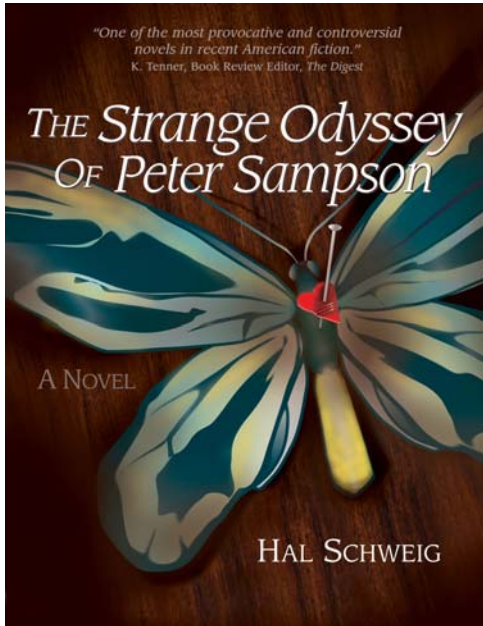




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The Strange Odyssey of Peter Sampson

Now Available in e-Book Format

Available at : www.newworldpressbooks.com/HalSchweig/

“Are you telling children who kneel down to pray at night that they are wasting their time?”

(Middle Island, NY), March 12, 2007—Have you ever wondered about the earthquakes, tsunamis and hurricanes that kill and maim millions of innocent people worldwide, or about man’s ongoing inhumanity to man?

The concept of a loving God seems to contradict the realities of how cruel the natural and man-made worlds can be. How can these two—the reality and the concept—be reconciled? Such issues have been discussed and pondered by philosophers and lay people, religious and non-religious alike, probably since the dawn of humanity, but never more so than in our time.

Like many people, author Hal Schweig had no answers until he woke one day from a powerful and realistic dream in which he discovered the mystery of immortality and God’s influence on our mortal lives. Convinced of the truth of this dream, Schweig felt compelled to write *The Strange Odyssey of Peter Sampson*, a novel that took ten years to complete.

A near alcoholic and atheist at the beginning of the novel, Peter Sampson's views change as a result of an otherworldly journey, accompanied by a hauntingly beautiful and mysteriously angelic fashion model. Following this journey, his pronouncements are deemed highly credible by a growing legion of followers.

In the book, Peter Sampson relates two important truths discovered on his strange odyssey:

- 1. God has no influence over our mortal lives; he doesn't send down good or evil; he doesn't listen to prayers.**
- 2. You don't have to live a moral life to gain immortality; it is granted to all living things.**

At one point in the novel, *The New York Times* proclaims him: "The greatest grass roots spiritual leader of our time." However, accused of advocating "immortality without morality," Sampson earns the enmity of the establishment and death threats mount. His eventual assassination is widely anticipated.

Strange Odyssey is a sweeping epic, encompassing a romantic, intimate story that chronicles Sampson's life and loves, and ultimate triumph over despair and hopelessness; a victory of his newfound spirituality over the specter of death that has haunted three generations of his family.

The concepts dramatized in this novel will possibly provoke concern in some religious quarters. In the novel, one clergyman angrily tells Peter Sampson, "Are you telling children who kneel down to pray at night that they are wasting their time?"

These concepts—realistically, compellingly and convincingly dramatized through larger-than-life characters—hold readers' attention from first page to last.

The book entertains, yet the author's position about God's influence and universal immortality is likely to stir up controversy akin to that created by *The Da Vinci Code*. But author Schweig wants readers to think about such things. "I hope this book gives people a new point of reference on age-old questions," he said.

The Strange Odyssey of Peter Sampson is available in e-Book format by visiting www.newworldpressbooks.com/HalSchweig/.

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EDITORS: For an e-book review copy or to arrange an interview (talking points available) with Hal Schweig, call Roger Dextor at 631-924-3888 or email blitz4pr@att.net. Please include your name, publication, and email address with your request.

BOOK STATISTICS:

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Hal Schweig has written a number of short stories, one of which was published by the *Ohio Journal*, the literary quarterly of Ohio State University, and subsequently won the publication's award as the best prose published in the Journal that year. He lives in the Chicago suburbs with his wife, Norma, and dog, Charlie. *The Strange Odyssey of Peter Sampson* is his first novel.