was to use an incredibly tragic event I witnessed. Again, you may wonder why I am using such words or drawing on such an example when describing Heaven. When we think of Heaven, we only want to imagine love, joy, and harmony. Well, that is Heaven; however, spiritual beings can achieve that state of being differently than we might expect.

What I need to do here is adjust your thinking. This dramatic example is not designed to shock you. It is offered to show you how differently you must view things if you are to understand heavenly lessons from a spiritual being's point of view. If I do my job correctly, you will not only gain the necessary perspective but might also add some spiritual tools to your earthly perspective toolbox. Are you up for the challenge? If so, let's get started.

I had only been in Heaven briefly when a spiritual being appeared before me. It would turn out this

individual was actually my assigned heavenly teacher. One of the first things I noticed about this being is that he bore a significant physical disfigurement. Now I must tell you, when I first saw this, I was shocked. I wondered why someone in Heaven could possess such an unfortunate disfigurement. Before traveling to Heaven, I believed every aspect of Heaven was perfect. I thought that people who suffered from physical afflictions were able to shed those physical burdens in Heaven and be as perfect as they wanted to be. Now, I was looking at a spiritual being who possibly proved that belief may have been nothing more than wishful thinking.

So, the question we must answer to understand this lesson is, why would a spiritual being in Heaven have a physical burden or disfigurement? How does that fit any favorable picture of Heaven we were taught or conjured up for ourselves? Adding to the perplexing nature of this question, I will share that this being who stood before me, displaying this physical disfigurement, did so in a state of complete peace, harmony, and joy. In short, he openly welcomed the burden. Now, how can that be? Did I just make this heavenly situation even more

confusing? Well, give me a chance to make sense of all this for you. To do this, I must take you back to 2008 and share an unfortunate incident I witnessed. I understand this all seems a bit dark, but hang in there with me. I promise this will all have a happy conclusion and one that is worthy of Heaven.

In 2008, I was employed as a crisis counselor. In this position, my primary task was to assess clients who were contemplating or had attempted suicide. On the day in question, I was working out of our local hospital emergency room. I had just finished assessing a client when I noticed a rapid increase in activity within the ER. Several nurses had started to prepare one of the trauma rooms. Other emergency room staff conducted intense radio conversations with an inbound ambulance crew. Listening in, I was able to overhear that a young boy about four or five was being transported in with severe body trauma. His family had come up to high country for a weekend camping trip. I can only assume they had anticipated a joyful family outing.

I do not have all the details of the mishap, but after the family arrived at their campsite, the little boy was apparently let out of the vehicle.

Sometime later, the family needed to back the trailer into their assigned space. I can only assume his family focused on moving the trailer and must have lost sight of the little boy. Unfortunately, he made his way behind the trailer. Inadvertently, the camping trailer rolled over him.

When the ambulance arrived at the emergency room, I watched the crew rush the gurney into the trauma room, where the little boy was engulfed by medical staff. I also watched as the family came rushing into the emergency room and were immediately diverted to a nearby waiting area with understandable reluctance. As I watched this event unfold, I could not bring myself to accept the reality of the situation. From all outward appearances, this loving family had just come up for a fun camping weekend. How could they have even contemplated the nightmare unfolding before them? My thoughts drifted to the family in the waiting area as I watched the doctor examine this little boy. Having two young children myself, I could not even imagine the pain they must be experiencing. It was certainly too terrible for me to try and quantify.

I watched as the doctor pulled away from the small patient on the examining table, shaking his head. He had declared this little boy dead. I stood there frozen in shock as I tried to comprehend the finality of this moment. In all my years working on crisis calls, I have experienced many unexpected events, but never anything like this. My heart was breaking. Then, one ER staff member pulled me out of my moment. He moved in front of me and said, "Hey, this boy has passed away, and we want you to go in and provide comfort to the parents. They are going to need all the support you can offer." What? I did not even know this boy or his family, and yet I was having a terrible time gathering myself emotionally. I simply could not place myself in the family's situation and consider such a tragic loss. Just being present in the aftermath of this terrible and unthinkable event devastated me. Now, it was apparently up to me to talk to the parents and provide meaningful comfort. What words could I use that would somehow ease the pain and devastation of the loss they were now facing? In that tragic moment, I knew there were none.

