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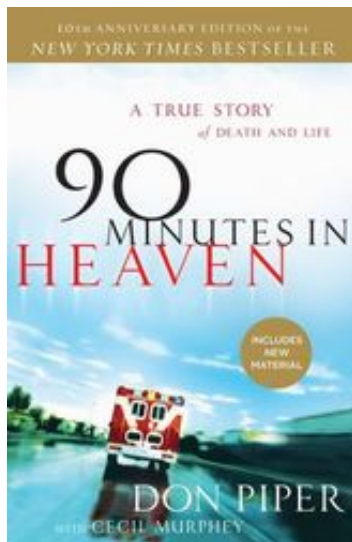
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Cecil Murphey
 WRITER * SPEAKER * TEACHER * SURVIVOR 



Cec's Writer to Writer Conference will be held January 16-17 in Hershey, PA. Join Cec and Jerry Jenkins and start your New Year in the "write" way. For more info, visit www.writertowriter.com.



The publisher for *90 Minutes in Heaven* is offering a special eBook promotion on

Facing the New Year

In 1987, six of us talked about the year ahead. We were good friends, met regularly, and decided to meet New Year's Eve and read from a list that began with, "I resolve to . . ."

Each of us read our list and *Joel was the last, but he hadn't written anything. "I just can't do it. Each year I start out with grand ideas and strong determination of things I want to achieve. By the end of February I've failed." He talked for a couple of minutes about individual fiascos such as developing an exercise program and being on time for appointments.

One of the others said, "But even if you failed, you tried."

I didn't see that response as helpful to Joel and was trying to figure out what to say. Then, in one of those rare moments of clarity, I said, "I'll bet you never learned to ride a bicycle."

"I certainly did!"

"But didn't you spill a few times?"

"Everyone does—" and then Joel started to laugh. "I get it! I don't have to remember my past when I plan my future."

I thought of Joel's words today and how well he had said them. Then I pondered several times where I'd fallen short of my goals last year. Although I struggled with guilt, my lack of success hadn't crippled me.

"I didn't succeed in everything last year," I said aloud. "I don't have to focus on what I didn't do right. I can concentrate on what I want to achieve."

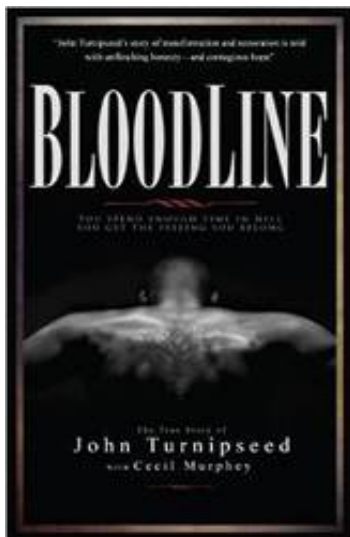
**I don't have to remember my past
 when I plan my future.**

Tuesday, January 6. The eBook version will be \$1.99 for 24 hours (midnight to midnight) at the following retailers and others:

[Amazon](#)

[Barnes & Noble](#)

[ChristianBook.com](#)



Here's a recent review on Amazon from a reader of [BloodLine](#): *"An authentic and raw, yet masterfully told story. Regardless of who you are or where you have been; this story will inspire you and prove that redemption belongs to anyone humble enough to ask for it. Read it and be amazed. Read it and yourself be transformed for the better."*

Career-criminal-turned-minister John Turnipseed was interviewed for *The Christian Post*. [Click here for the interview and to read John's thoughts about Ferguson.](#)

Personal News

- Pacific Press has republished the book I wrote for Dr. David Wilkins called *United by Tragedy: A Father's Story*.
- Thomas Nelson's Spanish Language Division published the [second part of *I Believe in Heaven*](#), which Twila Belk and I co-wrote. The first part of the book contains 114 stories of death and near-death stories from history, today, and the Bible. In answer to many questions, we devoted the second half to what the Bible truly says about heaven.
- January 16–17, Jerry Jenkins and I will headline the [Cecil Murphey Writer to Writer Conference](#) in Hershey, PA. We hope to make this an annual conference.
- March 11, Gary Roe and I will be in Colorado Springs to appear on Focus on the Family. They'll interview us on our book about healing from childhood sexual molestation, [Not Quite Healed](#).

These are Twila's Picks for Cec's best pictures of 2014.



Cec with actor, screenwriter, and funny guy Torry Martin



Cec showing respect to friend and fellow author Rick Marschall

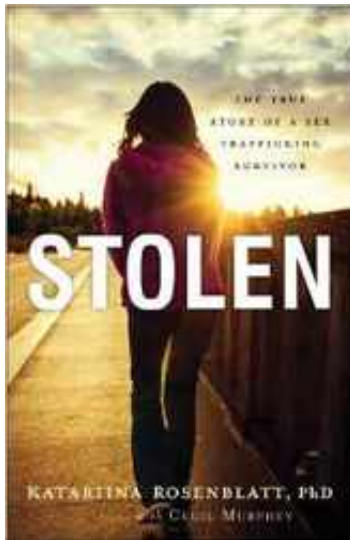


Cec with his very special seminary professor, Hal Lyon

The Twila Zone—Words from My Assistant, Twila Belk

Thank you to those of you who write reviews and recommend Cec's books to your friends. When you do that, you're investing in other writers. The funds from Cec's book sales go into a nonprofit organization that provides scholarships to writers conferences.

Cec enjoys opportunities to speak for churches, organizations, and events around the country. If you're in need of a speaker for 2015 and would like to consider Cec, [contact me for more information.](#)



Readers at [The Book Club Network](#) voted [Stolen: The True Story of a Sex Trafficking Survivor](#) as second place winner for nonfiction book of the month for November. In the book, Katarina Rosenblatt shares her harrowing experiences, her ultimate escape, and her passionate efforts to now free other victims of sex trafficking.

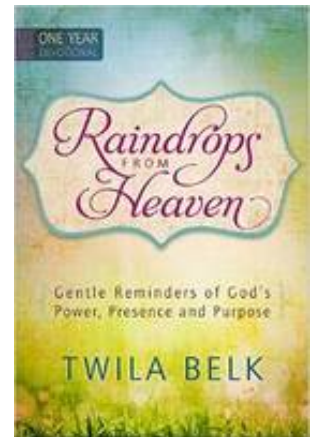
As mentioned above in Cec's personal news, he'll be in Colorado Springs for an interview on March 11. If you live in the area and have an opportunity for him to speak for your group during that time, [let me know](#).

On a Personal Note:

I look forward to speaking to three groups of women during the period of January 13-15 in Fulton, Moline, and Geneseo, Illinois.

January 24-29 I'll be involved in a private event in Round Top, Texas.

I'm gearing up for the release of [Raindrops from Heaven: Gentle Reminders of God's Power, Presence and Purpose](#) next month. It's available for pre-order now through online retailers. I can't wait to hold it in my hands!



Links: (1) [Cec's website](#), (2) [Cec's blog for writers](#), (3) [Cec's blog for male survivors of sexual abuse](#), (4) [Cec's Twitter](#), (5) [Facebook: Cecil Murphey Author/Speaker](#), (6) [Facebook: Cec and Me, with Cecil Murphey and Twila Belk](#), (7) [Twila's website](#), (8) [Twila's email](#)

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