In love, through forgiveness

By Josh Thompson

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Remember that time

when you told me about

A way I hurt you

40 years ago?

I didn’t know.

I remember other slights

Ways I was wrong

And did you harm.

But, no, this one?

I never knew.

Your sharing was so simple,

No recrimination.

You simply said,

“I forgave you, long ago.”

That’s the lede

Not the wrong I did

Nor even the pain you felt

However great.

Your forgiveness released me

From a bond unknown

From a debt I never knew

Could never repay.

Your forgiveness released you

Into our good friendship

A kinship near 50 years now

A way of being family.

This is heaven

Come down on earth

This way of being

In love, through forgiveness.

Then (no, in earth)

We will know

Even as we are fully known

In love, through forgiveness.