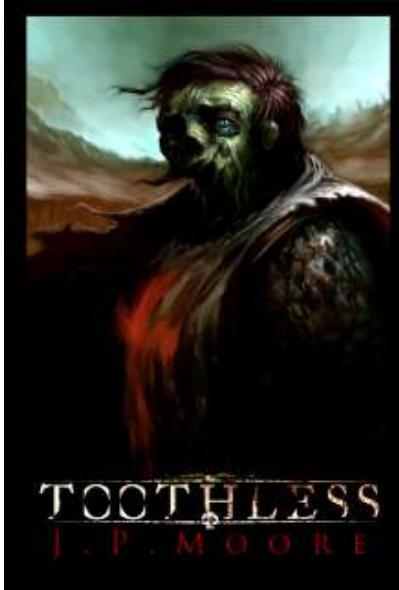


The 7 Question Interview with J. P. Moore



J. P. Moore writes in southern New Jersey, which is a long way from the settings of his novels and stories. He has fond memories of a childhood in the Pine Barrens, however, where endless tracks of mossy wilderness informed the spirit behind his fiction. Whether in worlds of his own design, or slightly off-center historical settings, Moore digs for the streams of mythology and folklore that run beneath day-to-day life. Pulling them forth, Moore makes prime motivations and manifest realities of these undercurrents. He finds his characters as bystanders and transforms them into heroes and heroines as they face horrific enemies. Perhaps no surprise, J. P. Moore is a student of speculative history. His library card unlocks a Best of the Best parade of works on King Arthur, the Knights Templar, Gnosticism and countless other mysteries from ancient and medieval history. His browser's bookmarks lead to a mess of conspiracy theories that, in conglomeration, present a truly frightening world. Just the right kind of world for his characters, however--Moore's settings are on the brink. Their histories are lost, or misunderstood. Their futures are uncertain. All of the heroes are gone.

Some of his novels are:

- The Centennial Horror
- Toothless
- Dark: A Horror Anthology
- Demon's Dozen
- One Sold

His official website can be accessed here: <http://www.jpmooreonline.com>

The WritingRaw.com 7 Question Interview

Please let us know who you are and how we might know you:

I'm a podcaster and dark fantasy/horror author. I live and write in southern New Jersey, which is a long, long way from the settings of my novels and stories. People know me best for my 2009 podcast Toothless, which is a unique zombie apocalypse tale set in the middle ages. Readers can learn more at my web site: <http://www.jpmooreonline.com>

Any news you would like to share concerning upcoming projects:

Toothless will be released this Halloween as a trade paperback and ebook from Dragon Moon Press. It's been gathering great reviews. Publishers Weekly just declared the novel

"moving, intriguing, and highly entertaining."

Toothless is a thrilling tale of loss and redemption that takes place in France, in 1180 AD. An ancient evil leads a rampaging army of demons and undead warriors across the countryside. One knight, a failed Templar, is the last hope of the living. The dice are cast against him. He perishes, only to rise in service to the very evil that he hoped to destroy. He is a gifted minion. But life is not done with him yet!

Thoughts concerning the current state of the literary world:

It's the best of times. It's the worst of times. Authors have more ability to reach their audiences than ever before. But the controls, the tools that we use to discover writing that we might like--they're not quite there just yet. A lot of folks are promising a revolution in publishing, and there are great, forward-thinking presses like Dragon Moon Press that love to work with new authors and podcasters. I don't think we've quite got a handle, though, on what the novel of the 21st century is going to look like once all of this new media technology settles in. Is all of this revolution just a new way to get to that same old book deal, leading to a bundle of paper on those same old bookstore shelves? Or, are we blazing a trail toward some new kind of novel--something social, participatory, dynamic? I wish I had a crystal ball.

Who is/are your favorite author/s and why?

H. P. Lovecraft teaches me how to be insane on the page without losing my readers. So does Vladimir Nabokov, one of my other favorite authors.

I've had an ongoing relationship with James Joyce's Ulysses. I admire the poetry, when I can make sense of it.

My most favorite authors are lost, unknown. The monk who penned those Irish epics. The guy with the stylus who pressed Gilgamesh into clay tablets. Talk about heading up a revolution in writing and publishing. Imagine how much of a revolution it must have been to write it down for the first time.

Have you written a book you love that you have not been able to publish?

I've started several. I have a lot of fragments around. That's OK. I know those characters are just stretching their legs, and they'll show up somewhere else. That seems to be my process--give the characters a little room in my head to knock around for a while, and they'll eventually get comfortable enough to let me know where they fit.



Do you have anything specific that you want to say to your readers?

Thanks. Thanks for the support, the fan art, the encouragement. Podcasting Toothless actually saved it. The fans kept me going. If you like my work, remember that there are at least a thousand writers out there like me, waiting for their break. Help them, too.

How do you feel about what WritingRaw.com and other literary sharing sites are attempting to do for new writers?

The new writer, the writer who isn't hooked into the biz, needs sites like WritingRaw. These sites give instant access to the audience, invaluable advice on how to move forward and, maybe more important than anything else, the encouragement they need to take themselves seriously. I think that writers go through a lot before they feel comfortable calling themselves writers. The community that forms around sites like WritingRaw is great for fostering confidence.

* Bonus Question – Required reading:

No one book. I have several that are important to me, but everyone will have their own. Readers: insist on reading the book you want to read. When you find it, don't let it go. Always be willing to come back to it, to relive it. Writers: insist on learning from the books you read. Not just about the milieu of your work, but about the craft and care of your calling.

WritingRaw.com would like to thank J. P. Moore for taking the time out of his busy schedule for this interview.