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Local writer releasing his books in January

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By Tyler Huey news1@yelmonline.com

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John Thomson has always had a vivid imagination, and when the retired colonel set his mind to something, his thoughts came to life in a six-book science fiction/fantasy thriller.

Thomson, 71, is releasing the first two books of his "Endosym" series in January.

The books are about an invasion of creatures called Endosyms, which are a cross between a human and a demon that want to take over Earth.

The Endosym series takes place throughout a 30-year period and focuses on a family who must battle the creatures.

"The Dark Face of Evil" and "The Plantation" will be released in both book and e-book format, as well as on Amazon.com

Thomson lives in Yelm with his wife, Linda, whom is grand marshal with him at Saturday morning's Christmas in the Park parade.

They are excited about the upcoming book release.

"I think it's wonderful," Linda said. "He has a very good imagination and he can write anything he wants."

Admittedly, Linda doesn't read science fiction/fantasy books, but she supports her husband's love of writing.

"It keeps him occupied and happy," she said, "and hopefully he'll be able to entertain other people."

The premise of the series begins in 1969 when a small, bronze statue was found in a cave in the jungles of Liberia, West Africa.

The old statue depicted a warrior holding an ax and spear, and its origin was unknown.

However, that statue is more than just a man; it was an Endosym, a demon that had two beings in one body that was hidden for more than 10,000 years.

Thomson said the idea for the series happened when he was 28 years old, though he didn't realize it at the time.

The first book, which is part nonfiction, relates to what happened to him in Liberia when he was in the United States Army.

Thomson said a young master sergeant showed him that some Liberian government officials were "evil" and "worshiped the demon" by taking him to a place where human sacrifices were being done by those government officials.

Thomson said that cult-like mentality inspired him to write the books.

"I tried to figure out why educated people would want to do human sacrifices," he said. "Normally they feel in some way that is appeasing some deity that they worship ... and by doing these human sacrifices they're going to gain wealth and power."

"The Dark Face of Evil" is 446 pages and "The Plantation" is 434 pages.

The second book takes place in a small rural town of about 5,000 people, and any resemblance to Yelm is just a coincidence, Thomson said.

The four following books will be released within two years.

"The Academy" will hit shelves in summer 2013; "Resurrection" is December 2013; "Revelation" is summer 2014; and "End Game" comes out in December 2014.

Thomson said once his first two self-published books are released, he will send copies to publishers and movie executives to see what they think.

"It would be really great if suddenly we're having a grand opening at the Yelm cinema and the author of the book is there to sign his books," he said.

"But if you dream that ... my experience is going to be greatly disappointing."

"If you can ... sell 100 of them you're an author and can lecture locally. That's what I'm looking at. Anything above that is gravy."

For more information on the book series and author, go to www.endosym.com

<http://www.yelmonline.com/articles/2012/11/30/business/doc50b919029b22a778922865.txt>

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