Now that we have set the stage, I want to take you out of that event and change the rules. What

if I held the power to return that son to his mother in a healthy and intact fashion? What if I could have undone this horrible event by turning back the clock? Of course, I have no such ability, but what if I, or someone else, did? What price would the mother be willing to pay to undo the tragedy that had just befallen her family? You know the answer. The mother would be willing to pay any price. She would do anything to reverse this unthinkable tragedy that had been so unfairly thrust upon her.

To continue with this lesson, let us say the price the mother had to pay for the return of her son was the forfeit of her left arm. Can you imagine? If possible, do you think the mother would take this deal? If so, how would she feel when she saw her little boy come running out of the trauma room smiling with outstretched arms to greet her? What would the mother's thoughts be as she received the most miraculous hug of her life? Would she feel cheated as she wrapped her remaining arm tightly around that little boy? Would she think she gave up too much for her sons' return? Would she harbor feelings of regret over the loss of her arm in comparison to what she had received? Years later, do you think she would have misgivings over the deal she had

made to gain the return of her son? As she watched her son graduate from high school and perhaps college, would she feel sorrow or anger over her decision? When she stood at his wedding, looking at the handsome young man he had become and how happy he was, do you think she would secretly feel remorse regarding the sacrifice she made to undo the most tragic day of her life?

The fact is the mother would rejoice at being provided the opportunity to set things right. This burden was a small price to pay for a chance at redemption. She would take this deal a thousand times over without a single regret if it resulted in the return of a healthy son.

Unfortunately, we do not always get a chance at redemption on this earthly plane. Our life provides no guarantees that we can correct the painful acts we commit or allow to happen. Well, this is how things may work in the here and now, but on the heavenly plane, things operate much differently. In Heaven, we are provided the opportunity to make amends. These opportunities lead us toward the redemption we seek and place us on our path toward peace. Making amends with those we wronged in this

lifetime is paramount in the hereafter. On the heavenly plane, spiritual beings pursue the ability to redeem themselves with the same level of unhesitating unselfishness and devotion this mother would have chosen if only given a chance.

Once we become spiritual beings, nothing is of greater importance than working to correct the wrongs we have committed in this lifetime. This task essentially becomes our path toward eternal and lasting peace. It is also why the entity I encountered in Heaven wore his burden with complete peace, joy, and harmony. He was unburdened by the knowledge that he was being allowed to undo the wrongs he had committed in his lifetime. The disfigurement he currently bore was a small price for placing him on his path of redemption.

The purpose behind taking on a burden in Heaven is just one example of the shift in mentality you must be willing to bring on board if you are to understand things from a heavenly perspective. You cannot judge Heaven by an initial snapshot or presupposed assumptions we have made or been taught about this location. The only way to fully understand Heaven and its

workings is to approach it with a fresh set of eyes, an open mind, and an open heart. Heaven will be different than you expect but more wonderful than you can imagine.

As we journey together through Heaven and you encounter a heavenly truth that makes you uncomfortable, please remember to reserve your judgment. Don't form your opinion based on a snapshot. Also, I know many of you have thoughts on how Heaven is supposed to work. It is not my intent to challenge those beliefs. My task is to provide the truth of what I was allowed to see, learn, and experience while in Heaven. If that truth differs from your personal belief, try not to discard it on those grounds alone.

Throughout history, we often reach points where the status of information we once held as factual can change. A simple example is when Copernicus mathematically proved that the Sun, and not the Earth, was the center of our universe. For hundreds, perhaps thousands of years, we held to a false understanding that Earth was the center of our known universe. You could also consider the once-promoted idea that the Earth was flat. Our history is full of examples of long-held ideas that at one time were regarded as

truth. In those earlier times, speaking against these assumed truths could have devastating personal consequences even if you could factually prove your opposing position, as in the case of Copernicus.

