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Are angels really among us?

Chicken Soup for the Soul shares inspirational stories of miracles, faith and answered prayers

COS COB, Conn. – Miracles. Faith. Answered prayers. After the success of national bestseller Chicken Soup for the Soul: Messages from Heaven, Chicken Soup for the Soul received requests for a similar anthology, this time focusing on angels.

“We were overwhelmed by the response,” says Chicken Soup for the Soul co-author and publisher Amy Newmark. “Thousands of stories were submitted for the book, which resulted in a powerful collection of true personal stories that will amaze the reader.”

Chicken Soup for the Soul: Angels Among Us (Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing, LLC, January 1, 2013, $14.95) truly is full of amazing stories. Ken Freebairn was badly burned and lost the use of his hand. The night before he was to go to the hospital for skin grafts to repair his burns, an angel visited him. “I had never seen such brilliant, joyous eyes or a smile so warm and kind. Somehow, in that moment, I knew everything was going to be all right,” Ken writes. “The angel never promised a healing or some great deliverance from my pain. He simply said, ‘Praise Him.’” Ken knelt down and prayed. The next morning, all of Ken’s burns were gone! He tore the gauze off his hands and to his amazement, his fingers were completely normal and he could move them. Ken, his wife, and his doctor all agreed: “This is truly a miracle.”

The 101 stories in Chicken Soup for the Soul: Angels Among Us are incredible stories about ordinary people having extraordinary experiences through the intervention of angels. Debbie Acklin writes about walking home from a friend’s house as a child at night, frightened because of a recent break-in in her neighborhood. A car followed her and pulled into her driveway. Just as she heard the car door open and shut, her next-door neighbor, Mr. M., a Green Beret, drove into his driveway riding a noisy motorcycle. The menacing car immediately drove away. Later, Debbie recounted the story to her mother, only to have her mother tell her that her neighbor was out of the country serving in Vietnam. After confirming this with her neighbor’s wife, later that night Debbie saw a light at the end of her bed. She instantly felt a sense of calmness. “I knew, just as sure as I knew anything in this world, that I was being visited by an angel. God had sent this messenger to me to let me know He was watching over me,” she says. “Maybe that had been who I had mistaken for Mr. M.”

The contributors to Chicken Soup for the Soul: Angels Among Us experience angels coming to them in many forms. David Magill was 14 and lost in the woods behind his family’s cabin. He had fallen and was bleeding. A pack of wild boars surrounded him. Thankfully, his father’s dog Bandit came to his rescue, attacking and chasing the boars. David chased after the dog, and was led out of the forest and back to the cabin. As he told the story to his father, his dad gently reminded him that Bandit had been dead for two years, but David knew he had seen him. “I was going to tell him, tell them both, that I saw his face, I knew it was him but something told me not to,” David writes. “As we all walked into the cabin together, I could hear a wail in the distance, coming from over the hills and down in a small ravine.”

Chicken Soup for the Soul: Angels Among Us (Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen, and Amy Newmark) releases on January 1, 2013. Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing, LLC, publishes the famous Chicken Soup for the Soul book series, which is distributed through Simon & Schuster, Inc. In 2007, USA Today named Chicken Soup for the Soul one of the five most memorable books in the last quarter century. Since 1993, more than 100 million books in the series have been sold in the United States and Canada alone. Chicken Soup for the Soul titles have been sold in more than 100 additional countries and translated into more than 40 languages. The company is currently implementing a plan to expand into all media, including TV shows and a major motion picture, and is also developing a digital presence for life improvement, emotional support, inspiration, and wellness. Chicken Soup for the Soul Foods, a joint venture with Daymon Worldwide Inc., will start rolling out its line of delicious, nutritious comfort foods in early 2013. Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing also licenses the right to use its famous brand to high-quality licensees. For more information visit www.chickensoup.com.

To receive a review copy of Chicken Soup for the Soul: Angels Among Us or to request an interview, please contact Shelby Sledge at (512) 206-0229 or shelby@sheltoninteractive.com