

BE AFRAID...BE VERY AFRAID...

THE ENLIGHTENMENT PROJECT LYNN HIGHTOWER

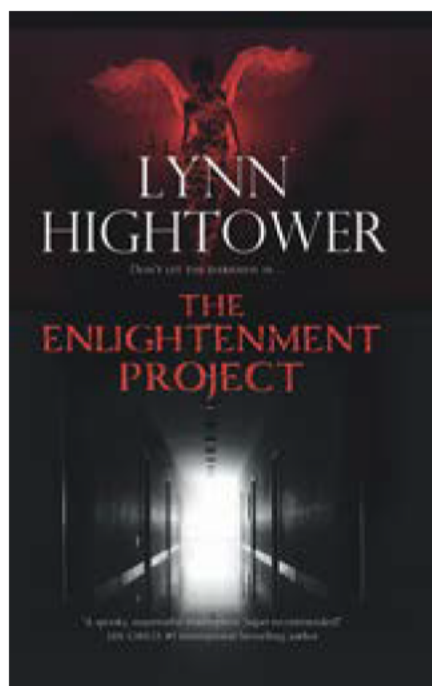
COMING THIS FALL IN PAPERBACK

“Lynn Hightower is a brave, bold writer – and this spooky, suspenseful masterpiece could be her best yet. Super-recommended!”

– Lee Child

STARRED REVIEW IN PUBLISHERS WEEKLY:

American neurosurgeon Noah Archer, the narrator of this **SUPERB SUPERNATURAL MEDICAL THRILLER** from Hightower (*Even in Darkness*), hopes his research project to create the experience of enlightenment by stimulating the brain’s electrical impulses will lead to wide-ranging health benefits for people across the world suffering from addiction, as well as chronic depression and other mental illnesses. Then Fr. Perry Cavanaugh, an old friend who saved Archer’s sanity when the future doctor was possessed by a demon as a child, shocks Archer with the news that Henry Mandeville, a subject of the project who’s been cured of a fatal brain tumor, attributes this miracle to the devil. Cavanaugh fears that something about Archer’s methods for modifying brain functions has had the unintended consequence of making those the surgeon treats susceptible to the same demonic possession that almost drove Archer to suicide. Archer must team up with the priest to understand exactly what happened to Mandeville and prevent the darkness he experienced as a child from infecting his own family. **SENSITIVE CHARACTERIZATIONS MATCH THE IMAGINATIVE PLOT. READERS WILL COMPULSIVELY TURN THE PAGES TO SEE HOW IT ALL ENDS.**



Publishing on October 25, 2022, in time for Halloween, *THE ENLIGHTENMENT PROJECT* by Lynn Hightower (Canongate/Severn House, \$17.95 Paperback, ISBN: 9781448307197) thrilled readers when it was first released last March, 2022. With fantastic reviews, a *Los Angeles Times* Op Ed that traveled the globe, a growing base of fans, and the news that “Possession” is now recognized in the American Psychiatric Association’s Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, this book that tackles emerging news about the fascinating topic of EXORCISM will now be available to a wider audience of readers.

IF YOU DIDN’T HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THIS BOOK OR INTERVIEW LYNN WHEN IT CAME OUT IN HARDCOVER, WE URGE YOU TO CONSIDER REVIEWING THIS UPCOMING PAPERBACK EDITION.

Lynn Hightower has created a superbly told, page-turning story, one that is also an intelligent and provocative view into the complex worlds of both the medical and the supernatural. This is fiction, but the facts behind it are chilling.

The author of numerous thrillers, including the Sonora Blair and Lena Padgett detective series, Lynn Hightower's internationally-bestselling novels have been included in the New York Times List of Notable Books, the London Times' bestseller lists, the WH Smith Fresh Talent Awards, and the Shamus award. Lynn teaches Master Novel classes in the UCLA Extension Writing Program, and works as a Manuscript Consultant/Writing Coach for novelists.



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Truth, as Mark Twain said, is stranger than fiction. Lynn Hightower marries the two to create an irresistible tale packed with the latest scientific discoveries. As many of us continue to deal with anxiety and trauma, and as we continue to experiment with unusual and unique ways to cope, *THE ENLIGHTENMENT PROJECT* strikes a chilling chord—a glimpse into just how powerful the forces of the mind and beyond can be.

—RESEARCH THAT ASTONISHED LYNN —

The fact that possession is a recognized psychiatric condition in the DSM. That psychiatrists are now working with Exorcists to help people who think they are possessed. That there is a very strict protocol of evaluation...so that physical and mental illness is ruled out.

M. Scott Peck said that initially he “did not believe in the devil” but that “...as a psychiatrist, he had been converted from a belief that the devil did not exist to a belief—a certainty—that the devil does exist.” He defines *devil* this way: “I mean a spirit that is powerful . . . thoroughly malevolent . . . capable of taking up a kind of residence within the mind, brain, soul, or body of susceptible and willing human beings...” He worried that his “profession might well seek my excommunication” but was hoping ‘demonology’ be made an incipient subspecialty of psychiatry and psychology.”

I was intrigued by the insights of Allan J. Hamilton, M.D., a neurosurgeon who wrote *THE SCALPEL AND THE SOUL*. His chapter on his own exorcism, by a Navajo Medicine man, a respected, beloved healer, brought to him by a student, also Navajo, to release the spirit of a patient he could not let go of. In his words: “Healing requires that physician and patient enter into partnership, facing dangers together. Medicine was not meant to be a mechanical transaction. It’s a spiritual quest, putting your own soul on the line, along with the patients...You cannot heal if you cannot feel. Healing isn’t from the brain but the soul.”

Richard Gallagher, MD, author of *DEMONIC FOES*, recounts twenty-five years of work consulting on cases of demonic possession and diabolic attack. Gallagher is a professor of psychiatry at New York Medical and a psychoanalyst on the faculty of Columbia University. His book came out after I had written *THE ENLIGHTENMENT PROJECT*, but I found it fascinating. In 2016 he published an essay on possession in The Washington Post. The essay had over a million online hits.

In an article by CNN Gallagher had this to say, “There was one woman who was like 90 pounds soaking wet. She threw a Lutheran deacon who was about 200 pounds across the room. That’s not psychiatry. That’s beyond psychiatry.” (*WHEN EXORCISTS NEED HELP, THEY CALL HIM*, by John Blake, CNN, August 17, 2017.)