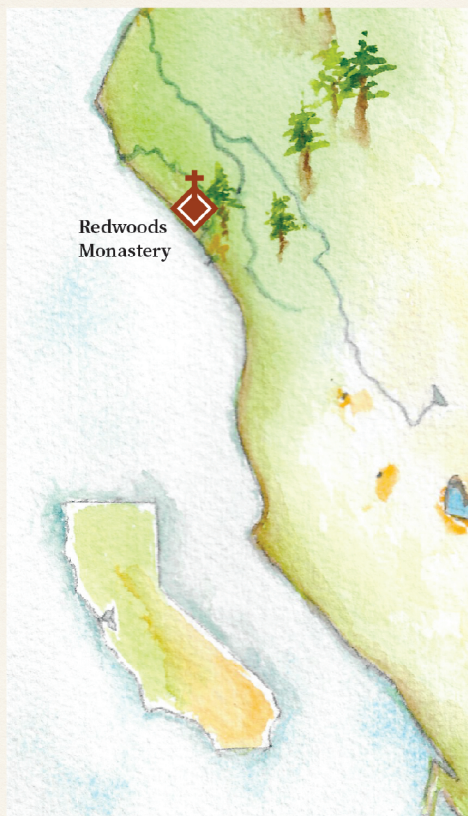


Previously unpublished material from world-renowned Trappist monk and author Thomas Merton, featuring the final conference talks given in the United States before his untimely death.

In May and October of 1968, Thomas Merton offered two extended conferences at Our Lady of the Redwoods Abbey, a Cistercian women's community in Northern California. Comprising over twenty-six hours of previously unpublished material, *Thomas Merton in California* covers a variety of topics including ecology and consciousness, yoga and Hinduism, Native American ritual and rites of passage, Sufi spirituality, and interreligious dialogue, along with extended discussions on prayer and the contemplative life.

The material presented in these talks reveals Merton's wide-ranging intellectual and spiritual pursuits in the final year of his life and fills a long-standing lacuna around Merton's visits to Redwoods Monastery, forming a necessary bridge to the Asian journey that was to come. Practical and applicable, as well as searching and inspired, *Thomas Merton in California* is essential for Merton readers and scholars, and all those interested in deepening their spiritual lives.

David M. Odorisio, PhD, is associate core faculty at Pacifica Graduate Institute, Santa Barbara, California. David is editor of *Merton and Hinduism: The Yoga of the Heart* and has published in numerous journals in the areas of psychology and religion, and the life and writings of Thomas Merton.



"As one of the participants of the Redwoods Conferences, I can sum up the atmosphere of those days in one word: electrified. *Thomas Merton in California* gives readers the privilege to sense for themselves the formidable creative charge of those encounters as if they were there. What higher praise could there be for this book?"

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THOMAS MERTON in California

ODORISIO



The Redwoods
Conferences & Letters

THOMAS MERTON in California

Edited and Introduced by
David M. Odorisio



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