



Dancing for the Devil: One Woman's Dramatic and Divine Rescue from the Sex Industry

Anny Donewald , Carrie Gerlach Cecil (With)

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An explosive memoir of transformation from a high-end stripper and escort who hit rock-bottom, turned to God, and left the sex trade to found Eve's Angels, a ministry reaching out to women in the sex industry.

Growing up as the daughter of an NCAA Championship-winning basketball coach and a stay-at-home mom, Anny Donewald had a seemingly blessed childhood. Then, at thirteen, one of her father's players sexually abused her, and Donewald embarked on a path toward self-destruction.

When Donewald was convinced to compete in an amateur night at a strip club, she found herself drawn into a world of drugs, money, and flesh peddlers in Michigan and Chicago—and eventually Las Vegas' hottest XXX clubs. But the fantasy of fistfuls of hundred dollar bills quickly turned to the reality of bloodstains on bathroom floors and nights with customers in presidential suites at luxurious hotels. At an emotional breaking point and pondering the termination of her unborn son, Anny reached the gates of her personal hell. There, she found God.

Then, this long-legged, fiery blonde fought to free herself from the sex trade, and, by the healing grace of God, launched her non-profit, Eve's Angels, which reaches out to girls who want out of the sex trade.

Dancing for the Devil takes an in-depth look at Anny's struggles and sheds a new insider's light on the horrible reality of the sex industry from someone who's seen the worst of it. This captivating memoir shows how women from all walks of life find themselves trapped by the sex trade and, most importantly, explains how they can get out, start over, and find the love of Christ. Courageous and unforgettable, *Dancing for the Devil* is a heartbreaking story of darkness, grace, and, ultimately, redemption.

Dancing for the Devil: One Woman's Dramatic and Divine Rescue from the Sex Industry Details

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Author : Anny Donewald , Carrie Gerlach Cecil (With)

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From Reader Review Dancing for the Devil: One Woman's Dramatic and Divine Rescue from the Sex Industry for online ebook

Anthem Book Review says

Anny Donewald's *Dancing for the Devil* opens the door to what actually takes place behind all the allure of strip clubs and high-priced prostitution. It would seem that the world of the sex industry, which has sadly become so mainstream in American culture, was all glitz and glam. Yet, in reality there are souls of broken and lost girls that have experienced sexual abuse at an alarming rate that led many of these women down this path. Donewald's book *Dancing with the Devil* provides an in-depth look at this world, complete with statistics placed at the beginning of each chapter that will have one gasp in horror of just how prevalent sexual abuse and the sex industry are really connected.

Donewald is brave in her story telling. Her family background is so complete and even inspiring to read that one would never imagine a girl from such a promising, God-fearing family would end up in the arena of a strip club. Yet, this is what makes the story so intriguing that this could happen to anyone who suffers sexual abuse and does not receive help.

Donewald's parents were both affluent in their community. Her father was a NCAA coach and her mother Kathy were both pillars of faith and ideal parents. They were a loving and nurturing couple that led a solid Christian life. I found the details of how they lived so encouraging. They never wavered; as a family they always trusted in God and stuck together. Yet, as much as they tried to protect their children, a teenage Donewald was sexually abused by one of players on her father's basketball team. Donewald never told a soul and this abuse and secret would play a huge role in what led her to strip dancing. for more of this book review go to www.anthembookreview.blogspot.com

Victoria says

Her honesty without being graphic about the sexuality that she endured. She was very humble and admirable for opening up as she did.

Anny really talked the most about herself and her father throughout this especially. I really love learning about how her upbringing was. She was and is truly blessed to have a father who cares so much about her and parents who didn't look down on her but always tried to help her despite her choices.

I really liked her story about her neighbor who made wolf sounds. The imagery with that really added to the whole thing and made a lot of sense. Also, learning about what she did in Ohio with the picketing issue was really awesome. I never heard of that at all and to know what God did to lead her there was cool!

I did shed a few tears. This is not really a laughing story. I mean, the girl went through some tough things.

