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**IP:** Swine

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**Book Status :** Under Development US

**Logline :** After serving time for the murder of his wife, Ellis is released from prison and teams up with his sister-in-law to hunt down the demonic beings that were truly responsible for his wife's death: Pigs!

**Genre :** Horror, Animals/Nature, Epic, Redemption, Revenge story

**AV Types :** Live Action Series, Feature Film, Animated Series

**AV Demographics :** R, TV-MA

- Characters :**
- Zoey Tolliver: Zoey has not, and may never, overcome the loss of her older sister Becky. On her best day she is irritable, antagonistic, self-destructive and angry. All of this behavior keeps her from dealing with the pain that lies beneath it. She believes that Ellis killed her sister and tries to kill him when he is released from jail. When she learns that demonic pigs were responsible for her sister's death, Zoey becomes focused on hunting them at all costs – hoping that their deaths will give her some comfort. She teams up with Ellis and later with Simon as well on this mission to bring down what she will eventually learn is the horde of demons known as Legion. Simon tells Zoey she is only there because she feels guilty. Her anger makes her a target as a potential host for Legion. She manages to escape but still has a lot of growing to do as she continues to hunt down the pigs.
  - Ellis Rafferty: Ellis has spent seven years in prison after being wrongly convicted for the murder of his wife Becky; a murder that he might have prevented if he'd believed Becky's visions about the demon-possessed pigs in their town. Now, released on parole, Ellis is obsessed with avenging his wife's murder. He teams up with Zoey and later Simon to hunt down the pigs. Simon tells Zoey that Ellis is going to get them killed because he only

wants revenge. Ellis is used as a human host by the demon, Achsah (Simon's wife). He stabs himself with a silver blade which releases him from Legion's grasp but leaves him in a coma.

- **Simon:** cute pig, like the pig from the movie "Babe." Service animal for Phyllis Gibbs, fiercely protective. When he is angry or upset, he is formidable and intimidating. Wears a foil lined helmet to keep Legion from tracking him down as they share a consciousness. Zoey & Ellis are startled to learn that Simon can talk. Phyllis assigns Simon to be Zoey & Ellis' guide to finding the other pigs. Simon was supposed to kill Phyllis once she started having visions of demonic pigs, but he killed her abusive husband instead. He feels a deep connection to Phyllis. Driven by love and will sacrifice anything to protect Phyllis.
- **Becky:** Zoey's older sister, only seen in flashback. She was a minister who started seeing visions of evil pigs but wasn't able to convince her husband Ellis that the danger was real before the pigs murdered her. The pigs wanted her to hand over a knife made of silver refined seven times which is able to kill the pigs. (Zoey & Ellis use this weapon on their missions). When she refused to relinquish the knife, they killed her and framed Ellis for the murder.
- **Phyllis Gibbs:** blind, friendly, sweet, trusting. She believes the world is a good place with wonderful things in it. When she started having visions of pigs, her seeing eye pig, Simon was supposed to kill her, but he killed her abusive husband instead.
- **Dr. Crawley aka Achsah:** a little heavysset, balding, seemingly harmless. Ellis comes up with a plan to kidnap Dr. Crawley, an employee at the slaughterhouse they think is housing Legion's HQ in order to get into the facility. Dr. Crawley leads them into the slaughterhouse but it's a trap. Simon recognizes that Dr. Crawley is actually Achsah, his wife. Achsah was separated from Legion, operated on and transplanted into a human body, then bought the slaughterhouse and pigs in order to further Legion's purpose. Simon worries her mind is melding with her human host's. Achsah transplants herself into Ellis' body. Zoey figures out that Achsah has been using Legion for her own motives and not the collective's.
- **Perez & Zerah – twin hogs.** Dr. Crawley nonchalantly kills Perez. Zerah feels the loss of his companion but continues to be a foot soldier. Zerah ends up sacrificing himself so that Simon, Zoey & Ellis can escape.

## **Book Plot/Twist : Backstory:**

Two-thousand years ago Jesus drove a legion of demons out of a human host and into a herd of pigs; whereupon the crazed pigs charged into a river and drowned. (See Mark 5: 1-20)

At least, that's what we've been told. In truth, several of those pigs swam to safety.

Two-thousand years later, those possessed pigs still walk the earth – creating havoc as the demons within them search for a suitable human host that they

can inhabit. And when they find that host, they will punish the cosmos for imprisoning them within pigs.

Becky Rafferty was the minister at a small church. She loved her job, her congregation and her husband. Her life was perfect... except for the visions of evil pigs. They were infrequent when she was a child, but as she grew older, they plagued her on a daily basis. In her visions demonic pigs sought to destroy mankind and claim the planet for themselves.

It seemed like nonsense, until it didn't.

As a minister, Becky often visited the local prison to counsel inmates. One inmate, Calvin Brown was found guilty of manslaughter for a tilt-a-whirl accident that claimed the lives of nine people. But Calvin has always insisted that his tilt-a-whirl was in perfect working order until it was sabotaged by pigs.

Becky researched Calvin's claim and uncovered a series of odd murders at which pigs were always present. Over time, she came to understand that her visions were warning her of a dark truth.

Becky tried to warn others, but her beliefs were dismissed as lunacy. But, as Becky suspected she would be, she was brutally murdered by demonic pigs who framed her husband Ellis for the crime.

## **Story:**

Seven years later Ellis is paroled and avenging his wife's murder is the only thing on his mind. While incarcerated, he spent every waking moment tracking heinous crimes and bizarre events that involved pigs. Aided by his equally revenge-minded sister-in-law Zoey, Ellis sets out to slaughter each and every possessed pig.

However, evil pigs don't live for two-thousand years without picking up a few tricks. They have learned to conceal their evil nature and hide in plain sight. They have become carnival attractions, mascots, emotional support animals, etc.

And, even though pigs lack opposable thumbs, they are fearsome killers. They can stampede. They can tear a person apart with their jaws. They can suffocate victims with their bellies. They can drown an adversary in the mud. And it is rumored among their followers that the pigs once sabotaged a zeppelin and steered a cruise ship into an iceberg.

Ellis and Zoey team up with an emotional support pig, Simon who wears a foil lined helmet so that Legion isn't able to find him. They track down part of Legion at a slaughterhouse and Simon comes face to face with his wife, Achsah who has found a way to inhabit a human host all in the name of the swine bringing about the fall of all mankind.

And though Ellis and Zoey fight to prevent this apocalypse, their hardened hearts and thirst for revenge may make them the perfect vessels for a legion of

demons with an unquenchable thirst for destruction.

- AV Key Attributes :**
- Killer pigs!
  - Revenge and redemption story in believing in something larger than yourself
  - Themes of religion, love, loss, betrayal, forgiveness, obsession
  - Escapist entertainment
  - Writer Tyrone Finch (Station 19, Grounded for Life, Major Ursa)
  - Artist Mauricet (Star Wars Adventures, Old Lady Harley, Major Ursa)