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REDEEMING THE SCROOGE IN ALL OF US – IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

- Award Wining Author Reveals The Simple – But Painful – Lesson *Jacob T. Marley*
Learned to Save His Protégée -

R. William Bennett has an unusual way of looking at classic literature. Give him *A Christmas Carol*, for example, and instead of focusing on the most common theme of Scrooge’s unlikely transformation, he’s consumed with Jacob Marley – the man who introduced Ebenezer to the dark side.

“Marley is a curious character,” says Bennett who will release his latest Christmas story, *Jacob T. Marley* (Shadow Mountain) in time for the holidays. “He was angry and parsimonious in life but filled with regret after death. And while others like him were consigned to wander, feeling regret but having no power to do anything about it, he somehow secured the right to intervene on Scrooge’s behalf. That was a story I had to tell.”

In a delightful interview Bennett can discuss:

- Why he refused to re-imagine or re-invent a Christmas classic but instead tell the pre-story, back-story and post-story
- How he adapted his prose and writing style to match the Victorian period
- Why Dickens’ ‘social expose’ published in 1843 is still relevant today
- How Marley learned that sacrifice – not greed – is the key to everlasting wealth
- The inevitable similarities to *Wicked* and the inspiration he found in the Broadway blockbuster

“I like the idea that Marley’s remorse is not in vain,” says Bennett. “I believe Dickens gave him the opportunity to learn from his mistakes and right his wrongs. I felt compelled to expand on that moment in the story. “

R. William (Bill) Bennett is a former president of the corporate division of FranklinCovey, a leader in Management Consulting and Training. Bennett left the corporate life to write fulltime and was rewarded with *The Christmas Gift*, an award winning first novel released in 2010. *Jacob T. Marley* will be released in time for the holidays. To learn more, visit Bennett at www.rwilliambennett.com. *Jacob T. Marley* and *The Christmas Gift* may be found online where all fine books are sold.

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