

STEVEN J. BYERS

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A Daydream Come True

Anita often wonders where my mind goes when I get a certain faraway look in my eyes. One of those places I have visited frequently in my mind's eye over the years is the world depicted in the *Son of the Doomsday Prophet*.

It's hard for me to believe I wrote the original manuscript for this book over 20 years ago. But then life happened and other priorities took over. This project got shelved where my projects usually go to die. In the back of my mind, though, I always had a nagging voice telling me this book deserved a better fate.

Why?

- First, it's an engaging story, which has to be the foremost goal for any writer. My hope is that it will transport you out of your everyday life for a few hours and into a world that will captivate your imagination.
- The book offers a fresh perspective on an old tale. Writing it has certainly helped me see the story in a new light. May it do so for you as well.

- For people like Jayfeth who struggle with doubts—which includes most of us at one time or another—it provides an affirming message of hope. If Jayfeth can make it through those catastrophic events, it's comforting to consider that we can make it through our own seasons of challenge.
- Finally, the story reminds us that there are times when we need to stand up for what is right even when everyone else says we're wrong. I think that point is even more relevant today than when I first put pen to paper more than two decades ago.

For these and many other reasons, I decided to finally heed that voice in my head. I reworked the manuscript and gave it a new title and cover design. To my friends and family, this came as a bit of a surprise because I didn't really tell anyone I was doing it except a select few, and to those only in vague, cryptic terms. The project was challenging enough without adding the pressure of others' expectations on top of my own. So while it may have seemed sort of sudden and spontaneous to everyone else, to me, I was at long last fulfilling what I had been daydreaming about for over 20 years.

Now this book is finally getting the second chance I felt it deserved. Thank you for being a part of this journey!

Steven J. Byers

Author of *Son of the Doomsday Prophet*

www.StevenJByers.com

P.S. I still get that faraway look in my eyes frequently. But now my mind is wandering in different story worlds. More on that in due time.

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Steven Byers Author

15687 E Indigo Rd, Nevada, MO
United States of America



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