Here is something else to consider. Since the beginning of their existence, the Earth and Sun have never done anything different. These celestial objects have continuously operated in the very same manner. It was only OUR understanding that changed. I ask that you approach this heavenly information the same way. Consider that since the beginning of time, Heaven has operated in the same manner that it currently does. All I offer is the actual truth of that operation and the opportunity for you to explore new possibilities. If you can do this, I can almost guarantee you can arrive at a location that lets you start seeing things from an actual heavenly perspective. Just remember that it took me thirty years to accomplish this task. So, if it does not come to you quickly, be patient. Give yourself some time.

The last statement I made brought up a new question. Why has it taken me thirty years to come forward with this book? Certainly, anyone

who wants to author a book can accomplish this task in less than three decades. Was I holding this information back for a specific reason? I can tell you that waiting thirty years to come forward was never my plan. I don't think I ever really had a plan for what I would do with this heavenly information. While in Heaven, I can assure you I was not provided any guidance about what to do with all the information I received. However, I will share with you there were valid reasons behind this three-decade delay.

First, if I had to choose a word that summarized my state of mind after returning from Heaven, that word would be "confused." While in Heaven, I visited three very separate venues within that plane. Each of these venues provided numerous pieces of information regarding Heaven. Throughout my journey, I received a thousand pieces of heavenly information. When I returned to this earthly plane, I was surprised to find that I retained everything I had been given while in Heaven. At any time after my return, I could pull out any one of those individual pieces of information and relive every aspect of that heavenly experience. However, I had a problem.

Although I had retained complete recall of all the information provided, I needed to understand the whole meaning. So much of what I experienced in Heaven was beyond my current level of comprehension. I held all the individual pieces of information but had no summary understanding of their totality. I could not connect all the pieces together, which would have allowed me to view the final picture. Allow me to explain this further.

Suppose you take an average four-year-old boy and give him a six-piece puzzle. Now, ask him to assemble it. This task would be no problem because it is within his current capability. This boy has the mental and physical ability to assemble the puzzle unassisted. Now give that same boy a one-thousand-piece puzzle. Ask him to do the same thing and assemble those thousand pieces unassisted. Understandably, the typical four-year-old is not yet equipped to accomplish this new task. At his current level of development, he knows it is a puzzle, and all the pieces should fit together, but he does not possess the skills, knowledge, or experience to accomplish the task. It is simply beyond his current development.

When I returned from Heaven, I was a four-year-old boy. In reality, I was thirty-three years of age when I journeyed to Heaven, but from a heavenly perspective, I may as well have been four. As stated, upon my return, I could pick out any individual piece of heavenly information I had received and reexamine it. By itself, I could recall every single detail associated with that isolated piece of heavenly information, right down to the emotions attached to it. However, I was overwhelmed and outmatched, just like the four-year-old trying to assemble that thousand-piece puzzle. Like him, I lacked the ability and understanding to connect all the pieces into their final picture. There was no doubt in my mind that I had received something unique and special. I just had no idea what I was supposed to do with this gift. If anything!

So, there I was in 1992 with all this heavenly information but lacking the knowledge, experience, and wisdom to piece it all together. What I did not know but was about to learn is that God already had a plan to remedy this. Of course, at that moment, I had no idea what his plan was. I did not even know there WAS a plan. However, I was about to find out my life was

going to take a drastic turn, whether I was ready or not.

Allow me to pause for just a moment. You noticed that I just referred to God as he. I want you to fully understand that while in Heaven, experiencing God's presence, I was not given a gender base. I simply use the term "he" from time to time for simplicity and continuity. Not because I have any insight or knowledge into God's gender, nor am I trying to promote any position by using this term. It was just a simple and easy term to use. If the use of this term offends, that was never my intent.

At the time of my journey to Heaven, my wife and I were just short of five years into our marriage. I had recently finished my active-duty commitment as a naval officer and aviator and was transitioning back into civilian life. The Navy was my first professional career. Since childhood, I dreamed of flying, and the Navy allowed me to capture that dream. After finishing my active duty obligation with the Navy, Cris and I left Seattle and moved back to Southern California. Cris returned to work with the Fortune one-hundred corporation she had been employed with when we met. I eventually

landed employment with the nation's fifth-largest independent tire and service center, quickly working my way up to director of franchise operations.

