

Simple Magic

stay in dialog,
resisting tug to withdraw
or to power-play

patience wins the war,
risk raises its daring head
above the foxhole

conciliation,
as Mother Apology,
bravely lifts her veil

me-against-you fades,
us-against-it emerges,
“we” supersedes “I”

both science and art,
mediation’s a life-skill
... it's simple magic



“Simple Magic” was the original working title of the first edition (1988) of my book *Managing Differences*, which remains the sourcebook for courses offered by Mediation Training Institute at Eckerd College (mediationworks.com).

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