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Letting Go: Transpersonal Living and Dying

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Note:

The December, 1997 issue is a special one devoted to the life and work of V. V. Nalimov

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Letter Received:

Readers who share a serious concern for the interdependent problem(s) of education, justice, politics, economics, art, family, sex, spirituality, religion, conservation and language, and are committed to a better type of society, might like to know that the first book *The End of Education* of Doug Ogilvie's trilogy *The Sacred Art of Helpful Individualism* is now up in cyberspace at: www.coolgold.com.au/~dogilvie

—Doug Ogilvie

Preface

It is a pleasure and an honor to serve as guest editor for the *International Journal of Transpersonal Studies*. The present issue, entitled *Letting Go: Transpersonal Living and Dying*, offers a variety of transpersonal perspectives and meanings on living and dying. We begin with Coberly's personal article on facing death through caring for the dying, followed by Booth's moving account of having to let go of an only child. Wren-Lewis then provides a review of the movie *Fearless*, in which he explores some transpersonal rewards from escaping death, a situation that precipitated "plateau experiences" for Abraham Maslow. Next, Bill and Amanda Kautz present their exploratory study of selected friends who seem, like Maslow, to have enjoyed plateau-like experiences. Booth then explores existential loneliness, which he believes is rooted in one's basic fear of death. Finally, Gross and Shapiro propose a Taoistic approach to photography and the art of living which involves freeing creativity by letting go of old beliefs and preconceptions. The issue concludes with book reviews, poetry, and obituaries.

Readers should note that the forthcoming issue of the *International Journal of Transpersonal Studies*, edited by T. R. Soidla, S. I. Shapiro, and P. L. Gross, will be a special issue devoted to the life and work of the well-known Russian scientist, philosopher, and mathematician V. V. Nalimov who recently died.

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