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# PROFOUND ENCOUNTERS: REFLECTIONS FROM MEDJUGORE

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By Carmelita McNally



A few years ago, I embarked on a pilgrimage to Medjugorje, an experience that engraved three unforgettable moments into my memory:

a) Climbing the rocky mountain, I found myself isolated as my companions walked ahead, leaving me alone with no one behind. Navigating this challenging terrain, I stumbled due to the large boulders, nearly losing my balance and feeling as though I might fall backward. In that moment, an inexplicable force—a hand pushing my back forward—prevented my fall. Overwhelmed, I couldn't explain this sensation. A man ahead noticed and inquired about my well-being; I simply nodded in response.

b) Our leader announced an evening visit to the Apparition Hill, where one of the Visionaries would be present, and the Virgin Mary was expected to appear. The rocky hill, devoid of any vegetation, was crowded with people singing prayers. During a

moment of silence, I bowed my head, praying and acknowledging my unworthiness. I asked for a sign of her presence. Suddenly, I smelled a strong scent of roses and flowers. Perplexed, I searched for the source among the people

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around me, although there were no flowers or plants on that mountain. I was left unable to explain how I felt at that moment.

c) A fellow pilgrim at the hotel informed me of a remarkable event that occurs at 6 pm—an alleged spinning of the sun. I went outside as advised and

witnessed this event alongside a few others. The sun appeared to spin rapidly, and unexpectedly, a dove soared across the sky.

These inexplicable moments stay vivid in my memory, kindling a desire to return to Medjugorje. It’s a silent prayer, a hope to revisit the sacred grounds and experience its mysterious wonders once more.

Nb. Photos by John McGinley

