

# **Divine Intervention**

by Katherine Nuyens

I take my religion seriously--so much so, that by the eighth grade I insist on becoming a nun. Scared that God won't love me if I fail to please Him, I begin a life of perfectionism ruled by fear, and determine to be the best me at a young age.

A gentle sensitive soul, I trust--and act on--the voice within when it tells me to enroll at a convent school hundreds of miles away from home. I attend this school for two years, and my timing is synchronistic--I learn later that while away my older sister became pregnant and all hell broke out in our home.

After two years I fail to appreciate the structure of the school and return home, though I wonder: *was I protected from this challenging time--safely hundreds of miles away--because I'd listened to my heart?* At this time in my life I do not realize that everything is in Divine Order, and that there are no mistakes in the Universe.

## **When The Student Is Ready, The Teacher Appears**

My first teaching job arrives in 1970 and I'm a passionate teacher! When I receive a call the summer of 1982 informing me that I'm laid off, I'm devastated and angry. I yell at God for the unfairness of it--grade school teachers like me replaced by high school teachers with more seniority? These teachers don't want to teach grade school!

Intuition directs me to open the Bible and ask *why?* I do as directed, and land immediately on the passage from the Last Supper where Jesus explains: *You don't understand now what I am doing, but later you will understand.* I begin to realize that everything is in Divine Order and there really are no mistakes.

Losing my teaching position turns out to be one of my biggest life changes, and yes, one of my most significant synchronicities. The timing turns out to be great in the scheme of things though, since my daughter Laurie is to start kindergarten in the fall. Laid off with my best friend, we have a ball experiencing many different activities.

The following year I'm hired to teach at a Catholic school where I have to learn a whole new philosophy of education called *The Workshop Way*, geared toward building confidence and self-esteem in children. During this training, I learn this concept for myself and realize it's time now for me to let go of my need for perfectionism.

My biggest gift during this period is meeting Sister Eileen Cordes, who teaches me about *A Course in Miracles*, channeling, and metaphysics. Being such a devout Catholic, it makes sense that these new understandings would have to be introduced to me by a nun or a priest. Unusual for a nun to think this much outside the box of Catholicism, Sister Eileen changes my life and I realize God has gifted her to me!

*A Course in Miracles* is a self-study curriculum that aims to assist individuals to achieve spiritual transformation and to "remove the blocks to the awareness of love's presence, which is your inheritance." It begins with: "Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists. Herein lies the peace of God."

Not long after, I attend a gathering to hear a metaphysical speaker and meet Jane, with whom I connect easily. A few weeks later, when a metaphysical event is held in our area, I keep hearing that I should invite Jane. I hesitate, fearing she may not remember me, even though we'd exchanged telephone numbers. When the message repeats several times, I call Jane and we become great friends. She introduces me to a group of women who gather together for spiritual discussions and meditations. The timing of meeting Jane is another powerful synchronicity in my life. Our group participates in the first Harmonic Convergence of 1987.

### **The Voice Within**

Back in the public school system now, and after teaching just short of twenty years, I realize that students need more than reading, writing, and arithmetic--they need counseling. I approach the superintendent and request he hire me as an elementary school counselor. He agrees and I pursue my M.A. in Counseling Psychology. I spend five years as an elementary school counselor, but feel burned out after only four because I'm too sensitive and can't turn off my emotions when I leave school.

At this time, I belong to another powerful group of six women who meet monthly to share spiritual understandings and experience healings. They notice my overwhelm, know I have five more years (out of the necessary thirty) until retirement, and encourage me to leave. When my twenty-fifth year comes around, I fail to get excited. This is a first for me.

I meditate often before school, and one November morning I decide to request a *clear sign* if I need to leave the school. The very next day I receive in the mail a free sample of an angel

tarot card that reads "Surrender." I can't deny the truth of that message, so with my husband's support, I purchase five years and buy myself early retirement in June 1998.

One blustery Saturday in January, as I'm driving to meet a friend for breakfast, my head is spinning with confusion and fear about my decision to retire early. I've taught my whole adult life, and frankly, I like the paycheck! Part of me is tuned into my fear of the future, while one ear is listening to Wayne Dyer on cassette.

