

C.B. Stone Books www.CBStoneBooks.com

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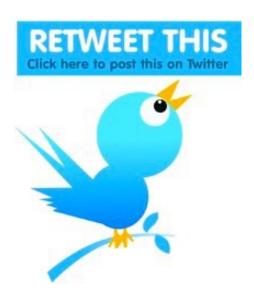
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Printed in the United States of America.

This book is dedicated to God and my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to my family and friends. Without you all, life wouldn't be nearly as colorful.

John 14:12-14 ESV

"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.



Excerpt from Rehabilitation- Unbelief Series Book I

A frown starts to pull at my lips. Jacob likes to say I'm a pessimist but I prefer realist. I think what you see is what you get and this is the lot we're stuck with. This world is all we've got, and today is all that matters. Hoping and *believing* in anything else is a waste of time and effort —not to mention incredibly dangerous. But Jacob still remains ever hopeful. Which would be okay, if only his hopes weren't so pinned and centered on things involving superstition. My frown deepens.

Since the After World, it's against the law to Believe. At least to Believe in the sense of believing in a higher power, like God. We can believe someone is telling the truth, or lying of course. We can believe it's going to rain tonight or might be sunny tomorrow. We can believe there will be more food tomorrow than there was today. As long as there is a concrete *reason* for us to believe something, belief is considered okay.

But to just *Believe*? Like Believe in something bigger than ourselves? Or in something invisible like God? That's the worst kind of law breaking. *Do not Believe in that which is not there*. I can hear the lifeless intonation of the Elite law reader in my head. *Do not Believe in that which is not there* is direct quote from one of the Elite law books. Every other Sunday, the laws are recited to us by the law readers. Three main ones mostly, and other minor ones, too. But the 'do not Believe' law? That's a real big one.

We've all grown up governed by the Elite's laws and I try to make a point of not questioning them too deeply. I know they're in place to combat the disease of the mind we're told destroyed things before the After World came into existence. The disease called God. Now we know better and know there *is* no God.

Regardless, it's usually not difficult for me to follow most of the laws laid out by the Elite. Well, with going into the Old World to hunt being the exception I suppose. As far as the law for not Believing? It's almost never a problem, despite memories of my father's lectures and Jacob's constant search for a church in the ruins of the Old World.

It's only some days... some days, when things are worse than normal, when there's no food and the Girl's Home is freezing and I remember my mother going crazy before she died, my dad being taken away for Trials and never coming home... well, I suppose somewhere deep down I'd like to believe God exists then. Mostly because I'd really like to think He'd do something to help us.

But he doesn't, not that I can tell. Not since the war at any rate. What sort of God allows places like Rehabilitation and a regime like the Elite to exist, to dictate our every move?

If God were so great, he'd do something. But he *hasn't*. At best, we're forgotten. The funny thing is, that's the strongest evidence I have that He *doesn't* exist. Because if He did, things just wouldn't be like they are today.

Shaking my head, I try to dislodge my crazy musings and fervently hope Jacob comes to his senses before I lose him forever.

Get this book on Amazon today!



AUTHOR SECRETS



Ha... and there you are thinking I'm going to reveal big, dark, secrets. Sorry dear readers, not I, not this day. But I will share a few fun facts.

Ahem. ::Donning 3rd person hat::

C.B. Stone is sometimes called author, writer, or purveyor of stories. One might even dub her a yarn spinner, if you will. It's very possible she might be considered just a little left of normal by most, but she's cool with that. Really, she's too busy avoiding normal to care.

On any given day, you might find Stone pounding away at a keyboard in sunny Miami, contemplating waves, contemplating life, and dreaming up more exciting stories to share with readers. Except Sunday's of course. Sunday's are God's day, so you'll often find her making her best "joyful noise" with her local church praise team.

When not pounding poor fingers to bloody nuggets and reinventing the definition of eye strain, C.B. Stone enjoys living it up, doing the family thing, the kid thing, and the friend thing. And in her downtime, reading the minds of fans.

Also being invisible. Being invisible is fun.

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