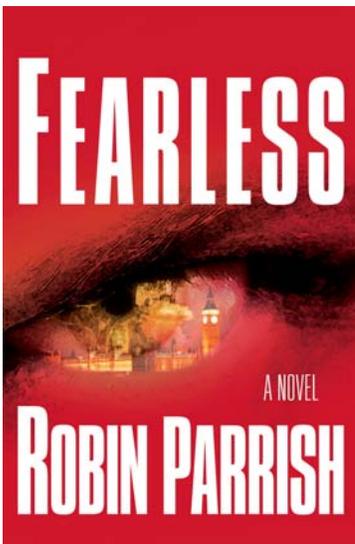


QUESTIONS & ANSWERS WITH ROBIN PARRISH



**Fearless**

THE DOMINION TRILOGY - Book 2  
by Robin Parrish  
ISBN-10: 0-7642-0178-6  
ISBN-13: 978-0-7642-0178-3  
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**Media Contacts**

PRINT: **Brett Benson**  
952-829-2529

bbenson@bethanyhouse.com

BROADCAST: **Linda White**  
952-829-2765

linda.white@bethanyhouse.com

INTERNET: **Jim Hart**  
952-829-2526

jim.hart@bethanyhouse.com

CANADIAN MEDIA: **Ellen Graf**  
519-886-6262 ext. 4201  
egr@rgm.ca

**1. How does *Fearless* differ from *Relentless*? How is it similar?**

It's basically act 2 of this big three-act story. It's very similar in tone and in that every character that survived *Relentless* returns. But where *Relentless* had more of a conspiracy/mystery slant, *Fearless* is much more of a straightforward superhero story. Or at least that's what I want you to think.... As it unfolds, it becomes something much, much bigger. But it's still the second act of this big, big story. And second acts are difficult. They basically have no beginning and no ending. It's all middle. And it ends on one whopper of a cliffhanger.

**2. Is this a sequel? A continuation?**

In this case, I don't like the word "sequel." To me, "sequel" implies that it's an all new story using the same characters, that happens to be set after the first story. It also implies that this is a very open-ended world that could go on forever. And that's not the case. Everything that was introduced in *Relentless*, all of the relationships and plotlines and mysteries, continues to develop and play out as part of the same through-line extending through *Fearless* and on to book 3.

So I say no. It's not a sequel. It's more like Chapter 2 of 3. And when we reach the end of 3, it is the definitive ending of this entire saga. There will be nothing left to tell after book 3.

**3. *Relentless* left readers with plenty of unanswered questions. Will *Fearless* answer those questions?**

I would say most of them. I do have to hold on to a few of my biggest cards and save them for book 3. The biggest thing, I suppose, is that you're going to learn a ton about the Secretum of Six, the secret organization that's been manipulating Grant's life for so long: who they are, where they are, what they're doing, why they're doing it. You're going to get lots of info about the Secretum—and the true depth and scope of what they're up to is pretty shocking.

**4. *Fearless* deals with the idea of "superheroes" in the real world. Why is society endlessly fascinated with superheroes?**

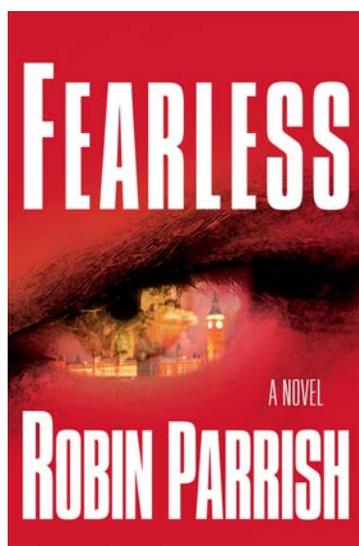
Because there's something about a super-human character who is able to fix any problem, save any day, who can swoop in and rescue us at the moment of our greatest need, that resonates deeply with the human soul. It's built into our DNA; we long for someone to save us—from this life, from our circumstances, from ourselves. Superheroes are often a very powerful allegory for Christ saving our souls. Superhero stories have been around for as long as people have been telling tales, and they will be here for every generation that follows. I guarantee it.

