

# February Publications Update

News, resources, and more!

inSpirit: The UU Book and Gift Shop

UUA Publications

Skinner House Books

Unitarian Universalist Association

## [Love You, Bye: A Daughter's Journey in Essays and Poems](#)

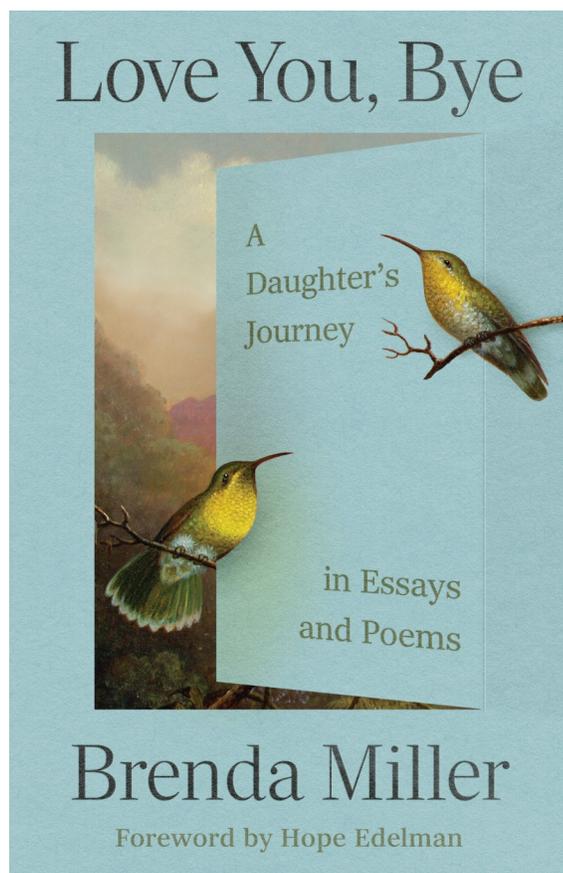
In *Love You, Bye*, award-winning author Brenda Miller maps the territory of caregiving, loss, and unexpected grace. The title—drawn from the simple phrase she and her mother said to each other for years—captures the bittersweet essence of a book that finds profound meaning in the most ordinary expressions of love.

At the center of this collection lies the story of Miller's journey as the "wayward daughter" who becomes the devoted caregiver to her aging parents, chronicling her father's gradual decline and her mother's final months with remarkable vulnerability. From the rituals of Passover to the silence of hospice rooms, from the mysterious appearances of tree frogs to the sacred work of singing at deathbeds, Miller weaves together the ordinary and the transcendent, often finding that the sacred is embedded in the mundane.

Miller's voice moves seamlessly between prose and poetry, between humor and heartbreak, between the personal and the universal. She transforms the simple act of saying goodbye into an art form and the everyday language of love into something approaching prayer. *Love You, Bye* is essential reading for anyone navigating the complexities of aging parents, the mysteries of faith, or the simple courage required to keep loving in a world that can break our hearts.

**Brenda Miller** is the author of six essay collections, including *A Braided Heart: Essays on Writing and Form*, *Listening Against the Stone*, and *An Earlier Life*, which received the Washington State Book Award for Memoir. Her work has received seven Pushcart Prizes. She co-authored, with Suzanne Paola, the textbook *Tell it Slant: Creating, Refining, and Publishing Creative Nonfiction* and co-wrote, with Holly J. Hughes, *The Pen and the Bell: Mindful Writing in a Busy World*. She is Professor Emerita of Creative Writing at Western Washington University and lives in Bellingham, Washington.

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# Announcements and Resources

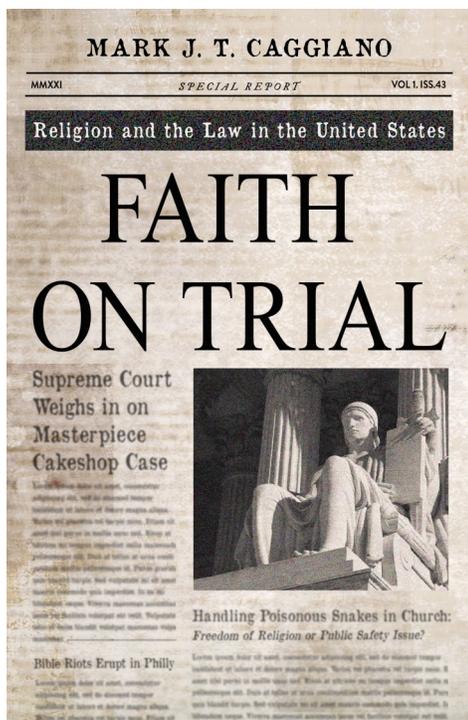
## Northern Lights Book Awards

Skinner House is thrilled to announce that two of their recent children's books were selected as Northern Lights Book Award winners! [Wind, Stop Blowing!](#) by Laura Alary and illustrated by Sue Teodoro was one of two winners in the "Picture Book: All Ages" category. And [Blue Boat Home](#) by musician Peter Mayer and illustrated by Sue Todd was the singular winner in the "Best Illustrations" category. The [Northern Lights Book Awards](#) honor children's literature of exceptional merit that excels in aesthetic and literary qualities with an emphasis on timeless appeal. It's an honor to have these two children's books recognized for their outstanding quality. Both of these titles also have corresponding [coloring pages](#). There are five unique coloring pages for each book and they are available as digital PDF downloads that are perfect for use in congregations, classrooms, libraries, and homes.



## February's Goodreads [Book Club Pick](#)

February's group read is [Faith on Trial: Religion and the Law in the United States](#) by Mark J. T. Caggiano. Books about religion and the law tend to be highly technical or aimed primarily at religious conservatives. In *Faith on Trial*, legal scholar and Unitarian Universalist minister Mark J. T. Caggiano argues that concerns about separation of church and state often serve to silence the viewpoints of religious progressives, many of whom exit the conversation in the hope of protecting important social issues from religious infighting. But it is impossible to win a debate that you never join, and as Caggiano writes, it is paramount in these times that "religious liberals and progressives cultivate and refine an ability to articulate the need for moral changes within the political system. That goal will require an understanding of the law as well as a moral vision for the world." Complete with historical context, legal analysis, and specific examples of cases and statutes, *Faith on Trial* is an invitation to progressives to help put social progress and inclusion at the center of the national conversation about religion and the law.



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