

## AUTHOR NEWSLETTER

# Herb Hughes

---

Third Quarter, 2021

### **NEW COVER FOR A WAR WITH GOD**

I've taken a little heat because of the title of my latest novel. (Note the customer review on A War With God in the next section.) There is a perception that it is anti-religion. That is NOT correct. It is a science fiction adventure novel created around a growing postulation in the scientific community that our universe may be nothing more than a pixelated simulation.



To more accurately portray the book, I developed a new cover and completely rewrote the description. I believe both more accurately portray the theme within the novel, demonstrating that it is a pure adventure story. Take a look and let me know what you think.

#### *New Amazon Description:*

Software engineer Darren Foster dies of cancer only to find himself alive and healthier than ever in the strangest place he has ever seen. As he explores his bizarre new surroundings, he meets Liliana Nosek, a Polish lady who died during the World War II German invasion.

Then the pair raises the ire of Theor, a highly advanced alien who claims to be their creator.

Theor threatens to dissolve them into nothing, but Darren and Liliana manage to escape Theor's home and travel into the outside world, a curious pocket universe made of diverse layers.

The couple believes they are safe wandering from layer to layer. They gain an alien companion and meet people from Earth's past, but soon discover not everyone is helpful. While Ernest Hemmingway befriends them, Blackbeard enslaves them, threatening to work them to a second death, a demise that would be final.

Theor wants to eliminate the few hundred humans living in his pocket universe. He also wants to destroy Earth and all eight billion people living there. When he demonstrates the ability to do so, it is, effectively, a declaration of war on humanity.

Can a handful of dead humans stop a vastly superior alien from destroying the entire human race? Or will Darren and Liliana meet a final death, along with everyone else?

A War With God is available at:

eBook \$2.99: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08TLH34DH>

Paperback \$16.95: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08TN356QQ/>

### **THREE SIGNIFICANT REVIEWS**

Several newsletters ago, I quit including the latest reviews and ratings my books received as these are readily available on Goodreads and Amazon. But I received three reviews since the second quarter newsletter that were particularly gratifying, so I would like to share them with you:

TENNESSEE YANKEE – Review by Jacke Mumaw

**5 STARS:** “Great historical novel!”

CONECUH – Review by Janice Hamman

**5 STARS:** “What an amazing book! Terrible things happened to soldiers and civilians alike. It is a Civil War story and a love story. It is beautifully written. I had no idea until the end that it was based on an actual person. I highly recommend this book that I enjoyed so much.”

A WAR WITH GOD – Review by GVinc

**5 STARS:** “A truly awesome book - At first glance I wasn't sure I would enjoy this book, based only on the title. Being a Christian I don't read stuff that might mock my faith. However, I had read other books by this author and enjoyed them so much I gave it a try. I am so glad that I did. It doesn't take long to figure out that the author isn't taking jabs at my faith but instead took me on an adventure that nobody else has ventured to do. (That I know of anyway). I can't tell you how he does this without attacking my faith without also giving away a large part of the plot.

You will have to read it yourself. Just know that it has nothing to do with religion. It is a fun, exciting, action, love and loss filled book. This is a Great work of Fiction. Give it a try.”

I put thousands of hours into researching and writing my novels. Reviews like these make it worth all the hard work. I am deeply grateful to these individuals for taking the time to review one of my novels.

As I've said before, reviews and ratings are a writer's lifeblood. You can review any of my novels on Goodreads or Amazon. Several people have told me they are uncomfortable writing a review. You don't have to. You can simply make a star rating of any of my novels without adding a word. THANK YOU!

## **POUNDING THE KEYS – INFALL & THE CRYSTAL SHELL**

*[Pounding The Keys is a regular feature about my current novel in progress.]*

Infall is over 50% complete but has been placed on the back burner for two reasons. First, the original novel was written a couple of decades ago. As I started rewriting, I decided to take a few different turns. As you would expect, changing directions significantly affected the second half of the book. I have to rework the plot before continuing as I may need to make additional early changes to accommodate the revised story.

Second, Amazon's Kindle announced a new reader service, Kindle Vella. I am extremely excited about this. Kindle Vella is an outlet for serialized novels. The reader can read the first five episodes of a book for free. If they like the book, they use "tokens" to read the remaining episodes. (There is a maximum of twenty episodes.) I'm just old enough to remember the serialized stories at the movie theatres from many decades ago. I never got to see more than one or two of any series because movies were a rare luxury, but the concept intrigued me. I remember asking friends if they saw the next episode so I could find out what happened. 😊

I wrote a novel titled The Crystal Shell back in the early nineties. It is a science fiction novel that lends itself extremely well to a serialized format. So while Infall is simmering on the back of the cooktop, I have decided to write The Crystal Shell. The first 3 episodes are complete. There should be 18 episodes in all, but it might stretch out to the max of 20, depending on how I handle a couple of things.

Over the past three months, I spent the vast majority of my time working on my house. I had to do a certain amount of work to get ready for some new flooring that was scheduled. But, thankfully, that deadline is now behind me. While I've still got tons of construction to do, I will focus once again on my writing. I hope to have The Crystal Shell rewritten into the new format and available on Kindle Vella by October or November.

## **JUST FOR FUN**

*[Writer's jokes. Something to help you smile.]*

Something a little different this time. ☺

---

### **Lets face it English is a stupid language**

There is no egg in the eggplant  
No ham in the hamburger  
And neither pine nor apple in the pineapple.  
English muffins were not invented in England  
French fries were not invented in France.

We sometimes take English for granted  
But if we examine its paradoxes we find that:  
Quicksand takes you down slowly  
Boxing rings are square  
And a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

If writers write, how come fingers don't fing.  
If the plural of tooth is teeth  
Shouldn't the plural of phone booth be phone beeth  
If the teacher taught,  
Why didn't the preacher praught.

If a vegetarian eats vegetables  
What the heck does a humanitarian eat!?  
Why do people recite at a play  
Yet play at a recital?  
Park on driveways and  
Drive on parkways  
How can the weather be as hot as hell on one day  
And as cold as hell on another

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy  
Of a language where a house can burn up as  
It burns down  
And in which you fill in a form  
By filling it out

English was invented by people, not computers  
And it reflects the creativity of the human race  
(Which of course isn't a race at all)  
That is why when the stars are out they are visible  
But when the lights are out they are invisible

And why it is that when I wind up my watch  
It starts  
But when I wind up this poem  
It ends.

---

Thank you for reading my newsletter,  
[Herb Hughes](#)

PLEASE PASS THIS NEWSLETTER ALONG TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY and ask them to do the same. Also, please consider leaving a review on Amazon and/or Goodreads. Thank you.

---

If you would like to receive my newsletters, please send your name and email address to either:  
[herb@tennesseeyankeenovel.com](mailto:herb@tennesseeyankeenovel.com) or [herbhughes1994@att.net](mailto:herbhughes1994@att.net).

Please add these addresses to your safe senders list to avoid them going into your Junk Mail folder.

Back issues are available on my website: [www.herbhughesnovels.com/blog](http://www.herbhughesnovels.com/blog)

If you no longer wish to receive my emails, please reply with STOP in the subject line or the message body, and you will be promptly removed from my mailing list.