

THE FOURTH AWAKENING

ROD PENNINGTON
JEFFERY A. MARTIN

THE FOURTH AWAKENING

Copyright © 2009 by Rod Pennington and Jeffery A. Martin

All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America. No part of this book may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles and reviews.

Integration Press
2245 C Ashley Crossing Drive - Suite 102
Charleston, South Carolina 29414

ISBN: 1-57242-000-6

EAN: 978-1-57242-000-7

Library of Congress Control Number: 2009926636

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places and incidents are products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, or locales or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

Cover Designed by Cathi Stevenson
Interior Designed by Gwen Gades

THE FOURTH AWAKENING



Rod Pennington

&

Jeffery A. Martin

explain it very effectively since you're going through it yourself."

"Why is it whenever I start talking to you I feel like my head is about to explode?"

"Raw animal magnetism?" Walker offered.

Penelope ignored Walker's answer and shifted as far as her seat belt would allow as she tried to face him. "What do you think will happen?"

"Unless we can get in front of this Awakening and let the world know what is going on, I don't see those in power taking any options off the table."

"You actually think a government would launch weapons of mass destruction to stop an Awakening? You can't be serious."

"They're not the ones I'm worried about. Most major governments with these kinds of weapons have all sorts of checks and balances built in. My biggest concern is that a fringe group that cuts across cultural and political borders will emerge and somehow gain access to them."

"What kind of group?"

"I don't know. They haven't shown themselves yet. But let's hope they aren't willing to kill for their beliefs," Walker hesitated. "Or worse, die for them."

"What are the odds of this happening?"

"A lot of that will depend on you."

"Me?"

"Yes. The more people we make aware of the Awakening the better."

"What if that is not enough?"

"Then millions of people could die."

"What?"

"Suppose a war breaks out between two high population nuclear powers such as Pakistan and India, then spreads to China? Even the countries that are not involved will feel the environmental and economic damage for decades..."

"Pull the car over." Penelope demand.

"What? Why?"

"Pull the damn car over NOW!"

Walker steered the Bronco onto the berm of the Interstate but left the engine idling.

"Look at me," Spence demanded, her eyes blazing. A bemused smile was on Walker's face as he turned to face her. "Are you telling me you think

this story I'm suppose to write for you could save millions of lives?!"

"Possible billions," Walker answered calmly. Penelope's mouth moved but no words came out. Walker leaned back against the car door, propped his elbow on the steering wheel and rested his chin on the palm of his hand. "Why do you think we went to all of this trouble to get you here if it wasn't this important?"

"How dare you!" Penelope demanded. "Who do you think you are trying to hang something like that on me?" Penelope folded her arms across her chest and continued to fume. "If I don't believe your silly little fairy tale a billion people will die. How dare you!"

Walker chuckled and shook his head. "That isn't what I meant at all. All I'm saying is if we can make people aware of the Awakening we can potentially save lives. Whether you tell the story or we find another way to get it out really doesn't matter to us. We just need to get the story out."

Penelope started to run her fingers through her hair until she realized she was still wearing Joey's blonde wig. She jerked it off and tossed it at her feet.

"You're still going to need that," Walker said as he pointed to the hair piece.

"Shut up!" Penelope turned and faced the front of the Bronco.

"You're tired and I've hit you with..."

"You can drop me off at the next exit."

"You don't mean that," Walker answered.

"Why not?"

"First and foremost you are an old school pro and a world class reporter. You're not going to walk away from a story this big just because some maniac you've been humoring for the past few days said something that you didn't like. Especially not now since you're sitting on the biggest exclusive of the decade. It's not in your nature."

"I don't like being manipulated."

"Who's manipulating you?" Walker asked with a laugh. "I didn't even ask to read your stories before you sent them off. I don't care what you write as long as you spell my name right."

Penelope glared at Walker.

"Hate me, love me; believe me or not. Just get the story out there where as many people as possible can see it. That's all we want from you."

