



## Where Angels Fear to Tread

*Thomas E. Sniegoski*

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Six year-old Zoe York has been taken and her mother has come to Remy for help. She shows him crude, childlike drawings that she claims are Zoe's visions of the future, everything leading up to her abduction, and some beyond. Like the picture of a man with wings who would come and save her-a man who is an angel.

Zoe's preternatural gifts have made her a target for those who wish to exploit her power to their own destructive ends. The search will take Remy to dark places he would rather avoid. But to save an innocent, Remy will ally himself with a variety of lesser evils-and his soul may pay the price...

## Where Angels Fear to Tread Details

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Author : Thomas E. Sniegoski

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## From Reader Review Where Angels Fear to Tread for online ebook

### Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says

I admit that the angel storyline is a huge draw, and the concept of the seraphim lurking within Remy appeals very much. I liked the different look at some very well known Old Testament biblical figures, even though one was quite chilling and the other very irreverently portrayed. This is urban fantasy that jumps back and forth across the horror line, sometimes even in the same chapter. I liked it a lot, so that's why it gets a four star rating from me.

Reviewed for Bitten by Books. <http://bittenbybooks.com>.

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### Shelley says

**\*\*Synopsis\*\*** Six year-old Zoe York has been taken by her father Carl and her mother Deryn has come to Remy Chandler for help. She shows him crude, childlike drawings that she claims are Zoe's visions of the future, including everything leading up to her abduction, and some beyond. It also includes a picture of a man with wings who would come and save her; a man who is an angel.

Zoe's preternatural gifts have made her a target for those who wish to exploit her power to their own destructive ends. The search will take Remy to dark places he would rather avoid. But to save an innocent, Remy will ally himself with a variety of lesser evils-and his soul may pay the price.

**\*\*Review\*\*** Where Angels Fear to Tread is the third installment in the Remy Chandler series, following A Kiss Before the Apocalypse and Dancing On the Head of a Pin. Remy, who is working as a P.I. has been through some hard times recently. His love of his life Madeline has succumbed to illness and old age, and he can't seem to do anything without her in his constant thoughts. He even goes into a fugue state and talks to her about what he is feeling and dealing with.

Remy is the known as the Seraphim Remiel, a heavenly host who turned his back on heaven for a mortal existence. His Seraphim has been itching for some action for a long time now, and Remy is struggling to keep up his humanity. Remy has recently dealt with the disappearance of Death (Israfil), and stopped the apocalypse. He watched as Lucifer returned to Hell, and is making it his own creation now. His friend Francis, who was a guardian angel to the gates of hell, has either been killed, or is missing.

As luck, or fate would have it, at least he's not truly alone. He has his friend Steven Mulvehill a Boston PD Homicide Detective who knows Remy's true identity, and thinks nothing of being friends with him. Then there's his faithful sidekick Marlowe, the 4 year old retriever, who Remy can speak to and understand without any problems.

Where Angels Fear to Tread dives into biblical legends Delilah, and Samson, as well as another deity named Dagon who wants a piece of god's creation that seems to have found itself within the body of Zoe. Delilah, after having the Philistine's cut Samson hair which made him virtually indestructible, is forced by God into becoming a succubus in order to live. It's her penalty for messing with God's creation. She has been looking for the vessel that the creation of god holds for a very long time, and believes she is finally close. Delilah has eaten the souls of her followers, and they are basically zombies to her each and every

whim. If Delilah gets her hands on the vessel, and creation, she believes she can rid herself of Gods curse.

Samson, after having his eyes carved out by the Philistines and his hair cut off, has vowed revenge on Delilah, and has been after her ever since. Samson was able to grow his hair back by the grace of God after Delilah betrayed him, and he was given a second chance to prove his worth. Samson appears to have a bunch of children who play parts in this book. I found that interesting in that both Delilah and Samson both had children, and only his survived. In this book, they finally come face to face with each other while searching for the child Zoe. Samson's only desire is for her to die painfully for what she did to him.

