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Author Gleans Fiction from True-Life Abuse Nightmare *The Journey* helps turn victims into survivors

LONGWOOD, FL—Abuse victims learn to fear the sound of their name being called or the weight of a hand—whether in a slap or a gentle caress. Abuse can have a debilitating, disarming effect on both individuals and families, but **The Journey: Beyond the Savage** (\$17.99, paperback, 1-60034-257-4), by Susan Kaye Behm, hopes to give new resolve to readers suffering from abuse and equip them with the tools needed to become a survivor and a victor.

The novel is a sequel to *Civilized Savages* and follows 11-year-old Joey Benson through a nightmare of abuse, neglect, and isolation. Many of Behm's true-life events are detailed, and though some of the names have been changed, the heart of the story is still the same.

Says Behm, "This book is a beacon of light in the dark world of abuse. [We need] awareness of this clear and present danger, and incentive for those who know a victim—and even those who don't—to take action, to care for someone who has been abused, or to become an advocate against abuse in all forms."

Behm herself is an abuse survivor and campaigns for the advocacy of putting a stop to all forms of abuse. She views herself as a vessel for those who can't speak about their own traumatic pasts and thinks that the healing process is not only plausible but possible. Behm is also putting her money where her mouth is—she has promised to donate 50 percent of the proceeds to Ephesians Life Ministries, a non-profit organization that helps abuse survivors.

Xulon Press is the world's largest Christian publisher, with more than 2,700 titles published to date. Retailers may order **The Journey: Beyond the Savage** through Ingram Book Company and/or Spring Arbor Book Distributors.

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