



**Red Wheel • Weiser • Conari**  
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*A radical call to re-conceive social, political, and religious institutions...*

**May 2010**

**Beyond Vengeance, Beyond Duality**  
**A Call for a Compassionate Revolution**  
**Sylvia Clute**

*All experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed.*  
—U.S. Declaration of Independence, 1776

We live in a time of monumental change. While many have written about the shift that is unfolding, in the end, what people yearn for is a way to make this new worldview concrete and tangible. How do we build our institutions to reflect the new reality? This is what **Beyond Vengeance, Beyond Duality** (Hampton Roads, May 2010) offers readers—a blueprint for transformative change that begins with a central pillar of our culture—how we define justice.

Because of her legal background, Sylvia Clute focuses on legal horror stories to demonstrate her underlying thesis: The crisis in our legal system is merely symptomatic of a rot found in many of our institutions and is rooted in a philosophy of dualism that pits us against one another. It is rooted in a philosophy that fails to recognize the oneness or unity of all life.

*Beyond Vengeance, Beyond Duality* will stimulate debate, controversy and a vision for fundamental change among politicians and policy makers, lawyers and law students, religious leaders and theology majors, entrepreneurs and business majors, peace practitioners and peace studies students, as well as every activist who is ready to work for meaningful reform.

Clute writes, “E pluribus unum, ‘out of many, one,’ is the motto of the United States adopted by the founding fathers. Consider its implications. It is a covenant that must extend to the people of all nations if it extends to any. Bahá’u’lláh, a Spiritual Master of the nineteenth century, provided insight in this regard when he explained the insufficiency of patriotism to one’s particular nation – not that it is wrong, just incomplete in the face of the interdependence of all peoples of the world. Love of the boundaries that separate one country from another must not be placed above love of the world, home to all of us.”

(more)



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The unique way in which the pieces of the puzzle are assembled in *Beyond Vengeance*, *Beyond Duality* make it more difficult for those who defend the old order to make their case, and it will give legitimacy to those who are building the new forms. Through this frame, old approaches to law, government, business, religion, education and economics are seen in a fresh new way that leads to concrete answers. A new world is at hand and we need not wait!

**Sylvia Clute** holds an MA in Public Administration from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, a *Juris Doctor* from Boston University School of Law, and an MA in Public Administration from the University of California at Berkeley. After several years as a trial attorney, she became disillusioned with the legal system and began her search for a better way. She founded, led and served as an advisor to numerous community and statewide initiatives. A pioneer in legal reform, she spearheaded changes in Virginia's laws relating to women and children. *Beyond Vengeance*, *Beyond Duality* is her first work of nonfiction. She lives with her family in Richmond, Virginia.

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