Beautifully done. I really am glad with the outcome of this story.

Judy says

A truly profound spiritual journey about someone lucky enough not to become a statistic, thanks to a loving family. 99.5% of people who work in the sex industry have been abused in their childhood and they need a way out. Eve's Angels are hope for a different life.

The book talks a lot about the stripping life. I wonder what her relationship with her siblings was like. She explains the tumble down the rabbit hole of addiction quite well and soon we see how the dancing and drugs are a vicious circle. Very interesting how dancers are lured by 'grooming' into the trade. I guess if you aren't that interested in money and bling, it offers protection because the wolves have nothing to offer...

Jennifer Jarrell says

Beautiful Story of Redemption!

This autobiography tells of a woman's transformation from a young innocent girl to a stripper/prostitute and how she was redeemed by turning to Jesus as her Lord and Savior. She now has a full time ministry witnessing to and pouring out love to other women in the sex industry. She writes beautifully that it is love and grace that will win these women to the Lord, not condemnation and scorn. A great read for anyone who loves tales of beauty from ashes!

Gigi says

I will say first that I like the title of the book. Also, I was very happy that the authors avoided the profanity that they no doubt could have included.

I bought Dancing for the Devil in spite of having stopped following Anny Donewald on Facebook a few years earlier. I found a lot of her theological pronouncements to be just kind of uninformed and tiresome. I recall feeling put off by her tough girl routine and also think that people who put themselves out publicly as evangelists for Christ should hold themselves to higher standards than I felt she did in a few different ways. You can be "real" or whatever and still express yourself like a normal, polite adult. But I am interested enough in the type of ministry she does that when I saw the book on Amazon, I bought it.

Anny's story is a little different than lots of dancers' stories in that she had an involved dad who was married to her mother. What struck me as a little odd about her story though is that (as she tells it) she did not feel that she could tell her parents about some sexual predations she was enduring at the hands of one of her father's players. (Her dad was a college basketball coach.) I found myself wondering if she was telling us the whole story, quite honestly. Particularly, I wondered if she had been abused previous to the incidents with the player. In some ways, it does not make sense that the player would go after the coach's daughter (though I believe Anny that he did) and it also did not entirely make sense to me that the incidents she describes - while certainly traumatizing and humiliating - would have been profound enough to lead her into the sex industry, although she was also raped later at boarding school. I do not fault her if she does not want to

disclose everything that happened to her to the public; what she reveals is painful enough, but those are a few questions I had when reading.

The book is interesting and flows well, but there were bits that just strained credulity. After "coming to Christ," or whatever evangelicals call it, she claims that she had a dream in which she was instructed to go to a particular gas station and there would be a man there whose mother was sick. She goes to the gas station and the man is in fact there and the situation unfolds as she had foreseen. That could have happened, I suppose, but I am often doubtful about "signs and wonders" that non-denominational Christians claim to experience. The "exorcism" she finds herself performing was likewise not entirely believable.

The book is good, though I would not say a must-read unless you have a particular interest in the type of outreach that Anny does. "Dancing to Despair" is a good book for anyone who has an interest in former dancers, as is Harmony Dust's book.

Laura Jean says

Spoiler alert: I'm not a Christian.

However, I do respect those who are. What really struck me about this book was the author's statement in the introductory note, that she believes in telling the whole gory unpleasant truth of her experiences, because it is important for other people to realize that God loves you anyway....regardless...of the horrible things you've done. She is willing to let her life serve as an example of that. That's not an easy thing to do. It takes guts.

The next thing that struck me was her honesty. Her willingness to look deep within and discover WHY she had done these things and then again to share that with strangers.

It's her sense of humor that totally sold it though. The author comes across as human. She's not really preaching...just telling us her experiences. At times she comes across as REALLY ENTHUSIASTIC about how floored she is by the experiences she has. Telling us that she knows that we'll most likely think she's crazy. Perhaps that's also what made this more palpable for me.

