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The Atwelle Confession

Historical thriller inspired by bizarre discovery in ancient British church

New York, NY – SelectBooks, Inc. is proud to announce the release of its new title, *The Atwelle Confession* (September 2017; ISBN: 978-1-59079-430-2). *The Atwelle Confession* is a suspenseful historical thriller from the Cambridge-educated author and attorney Joel Gordonson. This is his second novel.

The setting of *The Atwelle Confession* is based on the real St. Clement's Church located in the English village of Outwell, from which the fictional town of Atwelle is derived. The town of Outwell is located at the western edge of the county of Norfolk, and it is there that researchers recently discovered the presence of several grotesque carvings hidden in the darkness of the roof area of the church's nave. These carvings are almost impossible to see with the naked eye, and by all estimates have been forgotten for hundreds of years.

These carvings serve as the centerpiece for Gordonson's novel, which weaves two interconnected storylines around the mysterious figures. One of these threads is set in the present day focusing on the architect Don Whitby and research historian Margeaux Wood and their discovery of these eerie gargoyles. The other thread takes place five hundred years ago in Tudor England under the rule of King Henry VIII. These two parallel stories spanning the centuries are tied together by a series of identical murders, the key to which is to be found in the mystery of the gargoyles.

In creating *The Atwelle Confession* Joel Gordonson drew from his own experience of living in the English countryside. The town of Outwell is less than an hour's drive from his alma mater, Cambridge University, and upon learning of the unusual figurines found in St. Clement's Church, Gordonson imagined a secret history locked up within these unusual objects.

Steve Berry, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Templar Legacy*, said of the book, "This [book] is painted on a broad canvas, woven rich in historical imagery and modern characterization. Lush and lusty, fascinating and smart. Give it a read."

The author has several scheduled events in the US in September, including an appearance at the Gargoyles Statuary of Seattle, Washington. He will have appearances and events in October in the town of Outwell and at St. Clement's Church and Cambridge University in celebration of the publication of *The Atwelle Confession*.

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Joel Gordonson is the author of *The Atwelle Confession* (September, 2017) and *That Boy from Nazareth: The Coming of Age of Jesus of Nazareth* (2015). Along with being a novelist, he is a highly successful attorney in the international trade arena. With law degrees received in both the United States and from the University of Cambridge, he publishes scholarly works in international legal publications while writing his fiction on the side. In addition to writing, he has done extensive public speaking that includes decades of presentations of appellate arguments, seminars, and media appearances. His "home" is divided between the Pacific Northwest and Southern California.