

Sample Interview Questions

The Bellowing of Cain

- **How did you come to write this book?**
 - [I'll talk about my journey from my editor's constant hounding to put the story to paper to the Lenten season that finally saw 84,000 words poured out in 40 days]
- **Why is this book needed?**
 - [I'll talk about the paucity of material written for perpetrators (as opposed to victims) of evil and the central interest of Christianity in the redemption of, not only victims of evils, but even its perpetrators]
- **For whom is the book written?**
 - [Primarily to people who've wrecked their lives with bad decisions, with a specific focus on those in Christian ministry. Secondly, to those who live with and care for people with self-inflicted wounds—that they may better understand their journey.]
- **Why did you chose a hybrid-publishing model instead of a traditional and recognizable print line?**
 - [I'll discuss the praise the early manuscript received from publishers and agents, and the subsequent difficulty of finding one who would take on a publicity nightmare, followed by how we proceeded.]
- **What is the message of the book?**
 - [First, Hope. That there is life after the destruction. A different life, but potentially a good life.]
 - [Additionally the book examines the run up to self-destruction—with chapters on things like self-deception, sexualized relationships, and fear. It also contains specific reflections for care giver's, church leaders, and spouses on how to profitably interact with broken people.]
- **Will this book be a difficult read for victims of various forms of evil?**
 - [Quite possibly. It is a raw and honest look, aimed at describing the act of self-destruction, and may have unsettling moments. But it will also provide an important window into the minds and choices of such people, which may have a healing effect on victims if read wisely.]
- **Is this book an attempt to justify yourself or tell “your side?”**
 - [No. It's an examination of the journey of the perpetrator of evil. The struggle with shame, despair, and loss. And a story about rebuilding, that simply uses my own tragic choices as the model.]
- **What about those you hurt? What will this book do to them?**

- [I'll discuss my hopes that they will find healing in see me tell my story honestly and frankly. But it is not a rehearsal of “their” story. I focus entirely on my own choices, and it has been carefully reviewed by those who lived through the events with that in mind.]

Jeremy Gordon Grinnell & His Story

- **What does your family feel about this book?**
 - [They have supported the journey. They're glad to “have me back.”]
- **What's your day job?**
 - [I'm a professional audiobook narrator and author of YA fantasy fiction under the name Gordon Greenhill... lots of stories here, but see: www.relicsoferrus.com and www.gordongreenhill.com]
- **Why does a former systematics professor write Fantasy fiction?**
 - [I'll discuss the relationship between the imagination and faith.]
- **Where do you go from here?**
 - [I'll discuss the nature of living with uncertainty and limitations—two common features of people who've blown up their lives]
 - [I can also discuss the following developments in life...
 - A second volume in the Cain story written to those who are called to live with Cain or clean up his mess. A book to the church on what such people actually need—even featuring two chapters written by Denise.
 - The expungement of my record which took place in October 2022.
 - My ordination journey in the Wesleyan church and by attempts to begin doing some sort of ministerial work again.

FAQs

Why did you write this book?

When you've been through a horrible situation—especially one of your own making—you want your experiences to be of use to others. It would be a shame to have our suffering wasting, when it can help others endure and thrive.

Who is this book for?

While the book is written first for those who've endured a forced exit from ministry due to their own destructive choices (because that was my experience), it speaks to anyone who's great burdens of life are a result of their own folly. Additionally, it's a resource to those who work with and love such people.

Why write a book to perpetrators of evil instead of victims?

Victims are best served—receive the fullest justice—when those who hurt them are brought back into the human fold and restored. When, after having endured all the just consequences of their actions, we still deny perpetrators of evil the opportunity for restoration, we leave them in despair and without hope. Then they reoffend and create more victims. To restore victims, we must work to restore perpetrators too.

How does your family feel about this book?

They fully support the book. My wife, Denise, even wrote two chapters in the book reflecting on why she stayed with me and how the actions of the various institutions in my story affected our family.

What happens if you raise more money than you need for the book?

Every penny given will go back into promotion and distribution of the book. Once initial costs are covered, we will explore how to expand the reach of the message via additional curricula and other media.

What comes after this book?

We must wait to see the sort of reception the book receives, but we envision small group curricula and perhaps a second shorter volume aimed more at lay readers and their experiences (rather than the clerical angle *The Bellowing of Cain* takes).

