

Inspiration: Paula D'Arcy

Paula D'Arcy will be at Siena Center January 13-15, 2006. Her retreat is named after her new book:

SACRED THRESHOLDS

The cover of Paula D'Arcy's latest book intrigues. We are inside a house with sunlight shining through the open door. Outside the door, flush with the threshold, is ocean-like water stretching to the horizon. For the writer, crossing the threshold into new ways of relating is risky, a sacred step into Deep Waters.

Gospel words resonate: "Launch out into the deep." Paula takes us out beyond convention, as she faces the challenge to change her life radically and find deeper expressions of love. We learn new ways of loving through her amazing four stories.

Paula D'Arcy writes:

"There's infinitely more than the experience of love we already know. Push against your borders. Dare to move through the next threshold to the freedom awaiting you."

"Knowing that an inner source of guidance was there (and vital to my being) was one thing, heeding it was another."

"Love insists that everything be set free."

"When Harry Potter is trying to find the platform for the train that will bring him to his new school, he faced a blank wall where Platform 9 ¾ should be. Then the mother of a student who has made this trip before gives him advice. She encourages him to run right toward the platform (the threshold), promising that it will yield when he gets to it. That's what I'm learning: to trust the amount of light I *have* been given and run right toward the next doorway."

Inspiration from two of Paula's other books

Some "WHAT IF's" excerpted from A New Set of Eyes:

"What if the soul has never been away from the heart of God?
What if the Spirit continues this work, whether or not the human heart and mind can consider or accept it?
What if we had the desire—or courage—to find God where it counts the most, in life?"

From Encountering God's Presence Today:

"I struggle still, to value life enough. To lie, ear to the ground, until I hear, above every competing sound, the beckoning of all that's true."