

WILLIS ELLIOTT is biblical scholar in residence and chair of worship and education at Craigville (Mass.) Conference Center and professor at large, New York Theological Seminary. For more than twenty years, Elliott has been writing and circulating among fellow theologians, pastors, and religious leaders his provocative reflections known as "Thinksheets." This volume offers a sampler — selected by Willis Elliott himself — from the more than 2,700 Thinksheets he has produced to date.



"Dr. Elliott is a wise counselor and highly discerning observer of the shifting relations between religion and culture. He is a deeply Christian intellectual and witty gentleman whose judgments, both personal and professional, I treasure more highly on more subjects than those of anyone else."

—KENNETH L. WOODWARD
senior writer and religion editor, *Newsweek*

"For every reader who applauds, another disavows. Stimulating, insightful, and provocative, this informal one-person think tank continues to challenge and leave its mark."

—CARL F. H. HENRY
founding editor, *Christianity Today*

"Willis Elliott is a spiritual and intellectual giant, a great scholar, a great human being, a great Christian."

—RABBI CHAIM STERN
editor of *Gates of Prayer*, the official prayerbook of Reform Judaism

"How Willis Elliott says it is as fascinating as what he says. He is a twenty-four-hour-a-day thinking human being, an intellectual and spiritual presence in my life."

—ROBERT LYNN
former senior vice president, Lilly Endowment

"Even where I disagree, I am continually stimulated to 'think the unthinkable,' or at least the unthought. And that, I take it, is Willis Elliott's purpose anyway, not consensus."

—WALTER WINK
Auburn Theological Seminary

"I always find Willis Elliott's angle of vision revealing. . . . He offers wit, wisdom, and a good read. No one can ask for more."

—MAX L. STACKHOUSE
Princeton Theological Seminary

"With encyclopedic knowledge and feisty spirit, Willis Elliott provides in-depth and always provocative commentary on the affairs of both church and culture that you will not find elsewhere."

—GABRIEL FACKRE
Andover Newton Theology School

Cover photo by Willis Elliott
Cover design by Rosemary Ellis

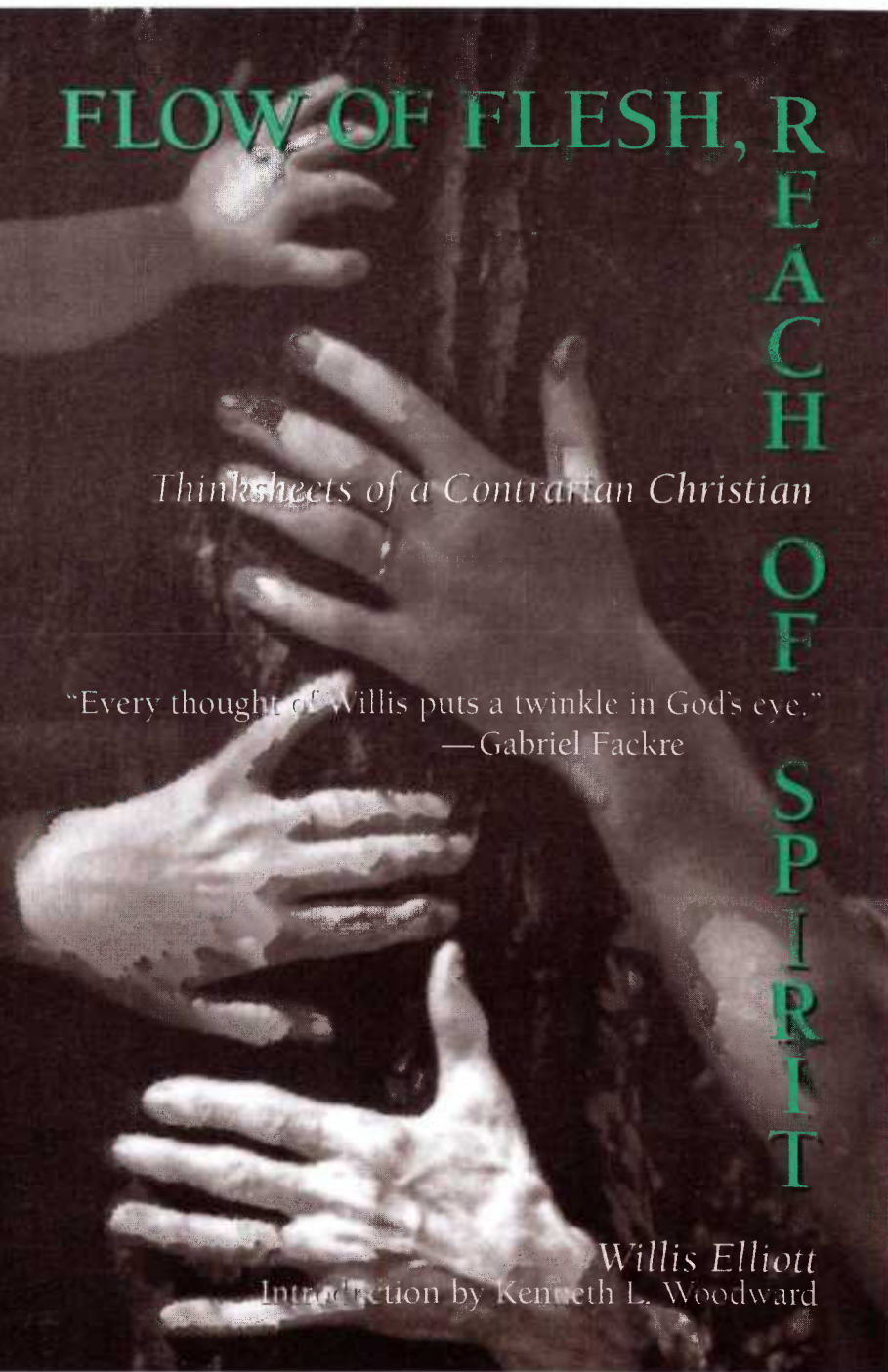
Elliott
FLOW OF FLESH, REACH OF SPIRIT
FERDMANS

