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.