In the end, I found some of her post conversion stories a bit much for ME to believe. But honestly, I think that her message of love and acceptance is important for EVERYONE to read. Christian and non-Christian alike. Especially Christians though, because (again perhaps I'm naïve) but I was honestly surprised by the reticence she got from fellow Christians about ministering to the women still in the sex industry. Again, I'm not a Christian, but the author's mission of love without judgment is something I can certainly back whole heartedly.

Victor Gentile says

Anny Donewald with Carrie Gerlach Cecil in her new book, "Dancing for the Devil" published by Howard Books gives us One Woman's Dramatic and Divine Rescue from the Sex Industry.

From the back cover: All that glitters is not gold.

An explosive memoir of transformation from a high-end stripper and escort who hit rock-bottom, turned to God, and left the sex trade to found Eve's Angels, a ministry reaching out to women in the sex industry.

Growing up as the daughter of an NCAA Championship-winning basketball coach and a stay-at-home mom, Anny Donewald had a seemingly blessed childhood. Then, at thirteen, one of her father's players sexually abused her, and Donewald embarked on a path toward self-destruction.

When Donewald was convinced to compete in an amateur night at a strip club, she found herself drawn into a world of drugs, money, and flesh peddlers in Michigan and Chicago—and eventually Las Vegas' hottest XXX clubs. But the fantasy of fistfuls of hundred dollar bills quickly turned to the reality of bloodstains on bathroom floors and nights with customers in presidential suites at luxurious hotels. At an emotional breaking point and pondering the termination of her unborn son, Anny reached the gates of her personal hell. There, she found God.

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What happened to Anny Donewald could happen to anybody. She had a good life until she was sexually abused by a player on a team her father coached. From there is was a terrible descent into the world of strip clubs and the sex industry. How do you get out of this lifestyle when 1) you have to support your daughter and 2) you really do not know anything else? Once Ms. Donewald hit rock bottom she called out to God to rescue her. And He did! Her prayers are answered and she starts on a bumpy road to recovery. She feels that she is directed by God to help those, who like herself, feel trapped in the sex industry. Ms. Donewald has founded a Christian, non-profit, organization called "Eve's Angels" to minister to not only the women but the men in the industry. This is not a book filled with graphic imagery of sex and violence it is, however, an honest expose of one woman's nightmare and her eventual release from it. As I said this could happen to anybody we need to know how to help if we ever encounter someone in need. I think this book does exactly that.

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received this book free from Howard Books for this review. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255: "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising."

Veronica Marie Lewis-Shaw says

(Reviewer's note: I received, upon request, a complimentary copy of this book from the publisher, Howard Books - a division of Simon & Schuster, in exchange for my honest review. vmls)

Fame... one's own or that of a friend or family... and the price that we are willing to pay to protect that fame,

coupled with being sexually abused as a young teen set young Anny Donewald on a course... on a journey... of self-destruction that very nearly claimed her soul forever.

Dancing with the Devil tells the heart-wrenching story of a young woman caught up in the world of drugs, sex trafficking, prostitution and trade and her journey to and through that dark, dangerous world that has claimed literally tens of thousands of lives... many to the point of death and many to a life in which death would have been a welcome release from the hell on Earth they found themselves in.

It begins innocently enough... amateur night at a small time strip club. A few bucks... some free drinks are the 'prize'... and 'stories' to tell your friends later ... just another Saturday night, right?

But, wait... that wasn't the beginning of Anny's long dark night - a night that would last for years. No, for Anny the darkness began the first time she was abused by one of the players on her father's college basketball team.

For far, far too many women, their own journey into darkness began - will begin - the same way. Sexually abused at a young age by, not a stranger, but someone known... someone they are close to. Someone they trusted. And like Anny, their guilt and shame over what had been done to them made their own abuse a secret. One, as Anny says, had to be kept at all costs!

For Anny, that night was the beginning of a nightmare that seemed would never end. Guilt and shame overwhelmed her, robbing her of self-esteem, self-worth... robbing her of hope. And just when Anny feels that everything is lost... that she has used up all her chances at life... she has lost everything and everyone... save one... she ever loved or cared about... and she has finally hit rock bottom... and there is nowhere left to go...