Life was good for us. We lived in a home within a gated community in Orange County, right across the street from my university alma mater. At that time, we were living every inch of the American dream. We were young and successful and quickly climbing the corporate ladder. This is what we thought our life was going to be. Then, over the course of a single evening, everything changed. After that night, nothing about our lives would ever be the same again.

When I returned from Heaven, I had changed in several fundamental ways. One of the things that each inhabitant of Heaven holds as a priority is the need to be of service to others. This task is high on the list of priorities that direct their actions. Performing this act is more than important. Being of service is actually infused into each heavenly being as a primary objective.

It appeared that while I was a spiritual being on the heavenly plane, not only was I infused with this same need to be of service, but that need remained within me after I returned from

Heaven. I guess you could say that Heaven had given me a parting gift. There would be an additional remnant discovered later, but the need to be of service was the first one I was truly aware of. Actually, it was much more than an awareness; it was something that began to consume me shortly after my return.

In the days and weeks after my return, I spent much time alone trying to sort through what had happened. Not long after my return, I told my wife that we needed to sell our house, quit our corporate jobs, and move to Arizona. I think you can imagine her initial reaction to that statement. To say she struggled to understand what I was going through, post return, and what I was asking of her was an understatement. Here, she thought she had married a stable and successful individual. Now, I wanted to throw everything we had worked to build over these last five years out the window, and all for something I could not explain. How she stayed with me through those early months and years after my return from Heaven is still a mystery to me. Thank God she did.

While in Heaven, I was given no direction regarding what I was supposed to do upon my

return. There was no playbook to follow regarding the future direction I was to take. It felt as if I had been left on my own to figure it out. However, two driving forces were really pushing me. The first was my described need to be of service to others in some large and impactful way. I had no idea how to accomplish this, but I knew I could not rest until I found a way. The second was that this endeavor was not to take place in California. Up to that point, I had spent most of my years in California. It had been home. However, it became somehow clear to me it was time to leave. My future, whatever it was, lay somewhere out in the Arizona desert.

Relocating to Arizona became my second driving force. How did I know Arizona was destined to be our next stop? I had no idea. It was simply a predominant feeling that was swelling up inside of me. I only prayed I would find a way to extinguish the fire that had started to burn inside me, or I was going to be in real trouble. I needed to find some relief. This need to be of service was quickly turning into an obsession. This obsession had lit an internal flame that was rapidly turning into an inferno and on its way to entirely consuming me.

About four months after my return from Heaven, on a day that registered about 115 degrees, we found ourselves off-loading what remained of our household items into a metal storage unit in Mesa, Arizona. I had convinced Cris to sell our home, quit our jobs, and strike out on some heavenly-inspired trek with no idea what I was supposed to do. Yet on that sweltering day, which also happened to be the date of our fifth wedding anniversary, here we stood.

Shortly after arriving in Arizona, Cris found good employment with one of the state's largest utility companies. She worked in their advertising department and even went on to do voice work for them on one of their major radio advertising campaigns. As for me, I continued to try and find out why I had been driven into the desert. As months turned into years, I found myself questioning this decision more than once. These were challenging times, and I continued to ask myself and God if I had done the right thing. It sure didn't feel like it. I was finding it increasingly difficult to justify everything I had asked Cris to leave behind in exchange for the struggles we were facing and what little we now had.

Flashing ahead, I would eventually find proper work in Arizona through what I honestly considered to be divine intervention. Following that direction guided me toward a residential youth program where I found employment as a counselor working with at-risk teens. In truth, I was not qualified for the job, yet there I was. It turned out to be some of the most rewarding work I have ever done. I finally felt like I was where I was supposed to be, doing the type of work I had been called upon to do. The only problem was I was doing it at about a third of my previous salary. Financially, we were on our way to the poor house.