"Your thoughts create your reality," is the last thing I hear him say as I slide into the car ahead of me! Though my car is damaged, hers wasn't and I'm angry with myself. I know with certainty my negativity and low vibrational level caused my accident.

*You feel enough guilt, no need for anymore,* I hear. I get the lesson--I have to learn to mind my mind!

Later, I find myself attending a class in Self Mastery, and when asked the qualities of my ideal job, I write "visionary," and wonder *where did that come from?* I write also that I want my work to be my play with flexible hours, to be self-enhancing, and to bring me joy and abundance. I send my list out to the universe and wait.

A response comes back to me a couple of months later when I read a newspaper article about an artist who no longer feels creative. After receiving hypnosis, her creativity resumes and she's once again painting beautiful art. I decide to try hypnosis in case I have any creative blocks.

After the session, the hypnotist invites me to learn hypnosis through her upcoming class. Goosebumps up and down my spine tell me it's a big *yes!* Everyone picks a tarot card during our first class, and she announces that this is how we'll use hypnosis. Initially embarrassed to admit that I've drawn *the Fool* card, I learn that this card means my work will be my play, and that the Universe will support me. Synchronicities are now even more abundantly clear in my life!

## **Independence**

My husband Tom, laid off after 9/11, adamantly declares that he won't relocate to find another job. I've already started my new work and realize there's a whole world out there for us to investigate.

"I might have to fly alone!" I announce to him, filled with judgment and frustration. Honestly, I'm taken aback at myself, as I have no idea from where this thought derives.

I meet Edward while attending a hypnosis convention. When Spirit asks me to request a testimonial for a workbook I've just completed, called *Invitation to Greatness*, I hear the message, listen, and act, but it's humbling. Yet he says he's honored and we become friends. We meet again two years later, but this time it feels more like a soul connection. I hear clearly that it's time to leave my husband of thirty-three years.

At this point in my life, I've learned to trust my messages, and know that all of my Divine Interventions have been for my highest good--but this is over the top! Shocked and dismayed, I think *this can't be true! Everyone knows our great love for one another. This makes no sense!* I absolutely love Tom, and Edward is fully aware of our wonderful relationship. Yet, when Edward and I are together at the conference everyone notices we are connected!

I request not just one clear sign, but *three*. I receive even more! Through a medium, my mom comes through and congratulates me on my courage to leave Tom. She acknowledges that it's for my personal, spiritual growth. She tells me that Tom's a good man and will find another to love.

Next Tom's father comes through and tells me: "If I was on your side of the veil, I wouldn't understand why you have to leave Tom, but I'm on the other side and see the whole picture. I will help Tom." I wish I'd asked him more about the whole picture!

I move to New Jersey in 2003 to be with Edward, and together we open a hypnosis center. I cry many nights for the security of Tom and can't see what the Universe has in mind. My daughter, now on her own, fails to understand and withdraws from me. Defeated, I don't know *why or how*, but choose to continue trusting my signs from Spirit.

This experience proves to be my greatest life challenge, and my best teacher. I begin to see the synchronicities: later I hear *we had to introduce you to Edward to pull you away from Tom because you need to be a more independent female--you came into this life to be independent*. Another time, while driving over a bridge to visit a friend, Spirit even yells at me "*You don't need a man!*"

Eventually I come to believe my real lesson is learning to move into my own power, and I leave the center and the relationship. I create my own business and add a number of new healing modalities besides hypnosis to my practice. My daughter and I resume our close relationship, and Tom and I never fully disconnect; our past is too powerful.

Tom is very happy now and married to my college roommate, which helps release my guilt. I love being alone, independent, coming home and having quiet, even though I have a new man in my life--one with whom I understand I have a contract to be together. The angels assure me I've learned well.

I understand synchronicity as a "God involved" event, and realize now that God is *unconditional love, all that is*, and not a being who judges our every action. As I look back on my life and know that there were no mistakes, I am in awe and grateful that so many significant events were guided by the voice within and by Divine Intervention.