

IN THE BEGINNING

WAS LOVE



**CONTEMPLATIVE WORDS
OF
ROBERT LAX**

Edited, With An Introduction
by
S.T. GEORGIU

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Gary R. Bauer, 1990, Patmos

ROBERT LAX, (1915-2000), was a poet, sage, and peacemaker. Thomas Merton said of Lax, "He had a natural, instinctive spirituality, an inborn direction to the living God." Jack Kerouac called him "a Pilgrim in search of beautiful innocence."

A native of New York, Lax graduated from Columbia University in 1938 with a degree in English Literature. After much wandering he traveled to Greece where he made Patmos, Isle of the Revelation, his spiritual and creative workshop. There he resided for three decades, writing the "ascetic" and experimental verse that would rank him "Among America's greatest poets, a true minimalist who can weave awesome poems from remarkably few words" (*New York Times Book Review*).

IN THE BEGINNING WAS LOVE is a unique introduction to Lax as contemplative. These spiritual selections, mostly gathered from his poems and journals, portray Lax as a mystic filled with a deep love for both Creator and creation.

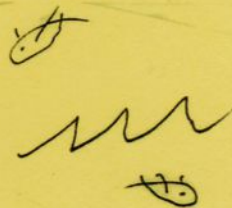
S.T. GEORGIU is the author of *The Way of the Dreamcatcher: Spirit Lessons With Robert Lax*, (Templegate), *Mystic Street*, and *The Isle of Monte Cristo*. He teaches religion and spirituality in the San Francisco Bay Area.

"A luminous offering of poetry and prayer; every page is a meditation."

Jonathan Montaldo, editor of *The Intimate Merton*

"This compact collection radiates transcendent love."

Jane Dillenberger, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley



PRAISE FOR *THE WAY OF THE DREAMCATCHER: SPIRIT LESSONS WITH ROBERT LAX* (S.T. GEORGIU, Templegate Publishers):

Georgiou has presented us with a very full and connected portrait of Lax as no one has before. I know of no one more qualified to talk about the spirituality of Lax. Paul Spaeth, Director, Lax Archives

This book captures the essence of one of the 20th century's "enlightened beings." Arthur Biddle, *Collected Letters of Merton & Lax*

A book that introduces us to a man numerous authors have affectionately termed, "a saint." Br. Patrick Hart, O.C.S.O.,
last secretary to Thomas Merton

This is a gem of a book. The book's true subject is holiness.
Kathleen Norris, poet, essayist, author of *Dakota* and *Acedia and Me*

Lax emerges as a Gandalf-like figure who has found refuge on the shore of Middle Earth. Jim Forest, writer, lay theologian, peace activist

The love expressed in this book is what we are all here for.
Jacob Needleman, author of *What Is God and Necessary Wisdom*

A gorgeous book about a man of compassion. Fr. John Dear, author,
nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize by Archbishop Desmond Tutu