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Announcing Dare to Be Free Press

ENTREPRENEUR, STORYTELLER BRINGS FILM-CALIBER VISUAL STORIES TO BOOKSHELVES IN FALL 2020

May 18, 2020 – **Dare to Be Free Press** is a new independent press launching in 2020 from entrepreneur Gary Dean Simpson and his wife and business partner, Amy E. Simpson. The press will publish character-rich, visual journeys that provoke, elevate, and inspire.

With a resume of entrepreneurship, screenwriting, producing and business, Gary Dean realized that there are hundreds of extraordinary stories deadlocked in the Hollywood machine. The couple decided to unleash these narratives and convert them into cinematic-style graphic novels – like page-turning movies – and bring them to the cutting-edge audience. As Gary Dean reflects, “I feel like an inspired adventurer who has discovered the magic lamp...it’s time to unleash the secret sagas, and let the genies come alive.”

The couple is introducing a fresh, original perspective into the literary world with their focus on graphic novels and the profound opportunity for “visual fanship” of connoisseurs of illustration. From there, the published offerings will expand into innovative poetry, modern fiction, and more, all presented in unique visual formats to meet the experiential demands of today’s audiences.

“We recognized that there are so many amazing stories out there that deserve to be told, but that might not fit into the traditional publishing mold,” Amy explains. “We want to be a home for the innovative voice.”

Dare to Be Free Press’ debut catalog will consist of groundbreaking graphic novels featuring art from international artists. The first book is slated to be published September 2020 with at least four others planned in the next twelve months. Highlights include:

SOMEDAY COMES PARADISE by Gary Dean Simpson, Art by Enid Balam [September 2020]. A dark, Southern coming-of-age story of a mother and son in a perverse and violent world, both hoping to find paradise. [MATURE]

ARCHAEA Written by Gary Dean Simpson, Story by Gary Dean Simpson and Webb Millsaps, Art by Graeme Howard [January 2021], A gripping sci-fi saga of humankind fighting to escape extinction and emerge in an evolved world [TEEN].

BONE CRUSHER by Gary Dean Simpson, Art by Garrie Gastonny [April 2021], An action-filled urban thriller in which a crew of East Coast kids must escape their personal demons.

THE MARVELOUS MAGIC OF PLOW'S CANDY: A BASEBALL SAGA by Gary Dean Simpson, Art by James E. Lyle [July 2021], A family-friendly baseball tale reflecting the magic of days gone by with the realities of today... *Willy Wonka* meets *Field of Dreams*.

Publishing in a variety of subgenres and for a variety of audiences, the primary focus of **Dare To Be Free's** first list of titles is turning epic, compelling scripts into visual sensations. As they expand their catalog, the press will continue to publish 4-5 titles per year in both print and ebook format.

ABOUT DARE TO BE FREE PRESS

Dare To Be Free Press is a small, independent press based in Southern California. The company has a fulfillment and distribution agreement with Pathway Book Service (a division of the No Tomorrow Book Company, Inc., located in Keene, NH), including wholesale relationships with Ingram, Baker & Taylor, Barnes & Noble, Books-A-Million, and Edelweiss; and sales through Amazon Seller Central. Additionally, direct sales will be available through the Dare To Be Free Press website (www.daretobefreepress.com).

Gary Dean Simpson, Partner | Creative

Gary Dean earned an MFA in Screenwriting from the American Film Institute, where his thesis script *SOMEDAY COMES PARADISE* won the distinguished AFI Screenwriter Award. This recognition led to the writing of an original dark thriller *RAZOR* with Tapestry Films and several writing collaborations. As a spirited supporter of independent film and talent, Gary Dean produced a quirky comedy, *KABLUEY*, released in 2007, followed by a coming-of-age drama film, *ACCORDING TO GRETA*, in 2009. As a creative force, Gary Dean brings a vast background of life experience to story development and production execution. With an undergraduate degree in petroleum engineering from Texas A&M, magna cum laude, he worked and lived in the international business world — London, Dubai, Jakarta, Greenland and Paris. Over his career, Simpson invested sweat equity as a business entrepreneur in the private arena and on Wall Street with a large public entity.

Amy E. Simpson, Partner | Publishing

At Dare To Be Free Press, Amy brings to life her passion for the healing of hearts and minds through storytelling. With an English literature major and Business Administration/History minors, Amy began her career in technology communications and invested a demanding ten years in public relations and marketing. Then her life shifted to the non-profit world, merging her business mind with her desire to help make the world a better place. Over a 25-year journey, Amy flourished in communications campaigns for Silicon Valley start-ups, project management in education administration, and fundraising for national and global non-profits. In her partnership role, Amy combines her editorial experience, management skills and literary background.

Connect with Dare to Be Free Press on Instagram and Facebook @daretobefreepress.

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