

Author Derald Hamilton Reveals Life in a Seminary as Spiritually Competitive

Satire and the supernatural blend together in this humorous but disturbing account of divinity school and the people who are drawn to answering the call to ministry.

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In author Derald Hamilton's recently released book titled, *The Call*, he draws from some of his personal real-life experiences at Seminary School and reveals for his readers the seldom known ins-and-outs of such an institution, often with humor and uncanny insight.

"You know, son, it takes a very healthy dose of arrogance and a considerable degree of narcissism to stand up before a congregation week after week extolling your humility," a minister once told Derald Hamilton. "I have to say, I admired that man's candor—and envied his chutzpah," said Derald Hamilton during a recent interview. "Just the exposure I accord myself in the writing of this novel is frightening enough. The transparency I'm opening myself up to in this interview, taken in retrospect, can be mighty scary" said the introspective author.

"Derald Hamilton commences to introduce characters at the seminary like people passing through a revolving door at a hotel lobby," quoted Barbara Miller of Pacific Book Review. "All types of students enroll, for each their own reasons, 'called' to seek the seminary for their spiritual edification to become ministers within the hierarchy of the Christian faith-based system," she continued.

The Call is available in many online book sellers, as well as a stocked item at Books Inc. in Mountain View, CA; Kepler Book Store in Menlo Park, CA; and Bookshop Santa Cruz in Santa Cruz, CA.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Derald Hamilton was born in Santa Cruz, California, on July 22, 1950, and seven days later was adopted by Derald and Naomi Hamilton, two products of rural Iowa. His father was a career soldier who fell in love with Army life during World War II. His mother worked as both a secretary and an accountant, until bad health forced her into early retirement. He enrolled in Phillips Graduate Theological Seminary in pursuit of a Masters of Divinity Degree. While pursuing this degree, he became disillusioned, perceiving the church atmosphere to be a hotbed of politics and competitive showmanship.

Derald, at the age of 40, decided he had done enough living to lend credibility to fiction writing. He has since been able to have four of his short stories published, along with non-fiction articles, and, while now in his 60's, is about to bring his first novel into print.

Derald still lives in the Bay Area of northern California and enjoys playing his banjo in bluegrass and old time jam sessions.

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