Zoe is a little girl who was born with autism. She has the ability of premonition that allows her to see into the future and draw what she sees. She also is the carrier of the piece of creation. Her parents were followers of the Church of his Holy Abundance; which I called a cult immediately after reading about its members. Neither parent is near as likable as the little girl is. They both made huge mistakes in believing in any church who believes in a fake fertility God.

Remy's job is to get Zoe back, as well as remain human as hard as that's been to do recently. Remiel really wants out, and in this story, he gets his chance when drawn out by Dagon. Samson was basically a non-factor in this book. Yes, the ending is what is expected between him and Delilah, and I would have found fault in the writers ability to tie up the storyline had he not done so.

The only problem I have with this story is this. The apocalypse may have been averted, but, are we really going to ignore the fact that Lucifer is trying to tie up loose ends, which may cause yet another war between heaven and hell? Also, is Francis really dead, or was he given his wish to return to heaven after he sacrificed himself trying to stop Lucifer from rising?

I don't mind the backstory between Remy and his dead wife. It's almost like she's his muse, who continues to love and believe in him even though she's gone from this world. The subtle references to Linda Somerset as a possible love interest also become clearer thanks to Zoe's drawings.

Overall, a good story, but not the best of the three I've read thus far. Yes, I will read the next book once it comes out, and my library makes it available. This is one of the few male Fantasy characters I can actually find myself reading about as long as the story continues.

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### **Magdelanye says**

The Archangel Remiel of the Order of Seraphim makes a most engaging anti-hero, Sherlock Holmes wannabe with a twist, and the series continues strong in this fast paced third adventure. TES has the ability to empathize with the vilest personalities, which is important because we encounter quite a few unpleasant life forms here, some resembling humans or with a remnant of humanity cloaking an older evil, and a whole army of those who have been summoned from death. TES doesn't actually use the word evil to describe his succubus villain, but he allows the reader to draw that conclusion.

More engagingly, his empathy serves him well in his depiction of his relationship with the frisky and devoted Marlowe, and I enjoyed their conversations.

My one reservation about the series is the escalation of graphic violence. But there is tenderness and hope and humour, a bit of ancient theology and a thorough discussion of what it means to be human.

If this is a morality tale, enough loose ends were left lying around for me to start looking for vol 1V.

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### **Anita says**

I

FRIGGING

LOVE

THIS

SERIES

The world could use more people like Remy Chandler.

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### **Melodie says**

I enjoy these books and the fact that Remy is an angel just makes them that much more interesting. I'm always interested to see what Biblical characters might show up in the books and I wasn't disappointed with the characters in this one. Remy is hired to find a little girl who has very special skills who has been abducted by her father. There are others who are after the child, too, because of her "abilities", so the path to finding her is going to get nasty. The first one is still my favorite, but all make for great "escape" reading.

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### **Cass says**

4,5/5

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### **Christopher Gosvener says**

Series keeps rolling and keeping it interesting.

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### **Ami says**

#### **3.5 stars**

Deryn York comes to Remy and asks him to help finding her six-year-old daughter, Zoe, who has been taken

by her father. The new case brings Remy to a child with autism who seems to be able to see the future, Church occult who tries to resurrect an ancient God, an army of men without soul with the mark of a kiss, a succubus who wants to take God's power to bring back her paradise, and a blind man whose sole goal is to kill the succubus.

The third Remy Chandler book strays from the ending of book two, *Dancing on the Head of a Pin*; as it lacks addressing the outcome of Lucifer resurrection. In one hand, I'm a bit disappointed for the fact. I think since Lucifer is now back in restoring Hell, it provides a great basis for a more sinister story. In the otherhand, this story is a whole lot creepier (first chapter alone makes me shudder) AND it takes a new spin to Samson and Delilah (yes, THAT Samson and Delilah).

The story is pretty well-paced; this time it switches back and forth from Remy's point of view, to other characters, including the villains, which I kind of like. The idea of an autistic child, who actually sort of a "vessel" of God's power is not really new -- I think I remember watching movies or TV series with that sort of plot -- but it's still entertaining.

Marlowe remains adorable. I miss Francis as he was Remy's alliance when they're fighting the power of fallen angels. I'm not sure I like the tease of Remy with Linda, since Linda is sort of the woman Francis had a crush with. It diminishes my hope that Francis is still alive.

