

# AFTERWORD

WHETHER YOU HAVE READ this entire book or only a few of its pages before turning to this afterword, you will have realized that if the historical names, dates, and events in this book were replaced by those of our current times, little has changed. From Hill's description of media propaganda, the conditioning that children receive in school, the fear-based teachings preached by religions, people's poor diet and health habits, to the challenging economic climate, little seems to have shifted in our collective consciousness and therefore in our collective experience.

The good news is that it is never too late for a new beginning, for a renaissance in consciousness. As Mr. Hill reminds us, "I have also discovered that there comes with every experience of temporary defeat, and every failure and every form of adversity, the seed of an equivalent benefit." Our path is seemingly composed of a polarity of both failure and success. A lighter way of putting it might be that Hill's principles for living teach us "how to fail successfully." This is a paradox understood by the spiritually mature, those whom he describes as having risen above the "hypnotic rhythm" and discovered their "other self," which can also be identified as the Self of the self, the Higher Self, or the Authentic Self.

It is encouraging that many of today's spiritual, philosophical, self-help, and even scientific authors share Hill's view of what he calls "definiteness of purpose," or, in current parlance, "intention setting." When it is our intention to wake up from the "hypnotic rhythm" of living—what the Hindus