Available October 2022

Advance Praise for Healing America’s Narratives

“Stunning, insightful, intelligent, and fearless, this book deserves a place among the great narratives of the American psyche. Reggie Marra achieves something extraordinary here…”

“Marra is doing the collective archeology as he explores how Collective shadow multiplies the power of personal shadow exponentially… giving us the diagnosis and some of the treatment plan we need if we are to survive even into the near future.”
—Eduardo Duran (Tiospaye Ta Woapiye Wicasa), Ph.D., Vietnam veteran and author of Healing the Soul Wound: Trauma-Informed Counseling for Indigenous Communities

“…offers the possibility that troubling truths may also be a healing balm…. an aching love story to an America capable of healing through an evolving imagination of human meaning and possibility.”
—from the Foreword by Maureen Walker, Ph.D., author of When Getting Along Is Not Enough: Reconstructing Race in Our Lives and Relationships

“…courageous, compassionate, wise, and visionary…Reggie Marra asks some very deep and challenging questions about who we are as a nation… His socially, politically, and psychologically sophisticated answers are both shocking and self-evident, both outrageous and kind, both arresting and liberating… Brilliant. Thoroughly researched and referenced. A tour de force. Read it.”
—Bill Plotkin, Ph.D., author of Soulcraft and The Journey of Soul Initiation

“Marra brings voices together, rightening history with unprecedented accuracy. In his voice we find a confluence of narratives…. In his hands, history is a living source of healing. Savvy readers will walk away feeling affirmed that from ill-told history, new vistas arise from which to tell whole new personal and collective stories that heal.”
—Marianela Medrano, Ph.D., author of Rooting: Selected Bilingual Poems

“In the spirit of kindness, hope, and tenacity, Reggie Marra offers compelling and extensive historical research regarding the deep trauma and dysfunction of which our current social fabric is woven…. He presents connections and angles that have the potential to inspire any person – regardless of history, identity, and experience – to consider the larger picture in a new or shifted way.”
—Janet E. Aalfs, author of What the Dead Want Me to Know
“Throughout his eloquent and thorough exploration of America’s collective Shadow, Reggie Marra embraces ‘truth’ both as evidence-based and as an ongoing conversation about things that matter…. the lingering effect of this book fosters hope and proactively embraces the possibility of a radical shift in how humans interrelate, even—and especially—while some of the worst traits of our humanity are so dismally on display.”
—Bridgit Dengel Gaspard, author of The Final 8th: Enlist Your Inner Selves to Accomplish Your Goals

“Outraged yet hopeful, sweeping in its conclusions…impassioned…. unstinting examinations of historical American failings…. In precise, inviting prose, Marra urges readers to look with clear eyes at ourselves. He makes it clear throughout that he’s one of us rather than some presumed authority, putting in the work to understand himself and his nation…” —Booklife

“An educator’s vision for healing America’s traumatic past and politically fractured present….optimistic in tone, emphasizing hope in the possibility of national healing…. a sophisticated presentation of critical theory, U.S. history and philosophy, the book carefully balances nuance with accessibility and practical application…. A convincing…guidebook for a better future.” —Kirkus Reviews

526 pages, with index, endnotes, & bibliography – click on the cover image above for an excerpt.

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REGGIE MARRA is the author, most recently, of Enough with the… Talking Points (nonfiction, 2020), Killing America (poetry, 2018), and And Now, Still (poetry, 2016). His first work of nonfiction, The Quality of Effort, was published in 1991 and released in a second edition in 2013. Reggie is a cofounder, along with Kent Frazier, of Fully Human at Work—a 21st-Century Imperative. In addition to writing, he delivers his gifts to the world as a professional coach, a teaching poet, and a workshop facilitator. In the distant past Reggie spent twenty-one years as a classroom teacher, administrator, and basketball coach in secondary and higher education.

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