



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Raleigh man writes *Absence of Faith*, a new novel, with a twist of faith

RALEIGH, NC - Anthony Samuel Policastro of North Raleigh has published his first novel, *Absence of Faith*, involving a mystery that causes highly religious residents of a small coastal town to lose their faith.

The thriller will appeal to a wide audience in light of the new interest in spirituality and religion with the popularity of Dan Brown's bestseller, *The DaVinci Code*, and with the increasing threat of newly discovered diseases.

"The idea for the book started as a 'what if' question," Policastro said. "I had just finished my first novel and my wife and I were discussing story ideas for the next book when we came up with *Absence of Faith*."

"What would you do if you lost your belief in religion, your belief in God and thought everything was hopeless? This is the question addressed in the novel."



The mystery starts when Doctor Carson Hyll falls asleep at the wheel and drives off a bridge into a river. He experiences one of the worst nightmares of his life when the young intern is knocked unconscious and has a near death experience so real, so frightening that he thinks he died and went to hell.

When others in the small coastal town of Ocean Village have similar negative near death experiences about their worst fears and wake up with burnt skin, they believe they went to hell and that God has abandoned them.

The residents rush into the hospitals and doctors' offices with the slightest ailments fearful of dying, and hopeful that the doctors can prevent them from dying. Matters get worse when a local Satanist cult uses the opportunity to promote their beliefs and win over many of the town residents.

“I researched negative near death experiences, which became the basis of the plot.”

Links to *Absence of Faith*:

<http://www.lulu.com/aspnovelist>

Amazon.com

http://www.amazon.com/Absence-of-Faith/dp/B001B3V536/ref=pd_bbs_sr_2?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1228698306&sr=8-2

For more information on the author's accomplishments and published works visit

<http://home.earthlink.net/~tonjoann/default.htm>

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Anthony Samuel Policastro has been writing all his life.

The publication of his first novel is the pinnacle of his work having previously published articles in *The New York Times*, *American Photographer* and other national, regional and local publications.

Policastro was the former editor-in-chief of *Carolina Style* magazine, a regional lifestyle publication similar to *Southern Living* magazine. He was a former journalist, photographer, and Webmaster.

The author's background is in technology and telecommunications. He currently works as the senior business analyst for Lulu.com, the largest do it yourself publishing company in the world headquartered in Morrisville, NC.

He has two BA degrees - one in Creative Writing, and another in American Studies from Penn State University, both of which have greatly enhanced his writing career.

Born in New Jersey, he now lives in Raleigh, North Carolina with his wife, daughter, and two sons.

ABOUT LULU

Founded in 2002, Lulu is the world's fastest-growing print-on-demand publisher, headquartered in Morrisville, NC. See www.lulu.com for more information.

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