All in all, a good addition to the series. And by the way, the cover ROCKS!

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### **Ian Cockerill says**

I actually started reading this series some time ago, and liked it enough to pick it up if I had a hiatus on new or other books I wanted to read. They are relatively short and an easy read, and well written in a professional manner.

That having been said I wasn't desperate to get to the next one, so make of that what you will. There is a certain disposable quality about the books which means they don't really stick with you or demand your commitment.

To be fair I believe that 'Where Angels Fear to Tread' is the best so far. Nicely plotted, interesting characters, particularly the villains, and an 'old God' taking on a voluntarily fallen angel (as well as the return of some old biblical characters, which is nicely done). So - well worth a read if you like your urban fantasy with a noir and angelic flavour.

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### **Michelle says**

Nice.

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### **Megan says**

Sniegoski produced another amazing addition to the Remy Chandler novels with this book. I will say that I was slightly disappointed that the end of the second book isn't really addressed in the third, but the new plot

was still excellent. The book flashes pretty consistently between Remy's investigation and the brutal methods used by Delilah to find Zoe. The primary plot line still involves a Biblical story (hopefully, you caught the references to both Samson and Delilah), but Sniegoski begins to expand his supernatural repertoire and strays from strictly Biblical material with the addition of creatures like a minotaur and the pagan god Dagon. The pacing was rapid and the characters you love from the first two books, such as Marlowe and Mulvehill, make appearances. The pacing of the plot was good and there is a lot of action leading up to the climax of the book.

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### **Cathy says**

A surprisingly quick read. Perhaps because the plot was more straightforward than the previous novels in the series. A little girl is in danger and Remy is hired to track down those responsible. Marlowe, Remy's black Lab, reprises his role as the adorable sidekick; I've said it before and I hope to say it again, Sniegoski writes great dogs.

There are some somewhat more subtle (than in the last 2 books) digs at the Christian god and his role in our world, along with some interesting questions, and Remy's continued wrestling with his dual nature as a former angel who wants to live as a man. Which is really the heart of the series. Some will complain that the book departs from the plot about Lucifer, which is referred to but is seemingly left for another day. That's fine with me because it allows for further development of Remy's character and leaves more fun for future installments. Overall it was a good tale and a nice visit with characters who are coming to feel like old friends.

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### **Doris says**

Remy Chandler is back in the third of the series. Again, he makes his dashing way into the world, showing Angelic wrath and Human frailty in practically the same scene, as he attempts to discover what is so special about little Zoe that her father would kidnap her and her mother desperately try to get her back. The drawings done by the child help bring light and reason into this fast paced adventure with many unpleasant beings, several pretending to be holy members of a church family and others just plain evil.

This book gave a nod to the current fascination with zombies but does not dwell on them for the whole, bringing instead a myriad of other life forms, some which also still have a remnant of humanity, but all cloaking evil.

The labrador Marlowe is back, and his good humor and occasional shrewd judgements are wonderful.

This book introduces a few more Biblical characters, and I have to admit I look for them, but will leave them out so as not to spoil the story too much.

I will say that this go-round shows an outlet for violence on a less Ragnarok scale, so in a way it was good, but still contains a great deal of descriptive violence even as it brings in the humor and hope and a discussion

of the meaning of life and humanity as a child of God.

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### **Susan Gourley says**

I love the tortured and lonely hero in this series. I can't wait to read the next one. I do wish they were available for my eReader.

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### **David Szatkowski says**

The book itself is good, fast paced and a fun read. I enjoy the series in general. What I find distracting is the inconsistency in the use of theology and metaphysics. While the theology itself (from a point of view of Christian theology) is not good, it is not a theological text. That's forgivable. What is more difficult to accept is the internal inconsistency in the use of theology and metaphysics. The author seems to use a Thomistic [yes, that is the correct adjective despite what the red line indicates....separate rant] principles to prove the existence of God, then claims that God is the Christian God, then seems to move to a quasi-pantheistic point of view. These sorts of things could be caught easily by good editor or finding a consistent world view to tell the story in.

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