**5. *Relentless'* themes delved into perseverance and withstanding temptation. What sort of themes lie under the surface of *Fearless*?**

There are a number of themes just beneath the surface of the entire trilogy. There's a science vs. faith debate in there. Forgiveness is a big theme that seems to weave its way through just about every character, at varying times. Justice vs. revenge is another one that sooner or later nearly every character has to face. There's a subtle thing bristling beneath the surface that is of very specific interest to me personally, probably more so than any other theme. I hope I can explain this without giving away too many of my cards. It is an examination of this ongoing debate our culture has about longing for a more peaceful world, a world without conflict, without struggle, without war. And this isn't a political statement of any kind on my part, so don't misunderstand.

A theme that is brought out specifically in *Fearless* is what it means to be selfless, to suffer for another's benefit, to give all that you have and then give even more. Heroes are not people with special powers. Heroes are people who make a conscious decision to do what's right, in the face of

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what's blatantly easy. Grant Borrows does this repeatedly in *Fearless*, and he overcame tremendous odds in the last book to get to this point. So he qualifies as a true hero, because he keeps doing the right thing, no matter what.

**6. THE DOMINION TRILOGY has been described as a mythology. Is that an accurate description?**

Throughout history, myths have been stories told to illustrate big ideas that speak to the nature of what it means to be human—not to mention where we came from and what we should do with our lives. Study traditional Greek or Roman or Viking myths and you'll find high-concept tales that speak to the truth of what it means to be human. You'll find universal themes like our need for love, our capacity for both making mistakes and rising to a challenge, our resilience, our need to rely on someone or something bigger than ourselves to make it through this journey called life... They are, by definition, allegorical histories of humanity. Myths are a way of unlocking the imagination, of making the reader ask "what if?" about the truly big questions of our existence, of helping us all examine the truth of our existence.

This is exactly what I'm trying to do with THE DOMINION TRILOGY. I love asking those big questions. I'm curious about the details regarding the nature of the universe, the interaction between the spiritual realm and our reality, what it means to exist and why we exist here. And I hope to continue asking those big questions through myths and storytelling for a very long time.

**7. What are some ways fans can extend THE DOMINION TRILOGY experience outside of the books?**

First and foremost, visit [www.robinparrish.com](http://www.robinparrish.com). That's where you'll find links to everything I'm about to describe. In the summer of 2007, we're posting an exclusive web comic series only online, that bridges the gap between books 1 and 2. It's a fully illustrated 4-part comic book, with phenomenal art by professional comic book artist Tim Bates. It's a great little story showing the trilogy's three primary characters—Grant, Alex, and Payton—at pivotal moments in their lives. It leads out of *Relentless* and into *Fearless*, but it's entirely self-contained, so if you've never read either book, you'll still be able to wrap your brain around the web comic.

Look up my name on iTunes and you'll find a listing for a "*Relentless* Audio Podcast Commentary," a little side project I've been working on. Like a DVD commentary track, every so often I talk about various parts of the story, in chronological order, hitting the major plot beats and explaining how and why they happened in the story the way they did. I also give tons of behind-the-scenes info on things that were in my original draft that got changed along the way, or things that were set up in book 1 that are important for book 2, and so on. They're fairly short and provide background information you won't get anywhere else that helps round out the experience for those who want more. Once this series of 8 podcasts is finished, I anticipate that I'll do another edition of podcasts for *Fearless* at some point.

At [www.myspace.com/grantborrows/](http://www.myspace.com/grantborrows/), you'll find a MySpace page for Grant where you can become his MySpace friend and read his personal thoughts on the stuff he experiences in all of the books, via his personal blog. YouTube hosts the official "movie trailer" promotional videos for both *Fearless* and *Relentless*. Both videos were written, created, and edited entirely by yours truly. Also at [robinparrish.com](http://robinparrish.com), you'll find lots of fun little time-wasters like a personality quiz that will tell you which character in *Relentless* you are most like, a glossary for all those unique terms invented for the books, a fan forum for interaction with other fans, and more.

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