A spark inside Anny refuses to die and a tiny voice inside her... a whimper almost lost in her dark despair... "help me... please!"

And God hears that plea... that tiny prayer... and He answers! God picks up Anny and touches her in such a soul-deep way that only our Creator... our Father... our Healer... our Redeemer... can.

Even after all the things Anny has done... after all the times that she turned away from God... all the times she set aside what she had read in the Bible... been told by friends... the messages she heard in church...

Even after all the times Anny turned her back on God... when she finally called out to Him.... He answered. Without hesitation... without condemnation... without any conditions... God answered Anny.

He lifted her up from the darkness and showed her light. He showed Anny his purpose for her.

That moment marked the beginning of Anny's next journey... one of salvation and redemption... one of hope and a message. A journey that would set her on a path of ministry that would come to touch many, many lives... and bring the message of Christ our savior to other lost souls. A message of love... of hope... of grace and mercy to countless 'lost souls', because this was Anny's calling.

It hasn't been an easy journey and I think Anny would be the first one to tell you that her journey is far from over.

At one point in the book, Anny relates something Jesus said to her. "Don't let people tell you who I am; let

me show you who I am."

Anny doesn't tell us who Jesus is. She shows us. Her amazing story... from her 'fall from grace' all those years ago to where she is now... her salvation and redemption... the ministry known as Eve's Angels that she began... is an amazing testimony of God's love and of His grace and mercy.

Anny, through God's grace and with the support and encouragement of her cousin Carrie, tells an amazing, riveting and at times heart-stopping story of her journey through darkness and her divine rescue from the sex industry. Anny's open, frank words lay bare a world of depravity... a world no one wants to acknowledge exists... a world that isn't spoken of in polite company and only obliquely referenced in churches. A world that makes us squirm in our seats and change the television channel.

But more than that, it is a testimony of God's amazing grace and healing... and His unconditional, never-ending, never changing love. It is a reminder that we are all His children and there is nothing we can do... no hole so deep or dark or depraved that we find ourselves in... that He can't lift us out of.

Anny Donewald is living proof of that. She is also proof that the 'cycle' can be broken. That is part of the message of Eve's Angels, the ministry that she founded.

It doesn't matter how you got where you are. God will bring you home.

Dancing With The Devil is one of those rare reads that is hard to put down. It is told in such a compelling manner and voice that one could easily finish the book in a single sitting. I recommend this book without reservation.

Dancing For The Devil should be on everyone's 'must-read' list!

Veronica Marie Lewis-Shaw

(writing under a large mushroom, somewhere in the Pacific Northwest)

Martha Paschall-Boykin says

Amazing story! As Christians, what messages are we sending to others? Are we judging and criticizing or are we sharing God's unconditional love?

Faye says

Anny Donewald tells her story, sharing from her heart about her past and the great things that God has done and is still doing in her life.

Anny Donewald grew up the daughter of a famous NCAA basketball coach, with the eyes of a small town constantly upon her and family. Anny experienced sexual abuse at a young age, and again in college, and eventually found herself working as a stripper and raising her young daughter on her own.

Anny tells her story honestly and compellingly about the heartache, and struggles she faced, and many of the parts of the books are rather hard to read, my heart went out to her, and I rejoiced as I read about how she came to faith, and her strong desire and drive to follow God and help other women trapped by the sex industry.

I loved how Anny talks about how God used her to reach people, and even though she was doubtful, she followed his beckoning, which eventually led to her starting an organization called Eve's Angels to help women escape the sex industry.

Overall this was a heartfelt, and at times painful memoir. There are of course, adult themes in this book, but I do feel that she did spare many details in the telling of the story, giving the story enough edge to convey the story realistically and call readers to action, yet holding back many of the darker elements of the life that Anny previously experienced, mostly for the sake of the readers. I definitely think that the explicit elements were handled well, and fit very well with the kind of book that it is. Definitely one I would recommend, as a powerful story of redemption.

