

# THE POWER OF LOVE

by Katrina Relf

*Paracelsus was a stranger to me until he entered your world, bringing his poison with him. Father tried to reason with him, but to no avail. You asked for my help, Catherine, help I wished I was able to give, but I was powerless to do so. Paracelsus was no longer a part of our world. Our laws no longer applied to him, and any betrayal on our part would have resulted in the destruction of our world. Paracelsus would not have hesitated in betraying us.*

*The only solution was for me to follow him, to stop him going above. I kept watch until that fateful hour when he began his journey, taking more of his poison up into your world. I followed him, not realising until it was too late, that he somehow knew my intentions. I forced my way into that final chamber and immediately into that sparkling, terrifying cloud of evil dust.*

*Within seconds I was lost in a dense, dark fog, filled with images so evil, so depraved, I cannot allow myself to remember them. I was lost – completely lost in an unending nightmare that was consuming my mind, my body, plunging me into the depths of hell. I was no longer human – the beast had consumed me. Father tried to help me, but I would have destroyed him without a thought, had the others not protected him. I was beaten back by the fear of their torch fire. I was afraid, as an animal would be afraid.*

*Hours passed – or was it days – time was meaningless – lost as I was in that dark feral haze that had become my existence. I was a feared, yet frightened, creature – raging against the dying of the light, until suddenly, as if through a dark, dreadful mist, you appeared. A shimmering, dreamlike apparition. You must have been afraid, and yet you showed no fear, and as I felt your arms about me, the mist cleared and the nightmare was over.*

*I can only imagine the strength of courage that it took for you to come to me – to the unleashed, crazed being that I had become. Catherine, I could have killed you. Your courage saved my life and my sanity. It brought me back from the depths of hell, and because of you I am made whole once more. At last I am safely home within the shelter of your arms, healed by the strength – the power of love.*

An Excerpt from Vincent's Journal