FLOW OF FLESH, REACH OF SPIRIT

Thinksheets of a Contrarian Christian

"Every thought of Willis puts a twinkle in God's eye."
—Gabriel Fackre

Willis Elliott
Introduction by Kenneth L. Woodward



"Your theological courage is a gift to us even where we are not in perfect agreement. Agreement, of course is not the point; rather, that a servant of the Word remain faithful to his/her vocation, as you are summoning the pastor and theologian to do."

—**Frederick R. Trost**, minister and president, Wisconsin Conference,
United Church of Christ

"Grace' breathes such a sustaining faith." Commenting on Thinksheet #2214: "GRACE, God's caring Presence, supervenes over and interpenetrates the common day. It is the food within all food, the comfort and strength within all assurance, the song that sings itself within all our moods. To know this is light, to live it is life eternal. The Love that will not let us go will not let us down."

—**Amos N. Wilder**, America's preeminent New Testament scholar

"I enjoy getting your regular mailing."

—**Martin E. Marty**, University of Chicago

"Your uncommon blend of conservative, liberal and radical views constantly upsets the expectations of readers."

—**Norman Gottwald**, New York Theological Seminary

"Your Thinksheets continue to be most helpful and stimulating to me."

—**Craig Dykstra**, vice-president for religion, Lilly Endowment

"To read your thoughtful and adroit way of saying things is an exercise in delight even apart from the stimulating, even stabbing implications of the words."

—**Kenneth Wilson**, former editor-in-chief, THE CHRISTIAN HERALD

"This Eerdmans book will be a rich treasure house for pondering the Spirit. Your soul energy is remarkable."

—**Robert Raines**, former director, Kirkridge

"Your Thinksheets prove that theological fertility is still a reality in the Church."

—**Avery Post**, when president of the United Church of Christ

"Your ability to add many points of light to most any subject awes and fascinates me. I look forward to those special times when I can be with you in your Thinksheets."

—**Ronald Kurtz**, Office for Church Life and Leadership, United Church of Christ

If you would like to order this new book at a special 20% discount, simply fill in the information below and return the order form to: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 255 Jefferson SE, Grand Rapids MI 49503.
Phone toll-free: 1-800-253-7521 or fax: 1-616-459-6540.

___0813 FLOW OF FLESH, REACH OF SPIRIT, \$14.99, your price \$11.99 (shipping included)

Name _____ Date _____ Day-time phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Visa () Master Card () American Express () Discover Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____ Signature _____