

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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East Texas author's book depicts "the cult down the street."

(LONGVIEW, TX) – Unwary Christians seeking a more meaningful relationship to God can end up in cults. Longview author Becca Anderson knows this is true; it happened to her. Her new novel, *The Gathering Place*, (RiverOak Press) captures the emotional and spiritual damage of such an experience.

“We tend to think of cults as non-Christian groups that wear odd clothing and try to sell things in airports,” Anderson said. “In reality, some cults look just like churches. Sincere seeking Christians can be swept up by their enthusiasm, dedication and call to live a ‘sold out’ life.”

The Gathering Place is a contemporary novel about Casey Ellis, a young woman who longs for more. More out of church, more out of Christian relationships, and most of all, more out of experiencing God. And she thinks she’s found the perfect group to help her attain these new spiritual heights. At the Gathering Place, believers seem to be even more passionate for Christ that she is. As Casey becomes immersed in the group, her life begins to spiral out of control.

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“The spiritual journey of the book’s main character, Casey Ellis, is an all-too-frequent experience in American Christianity,” said David Henke, founder of Watchman Fellowship, a ministry of spiritual discernment. “Many Christians are similarly enticed only to find themselves on the exit ramp to a spiritual dead-end street. Casey’s story is a page-turner. But it is also very instructive in how people find themselves entrapped in spiritual counterfeits.”

“There are estimated to be over 3000 cults or aberrant churches operating in the United States alone, and each has the potential to draw in the spiritually undiscerning. I wanted to draw attention to the danger, and this fictional technique makes the information approachable and effective,” Anderson said. The book includes discussion questions suitable for both individual consideration and group interaction.

Anderson is available to write and speak on spiritual deception, and can be reached via her website (www.beccathewriter.com.) Additional resources about spiritual deception are included on the website, as well as the first chapter of the book. It is available through the publisher, online through Amazon or other retailers, and in bookstores. (ISBN 10: 1:58919-055-6)

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