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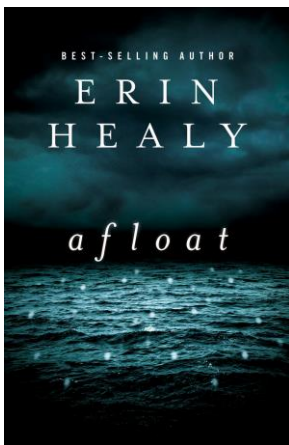


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PRESS RELEASE

Whom will you trust when dark waters rise?

Erin Healy's Afloat is a stunning exploration of the human spirit and supernatural possibilities



Seattle: We live in a world where a spiritual battle between good and evil is continually raging around us, whether we are aware of it or not. While supernatural fiction portraying the battle between light and darkness has become a popular genre in recent years, best-selling author **Erin Healy** hopes readers recognize a difference between her books and the others out there. "The secular paranormal genre is preoccupied with darkness. As honestly as I can, I try to be preoccupied with light." In her latest release, **Afloat** (Thomas Nelson/May 7, 2013/ISBN 978-1401685522/\$15.99), Healy's characters are faced with the fight of their lives, in a desperate search for the light.

Architect Vance Nolan has crafted an architectural marvel — a first step toward his life's goal. Eagle's Talon is a set of shining residential units built on the water, afloat in a protected cove of the gorgeous Rondeau River. The project is nearly complete, partially occupied, and ready to make investors rich when a sinkhole gives way. Then torrential rains and a flood leave a ragged collection of builders, investors and residents stranded in one floating building, completely cut off from the rest of the world.

With limited resources, the motley group is bitterly divided over what to do next. Vance insists they sit tight and wait to be rescued, but developer Tony Dean wants to strike out into the unknown and save themselves. Single-mom Danielle Clement is obligated to each man and desperate to protect her young son; however, she isn't sure which one is wiser.

Power failure, an unnatural daytime darkness, explosions and then a murder slowly expose hidden intentions and dark histories. But Danielle's son, Simeon, has spotted something bright underwater — beautiful, shifting lights in the dark water beneath them. In this watery world, everyone's secrets will eventually come to light, and deliverance may mean more than just getting out alive.

When Healy originally set out to write *Afloat*, she had a love triangle in mind. However, given the situation of the story — a group of people isolated under threat — the love element became something very different. The question she encountered, and in turn, her characters come face to face with, is, Can we love well when our survival instincts have kicked into high gear? "I hope this novel gives readers a renewed conviction that for believers, death is nothing to fear; our survival is guaranteed," says Healy. "How we love each other, however, is entirely up to us."

For those who may be new to the supernatural suspense genre, or may be skeptical, Healy offers this invitation, "to those who are curious, I would say that the supernatural world is real, it is biblical, it has a profound effect on our physical reality, and it is more bright than dark. I believe it's no more terrifying than the physical world, because the same God rules over both. While I can't speak for every supernatural story, there should be nothing to fear in mine."

Readers can enter to win an iPad Mini from Erin Healy and Thomas Nelson. Watch for more details on her [Facebook Page](#). [Click here to view](#) the book trailer for *Afloat*.

Praise for Erin Healy

Advance praise for *Afloat*

"[Healy's] writing is vivid and smart."

~ *Publisher's Weekly*

For *House of Mercy*

"Once again, Healy leads readers to a place where they can see the physical and spiritual meet, where they can glimpse the mercy of God in an unexpected form."

~ *CBA Retailers + Resources*

For *The Baker's Wife*

"A combination of suspense, mystery, religion, and even romance weaves this tale into a cohesive, compelling read."

~ *New York Journal of Books*

"Healy's fascinating plot is fast-paced and difficult to put down once started."

~ *Romantic Times*, 4 1/2 star TOP PICK!

About the Author



Erin Healy is an award-winning editor and bestselling co-author (with Ted Dekker) of the supernatural suspense novels *Kiss and Burn*. Her solo debut, *Never Let You Go*, ushered in a new brand of fiction, building on her work with Dekker, that melds supernatural suspense with female-friendly relational drama. Healy continues to deliver a unique take on suspense with a little decidedly feminine point of view, although she admits that *Afloat* has more of the male point of view than her previous releases.

Healy earned her bachelor's degree in English with a minor in communication studies from Westmont College in Santa Barbara, CA. She began her career as an editor for *Christian Parenting Today* before serving as a book editor for WaterBrook Press. Healy founded WordWright Editorial Services in 2002 and specializes in fiction book development. She has worked with many popular authors in a number of genres such

as Frank Peretti, James Scott Bell, Melody Carlson, Colleen Coble, Robin Lee Hatcher, Gilbert Morris, Lisa Samson, Randy Singer and Robert Whitlow.

While her interest in supernatural fiction grew she while working with Dekker (she edited 12 of his well-known, heart-pounding stories before collaborating with him as a co-author), her interest in the spiritual realm has always been a part of her. "The Irish girl in me is fascinated by the concept of thin places, a Celtic name for locations in the world where the veil between physical and spiritual realities is so delicate that a person can see through it. For me, thin places are revelations about what it means to be a spiritual creation in a physical world. I write supernatural suspense novels from a Christian worldview, with eyes open to God's mysterious side and where His world world intersects ours," she explains.

Healy currently resides in Colorado Springs, CO, with her husband, Tim, and two children. She is a member of International Thriller Writers and the American Christian Fiction Writers.

Visit her website at www.erinhealy.com to sign up for her newsletter and learn more about her books. She's also on [Facebook](#) ([erinhealybooks](#)) and [Twitter](#) ([@erinhealybooks](#)).

Suggested Interview Questions

- How would you describe your latest book, *Afloat*?
- Is there a "moral to the story" in *Afloat* you hope readers will walk away with?
- How did you get into writing supernatural suspense?
- Because you write in such a unique genre, do you think it's harder for you to come up with ideas than some other authors, or does the supernatural element give you more ideas to play with?
- Some readers feel really uncomfortable with the thought of reading supernatural fiction. Is there anything you would tell them to invite them over to what they would consider to be the dark side?
- In your own experience, what causes a crisis to bring out the best character in some people and the worst in others?
- What are some of the things that give you a sense of security?
- Is it possible to love another person without sacrificing something of yourself for him or her?
- For some people, there are there times when they feel the need for certainty that God is real. Are there times when you live comfortably with doubt?
- Do you believe the Bible condemns you for your mistakes or frees you to embrace God's love?
- Most authors include something of themselves in each book. What parts of you show up in *Afloat*?
- Given *Afloat*'s survival element, one would have to ask: Are you much of an adventurer? How long would you make it away from civilization?
- If you were set afloat, what three items would you make sure were set adrift with you?

Erin Healy is available for interviews to promote the release of *Afloat*. To request a review copy, schedule an interview or for more information, please contact Audra Jennings, audra@lifusegroup.com.