Penelope leaned back in her seat and contemplated what Walker had

just said. He was right; this was too big of a story to simply walk away from over a flip comment that she might have simply brushed off as hyperbole if she wasn't so tired. Walker had said so many unbelievable things, why should she suddenly take him at his word over this? The initial jolt of adrenalin from his verbal hand grenade was starting to wear off and be replaced with a marrow deep fatigue.

Penelope felt the knot returning to her stomach and wasn't sure if it was being caused by too much dinner or the day's conversation with Walker. She rubbed her forehead. A headache was starting to build as well. Penelope had never been this tired in her life. Her eyes fluttered closed and she had to force them to reopen.

After a few minutes of silence, Penelope felt her irritation toward Walker melting away. He had made it clear from the moment they'd met that he had picked her to write this story and made no effort to minimize its importance. He had promised her that she would be the most sought after reporter in the world and, boy, had he delivered. For the moment she was willing to overlook the fact that many of the people seeking her had badges and arrest warrants with her name on them. So far he had done everything he said he would do and to the best of her knowledge he had never lied to her. Plus, he had picked her. In some weird way she almost felt complimented.

The Bronco continued to idle on the side of Interstate and Walker didn't feel the need to fill the silence with meaningless chitchat; another point in his favor. A car whizzed past and as the headlight filled the interior of the SUV, Penelope could see Michael Walker's eyes were fixed on her. They twinkled with mirth.

Finally, Penelope softly asked, "The Fourth Awakening has already started hasn't it?"

"Yes, but we can't be sure this isn't just another false start."

"False start?"

"It very nearly happened once before."

"Let me guess," Penelope said as she tried to swallow a yawn but wasn't quite up to the challenge. "The Sumerians found Pandora's Box and let the cat out?"

"A little more recent than that. During your lifetime, actually."

"My lifetime?"

"Yes."

Reading this book will forever change the way you view the world and your place in it.

A group of top scientists, lead by a legendary Nobel Prize winning physicist, has made a discovery so startling and with such deep religious implications that it sends shockwaves through the corridors of power around the world. As the federal government moves to suppress the research, all of those involved vanish without a trace.

A mysterious call from the editor of The Washington Post starts Penelope Drayton Spence off in search of the missing scientists. After she crosses paths with enigmatic industrialist Michael Walker, Penelope becomes a fugitive in a wild, hold on tight to the edge of your seat race to expose the truth about the Hermes Project before the government can cover it up.

While a work of fiction, *The Fourth Awakening* is grounded in cutting edge science and an emerging spiritual reality. It offers readers a glimpse of their future.

A great story that puts historical events into a brand new perspective. Put your notion about consciousness and sub-conscious on hold when you read this story. The Fourth Awakening takes you on a wild thrill ride of experimentation and intrigue that will challenge the way you look at the world. The tension builds in every chapter until the mystery of The Fourth Awakening is finally revealed.

— Karna Small Bodman, Former Deputy White House Press Secretary
and NSC Senior Director. Author of *Final Finesse*, *Gambit* and *Checkmate*.

An outstanding new voice for Dan Brown/Douglas Preston Fans. Keeps you turning page after page.

— Dena Russ, RT Book Reviews Bookseller of the Year for 2009

If you like magic, you will love The Fourth Awakening, it's there on every page in this wonderful book.

— Richard Moryl, Emeritus Professor of Music,
Western Connecticut State University

Great book! I've enjoyed reading it. — Colonel Joseph W. Trez, Sr., Chief of Staff, The Citadel

Weather or not you fully accept the amazing implications of this story it is a darn good read and an amazing exploration of human potentials!

— Professor Allan Combs, Author of
Radiance of Being and *Synchronicity: In the Eyes of Science, Myth, and the Trickster*

About the Authors

Rod Pennington has five previous novels published including *The Linz Trust* and *The Quicksilver Solution*. He has also sold two screenplays.

Jeffery A. Martin is an scholar specializing in higher states of consciousness. He is the author, co-author or contributor to over twenty books in addition to numerous other scholarly and non-scholarly publications and media.

Both are frequent and talented public speakers.

www.FourthAwakening.com

US \$15.95

FICTION

ISBN 978-1-57242-000-7
5 1595



9 781572 420007