

## **Maria Soresina (1940)**

### **Catharism Historian and Essayist**

I was born in Milan, and I graduated from university with an honors degree in Political Science. I have worked successfully in very different fields, but that is all about me, and I don't want to talk about me, I want to talk about my relationship with Dante and with Catharism.

I have to declare now, it is more than a relationship, it's love. A love born late, and by chance, after I received a providential gift from my daughter for a trip to India in 1992. The gift was, '*The Little Divine Comedy*', by Hoepli. From that moment I started discovering many analogies between Dante's journey and the way of Yoga. Later, and again by chance, I discovered the Cathars, and I realized that Dante was exposing their doctrine in his poem.

On this subject I wrote two books:

*'Le segrete cose. Dante tra induismo ed eresie medievali'*, Moretti & Vitali, 2002 and 2010.

*'Libertà va cercando. Il catarismo nella Commedia di Dante'*, Moretti & Vitali, 2009.

Since the 90's, I have given hundreds of lectures, conferences and lessons in Italy and abroad, and I have written articles for various magazines.

Despite their decidedly 'heretic line', my books have had very positive reviews on radio (Radio3 RAI), on television (RAI 2 and RAI 1), and in various newspapers and magazines, including the Sunday insert of Sole24ore and L'Osservatore Romano.