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Paul Pessolano says

“Dancing for the Devil” by Anny Donewald with Carrie Gerlach Cecil, published by Howard Books.

Category – Memoir Publication Date – September 02, 2014

The sub-title to this book is, “One Woman’s Dramatic and Divine Rescue from the Sex Industry”. This is not a book that contains sexual content or strong language, although the subject matter lends itself to graphic description and explicit language the authors, at the request of the publisher, tells her story in a language that is acceptable to even the most prudent reader. Kudos to Howard Books and the authors. If you are looking for sleaze this is not your book, in fact, the book could very well be classified as a religious book.

Most people believe that those participating in the sex industry come from broken homes, have been abused, or are mentally deficient. This may be true in many cases but certainly not in the case of Anny Donewald. Anny came from a very normal family, a mother and father that were affluent, supportive of their children, and religious. The story is a true account of Anny’s descent into the world of women, many times not of their own choosing; find themselves trapped in an industry that is very difficult to leave. Although most women abhor what they do, they have trouble finding a way to support themselves outside of stripping and being (a polite term) escorts. They also find it difficult to turn away from the “easy” and amount of money that they can earn. They also find themselves living among the high rollers, the sports figures, the movie moguls, and record artists.

Anny, who has reached the bottom of her life, miraculously calls for help from God. Her prayers are answered and she starts on a bumpy road to recovery. She feels that she is directed by God to help those who like herself feel trapped in the sex industry, and she has founded a Christian, non-profit, organization called

“Eve’s Angels” to minister to not only the women but the men in the industry.

Suzi Voss says

I had the pleasure of meeting Anny at my church a couple of years ago, as she is involved in outreach ministry there. Most stories about girls who end up in the sex trade feature girls from broken homes and poverty situations, which was not Anny's case at all. She grew up with loving parents; her father was a well-known basketball coach and they were able to send her to one of the best creative arts schools in the Midwest. Her story of how she ended up in the sex trade, how her faith got her out, and her relentless devotion to helping other women is definitely worth reading.

Cafelilybookreviews says

Readers need to be forewarned that while the publisher and author did an amazing job of presenting such a horrific, explicit topic without profanity or overly graphic descriptions, this book is not what I consider suitable for all readers. I would caution that this for mature audiences only.

This memoir was mentally taxing to read at times. I found myself wondering how a young woman from such a loving, stable home would end up in such hellish environments. Anny answers that question and more, with her life story. This was a very eye opening book and heart wrenching at the same time.

I quickly learned that the term "high-end" stripper is an oxymoron.

Anny shows her readers the rock bottom devastation of this industry, by slowly peeling away layers of her life and allowing a glimpse into what the industry is truly like. It is dark and evil beyond what I could even begin to imagine.

As a parent, it was gut-wrenching to read what her parents went through as Anny muddled in and out of clubs, breaking their hearts and their trust repeatedly. The story turns from hopeless to inspirational, as readers see how God began working in Anny and now ministers through her, to others who have fallen into the sex industry.

Amy says

Absolutely life changing. Excellent writing style, I felt as if I were going through life with Anny. Being from the GR area and attending MSU in Lansing gave me a real feel for the journey. Courageous and Authentic Anny wins the prize.

Thank you for sharing your courage and incredible awareness. This also truly helps when raising teens and realizing they have their own journey. LOVE THEM WHERE THEY ARE. Love and kindness prevails!

Dianne says

It's amazing how 1 or 2 things in an almost perfect childhood can change a person so severely and make them make such bad choices, one after the other until they are so deep in their hole that they can't see a way out, then turn to drugs as an escape and make things even worse. Anny's story went on through years of strip clubs and drug abuse and it was hard to read at times, but it was interesting to see what goes on in that world and how things are done, how sex workers are groomed by other sex workers, how everyone is so hard and selfish to the point of not caring about anyone but themselves and how much they can get from any situation. It's a sad world but it's explained so well. Anny eventually come out on top and becomes a Blessing to many others and we have a happy ending. I just LOVE a happy ending!