Ultimately, I would stay involved with this youth program for seven years. I would also enroll in a master's degree program for counseling so my skills could catch up with my requirements. Although this ability to be of genuine service to others started in Arizona, it would eventually take us to Colorado in the aftermath of the Columbine shootings. Ten months later, we found ourselves moving to a small town in Montana, where we established a residential youth program for that state. With each move, my responsibility grew, as did my ability to be of service to others. Compliments of this earth

bound journey; I was able to provide life-changing services to thousands. It was an absolutely wonderful feeling and most importantly it served to grow my experiences, knowledge and wisdom.

By the time this earthbound journey concluded almost three decades after starting, these are some of the awards I would accumulate as a result of my service to others. I would be awarded the Meritorious Service Medal from the State of Arizona. This award was for my work with the parents of at-risk youth. To my great surprise, I would be featured as front-page news in a state's foremost newspaper and also interviewed on television and radio. I would testify multiple times in front of a state legislature. Later, the Governor herself would award me the State of Montana Distinguished Service Medal. This award happens to be the highest a state employee can receive. Along the way, I was also presented with the key to a city.

As we continued this earthbound journey, it would come full circle as we returned to Arizona in 2004. There, I would find my way into serving people contemplating suicide. I would stay in that position for eight years. Working with this

population was apparently a key part of the journey as well. For my services in this line of work, I was awarded crisis counselor of the year for the entire northern half of the State of Arizona.

On the navy front, I served with the reserve until I retired as a full commander. My last position was serving as the youngest executive officer ever for Naval Air Station North Island, Coronado, California.

I do not mention these awards or positions to garner attention or admiration. I mention them because I want you to understand what can be accomplished when you sincerely apply the lessons of Heaven to those in need, which is what I have spent the last thirty years doing. However, beyond that, there was something of even greater importance going on here. This earthbound journey I had been set out upon would prove to hold the key to unlocking that treasure box of heavenly information I had been given. In other words, the experience gained on this journey would ultimately allow me to assemble the respective puzzle pieces and eventually view the final picture. Let me share how that worked.

My first experience in this endeavor came only a short time after I had started working with at-risk youth. I had just finished a rather intense session with one of the kids. Together, we had been successful in helping him work through some of his previous trauma. He seemed to have taken a positive step towards becoming less emotionally encumbered. Something hit me as I sat in my office, reviewing the session. A part of our encounter had unlocked something I had previously not understood about Heaven. Something in that session had helped me decode a heavenly experience that, up to now, had not made complete sense. It was this act of being of service to others that gave me the ability to start assembling those heavenly puzzle pieces into place. If this was how I would gain the necessary knowledge to finally and fully assemble that heavenly puzzle, I was all in.

This process would repeatedly reveal itself over the next twenty-plus years. As I continued my work in the helping professions, this service proved the key to connecting the heavenly pieces of information. This process also helped turn down the flame that had been ignited after my return from Heaven. Both revelations gave me confidence that I was on the right track.

One might think that a factual recounting of an extensive journey through Heaven would be more than enough to draft a book about. Eight years had passed since my journey to Heaven, and I was starting to feel rather good about the level of understanding I had gained since my return. I began to consider that it was time to write down some of this information on paper. I do not know if I was thinking of authoring a book, but just perhaps the beginning of a process to capture this information.

Although I had been given the most detailed and extensive first-hand account of Heaven ever compiled, it appeared this was not enough. Little did I know that my learning was far from complete. In September of 2000, exactly as before, I was once again swept up and taken off this earthly plane.

There is only one certainty that I can offer you about this book: the truth of my experience. Recounting the absolute truth is a promise I made to God. No matter if I agreed with what I was allowed to see or if I wished information had been presented in a different manner, which might have appeared to be more credible, these choices were not mine. All I can offer is the

absolute truth and nothing but the truth, so help me, God. So, with that said, if you think a journey to Heaven is unlikely, then you might consider a second journey next to impossible. If this happens to be your thought, just wait to see where this second journey deposited me.

When I landed at this second destination, I assumed I had returned to Heaven and was certainly up for that possibility. However, once I took a quick look at my surroundings, I noticed that they were different in almost every aspect from what I had previously seen in Heaven.

For starters, everything in Heaven is beautifully vibrant and perfect, as you might imagine. What I was looking at in my current surroundings, compliments of this second journey, was nothing but drab and unremarkable grey. This scenery should have been the first clue as to my actual location.

