



Lynn Pierson – Suggested Interview Questions

Websites:

www.thegreatawakeningsaga.com

www.lynnpierson.com

www.lynnpierson.com/blog/

1. Can you tell us a little about your spiritual thriller, *The Great Awakening*?

Answer: The book is about the spiritual awakening that I believe we are all undergoing. It's a thriller that delves into the intersections of science and spirituality, revealing the true source of miracles or law of attraction. It delves into the true source of personal power, courage and our inherent greatness. In the novel, a plot to gain control of scientist and mystic Jack Bowman's cryptic work propels an after-hours murder in a pharmaceutical research center. The perpetrator, with his gun pressed to Jack's head, demands ISIS, the scientist's unstable formula enabling God-like abilities. Convinced that his work once refined belongs to the masses, Jack refuses to cooperate. Jack is framed for murder and incarcerated – losing everything he holds most dear while he fights for survival. First he must decipher the mystery of controlling ISIS encoded within the arcane text, "A Course in Miracles."

2. Tell me more about Jack's formula, why it's unstable, and what are the God-like abilities it conveys?

Answer: Jack's ISIS formula that is delivered by injection imbues Jack with abilities that are on the level of a saint, or one of the lauded Tibetan yogis. He is then able to manifest matter from thin air and manipulate it, even his own body. Yet Jack's experiments have some frightening and unpredictable outcomes. Jack's number one issue is related to the instability of his new abilities. Unlike the majority of elevated mystics, Jack hasn't immersed himself in decades of spiritual studies. He lacks the wisdom required to safely wield his expanding mystical powers which spiral him into life-threatening situations.

3. In "*The Great Awakening*," the secret to gaining control of Jack's heightened abilities are encoded in the arcane text, "A Course in Miracles." Why did you choose this work?

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I chose “A Course in Miracles” (aka ACIM) because I found the Course’s daily lessons and meditations transformational on the physical and spiritual levels to an unanticipated degree. ACIM also asserts that mankind’s inherent greatness can be realized through the daily practice of the course’s lessons. For Jack’s transformation to occur, he needed to assimilate the wisdom that is encoded in the course.

When I started a serious practice of ACIM I was having a tough time with my marriage, job, income and personal concept. Within several months all these issues completely turned around.

4. I find it interesting that you speak of the emotion of forgiveness as the secret to controlling apparently super-human abilities. Could this idea a little bit of a stretch?

ANSWER: It’s not forgiveness that enables miracles or super-human abilities, exactly. Forgiveness removes the barriers to the realization of our inherent greatness that God conveyed upon our creation. This great power is born of love, but the issue is we’ve forgotten our true identity, and instead claimed a long-list of limitations. In the bible, when referring to the miracles he performed, Jesus claimed that anyone who had faith could also do what he accomplished and “even greater things.” ACIM reveals that it is forgiveness of ourselves, all situations and our fellow humans, no matter how seemingly vile, that removes the barriers to our realization of love and the manifestation of miracles.

5. While in prison, Jack reluctantly accepts the aid of an award-winning and jaded journalist, Nell McCall when she pursues writing a news article featuring Jack’s plight. Like Jack, Nell comes across in the novel as an intelligent and compelling yet haunted individual. How much of yourself was reflected in these two characters?

ANSWER: There’s a little of me in both these Jack and Nell. Although Jack is a gifted scientist, he’s also haunted by the need to fully connect with God, to truly understand his own spiritual identity. I’ve historically been an insatiable spiritual seeker and fascinated by the intersections of science and spirituality. I’ve read dozens of books on quantum physics, the bodily electrical fields, Kinesiology, the neurosciences and more. What I’ve learned has been reflected in Jack’s discoveries. Also, I’ve been a student of “A Course in Miracles,” much longer than Jack has in the novel.

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(ANSWER TO #5 CONT’D) As for similarities to Nell, I studied journalism in college, but for me it was a short-lived career because I landed pretty quickly in the advertising field – which wasn’t a good fit.

6. Nell McCall is a daredevil motocross rider and described as living for “the thrill of facing fear dead-on.” Are you a thrill seeker as well?

ANSWER: Like Nell, I love speed. For me that means snow and water skiing, fast horses and boats. But, I don’t go for motorcycles. Growing up I’d ride just about anything that wasn’t mechanical. I was thrown at least six times, first by a horse. While living in Grenada, my best-friend Amy dared me to ride an ornery donkey. I finally figured out the only way to stay on the critter was to ride it backwards while gripping its tail. This time when the animal kicked its heels over its head, I stayed on.

I was a tomboy, always falling out of trees and off rooftops. Once I was shinnying along a branch, bumped into a yellow jackets’ nest and was stung 200 times before I could plunge into the nearby sea. My mother heard me hollering from a half-mile away. I’ve made it through four near-death experiences, and sometimes feel a little like a cat with nine lives.

7. The novel delves into the question that if we’re truly made in God’s image why all the suffering? What do you mean by that?

ANSWER: Although Jesus explained in the bible that “man” is made in God’s image and talks about our ability to mirror Jesus’ own miraculous accomplishments, we have continued to suffer. Today, a consistent monitoring of news in the media could lead one to believe that we are spiraling into a worsening state of material and spiritual attainment. Yet tenets of “A Course in Miracles” and recent scientific insights reveal that we have the power to rise above these physical restraints in an instant, even to heal or create. It is judgment that keeps us trapped within a self-inflicted state of limitation.

8. In the novel Jack has three mentors who aid him through his work and his imprisonment. Nell encounters two of the mentors who share details of what they learn about Jack’s theories. Some of what they share includes details of working with the human energy fields. What led you to write about this and what have been your experiences in this area?

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ANSWER (to question #8): I am a second-level certified Reiki Practitioner, and teach intuition and classes on energy work. I have found working with Reiki or energies flowing from a higher source to be highly effective. I have demonstrated the power of Reiki during classes by standing at the front of a class and moving my hands through the air while the attendees hold brass divining rods. It is always fascinating to watch the astonishments on the attendees' faces when their rods, which swivel freely in their brackets, track the movements of my hands. This works across a sizeable room. In the novel, I have Jack utilizing this energy in a very specific way to manipulate his own body.

More Questions:

9. How do Jack's mentors, the monks from the Mount Angel Abbey, fit into the novel's plot and why?
10. Does Oregon really have a high desert?
11. Why are parallels, in the novel, drawn between Jack and Nell's troubled thirteen-year-old niece, Jenny?
12. Jack encounters a ghost while staying in Grenada's La Chapelle Hotel. Did Grenadians speak of similar experiences?
13. In the novel Jack disappears from his cell to return hours later, and the inference is that he is traveling between multiple dimensions. How does this relate to current scientific theories?
14. Later in the novel one of the characters refers to utilizing Jack's work to freely manifest miracles – what has been your experience in this area?