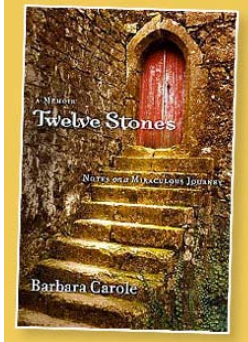


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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An Intense, Unorthodox Journey Leaves Behind *Twelve Stones*

Barbara Carole pens gritty memoir of travel, adventure, heartbreak, faith and healing



Seattle, WA – “I’ve lived a quirky kind of life, both daring and foolish. There’ve been a lot of colorful adventures and dreadful mistakes, things God surely did not love. But still God loves me,” says **Barbara Carole**, reflecting on writing her soul-bearing memoir, *Twelve Stones* (Regal Books).

Carole’s unorthodox journey to faith—one that took her from suburban New York to a vibrant artisan life around the world, to today’s reflective writing life in the deep woods of the Pacific Northwest—is filled with honesty and intensity, as well as a bare-all writing style that keeps readers’ attention.

“Faith was the last thing I thought I’d ever seek or want,” Carole says. Her journey is a story of God in unexpected places. “Nothing short of miracles could bring a person like me to her knees before God.” Growing up as a secular Jew in an Italian Catholic neighborhood, where kids called her “Christ-killer” at five years old, Carole’s spiritual experiences are chocked full of insight for others.

After witnessing her parents’ unhappy marital relationship, Carole knew a traditional American suburban lifestyle wasn’t for her. Her imaginative father told stories that sparked a passion for adventure, and at 18, Barbara Carole set out on her own, spending her University of Wisconsin tuition fee on a ticket to Paris.

There she searched for life’s answers in art, beauty and adventure. Fueled by a high intellect and a host of interesting companions, the strong-willed, tough-minded individualist finds herself in an unfolding drama that stretches across the globe. From an involuntary abortion at age 15, to living in Muslim villages in Morocco with her painter husband, to receiving a Fulbright scholarship, to writing for undersea explorer Jacques Cousteau, Carole’s intensely interesting life is laid out in the pages of *Twelve Stones*.

However, Carole soon found herself as a single mother forced into the fast-paced business world, working for a high-profile ad agency in Los Angeles. Along the way, she’s captured by God, the “Source of Love,” a voyage of discovery to wholeness and redemption. “God can use anyone. In my life, He used a Jewish father, Catholic playmates, a shamanic medicine woman, gurus of Eastern religions, and a herd of goats as stepping stones to His love and salvation,” Carole says. “This book is my altar of 12 stones for the God who protects His people. Time and time again. I write to remember, and to honor what God has done.”

Barbara Carole, a former Fulbright scholar and graduate of the University of Wisconsin with B.A. and M.A. degrees, lived in Paris for several years as a translator, and as editor at the *Paris Review*, before returning to the USA to teach French and French literature at UCLA. Three years later, she became a writer and researcher for undersea explorer Jacques Cousteau. She has worked in advertising and marketing as a writer. Her writing has also appeared in *The Paris Magazine*, *The Los Angeles Times* and elsewhere. Barbara lives with her husband and pets on a forested mountain near Seattle. Her website is www.barbaracarole.com.

About *Twelve Stones*:

Twelve Stones: Notes on A Miraculous Journey - A Memoir by Barbara Carole. Published by Gospel Light Publications/Regal Books. February 2009. Hardcover, 320 pages. \$22.99. ISBN: 9780830746064.

Suggested Interview Questions

For Barbara Carole, author of *Twelve Stones*

1. Tell us about your memoir *Twelve Stones*. Where did you get the name from?
2. Your writing is very open and honest. What is it like bearing your soul for readers?
3. Who is your audience for the book? How can people of all faiths benefit from reading it?
4. You've lived a very unorthodox life, and are very candid about it. Why do you use the term "miracle" to explain your conversion to Christianity?
5. You write about a series of painful relationships, even calling it bondage. How did you emerge from those relationship experiences into a healthy relational lifestyle?
6. Could you tell us about the "goatherd" experience? Other miracles in the book?
7. What was it like getting pregnant and having an abortion at 15?
8. At 18, you left college at the University of Wisconsin and went to live in Paris. What was living overseas like at such a young age?
9. In the book, you avoided relationships that may have led to marriage. How is your view of marriage different today?
10. Friendship is an important theme in your book. What are some of your most meaningful friendships?
11. In *Twelve Stones*, you were always seeking a safe place. How did fear play into your life?
12. You were raised Jewish and now are a Christian. How do the two relate? How did your Jewish family and friends accept your new spiritual path?
13. You write about exploring other religions. How did you come to Christianity?
14. You have always been highly individualized. However, what have you learned about the value of community and relationship with others in the church?
15. You have always been very interested in the arts. How do you view the arts differently than in the past?
16. What do you hope readers will take away from reading your story?

For an interview or to discuss an excerpt, contact Ben Laurro at Pure Publicity at 818.753.4056 or Ben@purepublicity.com

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Bio: Barbara Carole

Author of *Twelve Stones*

A Fulbright scholar with an M.A. in Comparative Literature from the University of Wisconsin, Barbara lived in Paris several years as a translator and assistant editor of the *Paris Review*, before returning to the United States to teach French and French literature at the University of California-Los Angeles (UCLA).



Subsequently, as a writer and researcher for undersea explorer Jacques Cousteau, she worked in Los Angeles and Monaco, France, providing research to guide Cousteau's televised undersea expeditions, while also "ghost-writing" two of his books.

Her other publications include a short story in *The Paris Magazine*; literary reviews for *The French Review* and *FM Magazine*; dance-concert reviews for the *Los Angeles Times*; and numerous articles for the *Los Angeles Times* and other Western newspapers.

Barbara's marketing career began at a large L.A. advertising agency as a copywriter on national accounts. She was later recruited by multinational companies as a Corporate Communications executive to develop and write their advertising and public relations programs.

Barbara left the corporate world to write, and lives with her husband and pets on a forested mountain in the Pacific Northwest where she continues writing books to come.

"I write," she says, "that we may share facets of living, severe and sweet. That is the hope of the written word, that in the sharing, we are bound to love."

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