Another thing I will quickly share with you about Heaven is that as an occupant of that plane, you are filled with an almost inexplicably wonderful feeling. I spend the better part of an entire chapter in this book trying my best to describe that uniquely heavenly feeling that permeates each spiritual being on the heavenly plane.

Standing at this second location demonstrated a distinct absence of that unmistakable heavenly feeling.

The other thing that was quite different was the two entities present at this location with me. Their appearance and behavior were distinctly different from all the spiritual beings I had encountered on my initial journey to Heaven. Their behavior was very commanding and stoic. The only other thing of interest at this location was a set of sliding glass doors. They were just like the type you would walk through upon entering your favorite supermarket.

Just as my frustration was about to become an issue regarding why I was here, a being exited those sliding doors and began walking towards me. I cannot say which was more shocking, her appearance or the emotional state she displayed. I can report the emotions flooding from her were almost strong enough to knock me to my knees.

I should explain part of this last statement. One of the things you will learn about spiritual beings is they can directly feel others' emotions. This enhanced sense is just one of the abilities we gain upon crossing over, and it is put to extensive

use on the heavenly plane. So, my ability to feel the actual emotional state of this other being was not new to me. I experienced this very thing on my first journey. However, what she was feeling was as excruciating as it was unexpected.

What occurred from that moment forward was something I will never forget. If I had not witnessed it personally, there would be no way that I could describe what took place there and the far-reaching revelations this encounter provided.

Just as quickly and unexpectedly as this second journey had started, it was over. When I awoke the following morning, I did what I had done eight years previously. I immediately shared the details of this journey with my wife. I felt honored that I had been called into service again. I just was unsure exactly what had transpired. If I had been confused after returning from my original journey to Heaven eight years prior, my level of confusion was even greater now.

For days after my return, I continued to go over every detail of what I had seen and experienced on this second journey. However, nothing was making sense from a heavenly perspective. As

much as I tried to make the unusual aspects of this second journey fit into a heavenly mold, it seemed increasingly difficult. It was reminiscent of attempting to pound a square peg into a round hole. Something was amiss here, and I was at a loss to find clarity.

Several more days passed, and I repeatedly replayed every detail of this journey.

Unfortunately, my understanding did not increase, only my level of frustration. Then, the realization of this encounter hit me like a lightning bolt. I could not believe it had taken me the better part of a week to produce the answer that had been right in front of me all along.

This second journey had taken me right to the gates of hell! Yes, you read that correctly. Once I figured this out, I was both shocked and amazed. However, once I had finally gotten out of my own way and properly aligned myself, everything, and I mean everything, now fit into place and made sense.

As you read this, the idea that I had not returned to Heaven may have already occurred to you. In retrospect, I know that I should have come to this obvious conclusion much earlier. However, I fell victim to something I previously warned you

about. In your case, I cautioned that holding onto your current earthly perspective will not necessarily serve you well if you want to understand things from a heavenly perspective.

When I was taken on this second journey, I fell into this very trap myself. The only difference was I was holding onto my heavenly perspective. I innocently assumed that's where I had been taken. There was no indication or reason to expect otherwise. Who knew my next teaching would come compliments of hell? My mistake was trying to make sense of my circumstances looking through the wrong viewfinder. Once I discovered this mistake, the question now became; Why had I been taken to the gates of hell?

After sorting all of this out, here is what became obvious to me. Learning the actual truth of Heaven showed me that we hold several misconceptions about that location. Taking a journey to the gates of hell and interacting with a spiritual being who was a recent resident of that location showed me the very same thing.

The fact is that Heaven, our Earth, and hell are much more intricately connected than one might imagine. In truth, you cannot have an accurate

and comprehensive conversation about Heaven or our Earth without including hell. To do so would be like asking a child to ride a tricycle with one of the three wheels removed. It just is not designed to be ridden that way.

If you ever wanted to gain a truthful and accurate representation of what awaits us after death, you have come to the right place. All that will be required is opening your eyes, your heart, and your mind. If you are ready for the truth, then let's begin our journey to Heaven and beyond.