

A CLEANSING  
OF THE BLOOD  
AN ANTON THE UNDYING STORY COLLECTION  
SCOTT HARPER

# A Cleansing of the Blood:

An Anton the Undying Story Collection  
By Scott Harper

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## Media Kit

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# Plot Synopsis

**“Is there immortal blood, blood which will forever quell the red thirst?”** asks Anton the Undying of Bregit, Mortark of North America.

Back in a second anthology, Anton, the ancient gladiator turned vampire enforcer, continues to police the magical world and keep it safely hidden. But Anton is also troubled by his bloodlust and seeks a magical means to rid himself of it.

Meanwhile, a threat to Bregit’s rule is growing. Will Anton discover the secret plot to topple Bregit before it’s too late?

Find out in *A Cleansing of the Blood*.

## About *A Cleansing of the Blood*

*A Cleansing of the Blood* is a short story anthology featuring Anton the Undying. Its nine stories are themed, following Anton's adventures as he works to help Bregit, the vampiress who turned him, keep the supernatural world in check. Uniting the stories in this volume is Anton's trouble over his bloodlust, which leads him to nearly kill his lover. And, as Anton searches for a cure, a threat against Bregit's rule grows.

**Genre:** Horror

**Subgenre:** Weird fiction, suspense, thriller

**Formats:** Ebook, paperback

**Print Length:** 172 pages

### Included in this volume:

- A Cleansing of the Blood
- Blood Apotheosis
- The Beast Within
- Anton and the Night War
- The Dark Ages
- Anton and the Dark Sorcery of Malagaunt
- The Isle of Blood
- Night's Dark Master: A Tale of Brastov the Barbarous

View *A Cleansing of the Blood* on Amazon here:

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BN6WFH83>

ASIN: B0BN6WFH83

## About the Author



The world was just a tad dull and unimaginative for a young Scott Harper growing up in 1970's Southern California. He found a creative outlet in the world of Marvel Comics, fervidly devouring the monthly adventures of Iron Man, Hulk, and Captain America. Later, his tastes turned toward the Marvel black and white magazines' more esoteric horror province, faithfully following titles such as *Dracula Lives!* and *Tales of the Zombie*. Influenced by these works and such great authors as Bram Stoker, John Steakley, and Marv Wolfman, Scott's unique writing style combines horror and fantasy elements with superhero-style action. When not writing, Scott spends his time either reading, working out at the gym, adding to his model collection, or walking his two dogs. He lives in California with his wife and son.

# Interview with the Author

## **Tell us about your career as a writer.**

My mother, an English teacher, imparted her love of literature to me. I dabbled in writing when I was younger and had stories published in a variety of fiction venues - *Space and Time Magazine*, *Weirdbook*, *Best New Vampire Tales*, even an issue of Steve Niles' *Thirty Days of Night* comic book - but never had the time to fully devote myself to the art. Now, I'm retired and can write as much (or little) as I want.

## **What inspires you to write about Anton the Undying?**

I wanted to write a vampire tale overflowing with action and mayhem. I recalled that in Stoker's novel, Dracula was roughly 400 years old (give or take a decade) when he made his power play in England. I wondered how powerful a much older vampire, say 2,000 years old, would be and what powers they would possess? What if that vampire was the greatest warrior of their time when turned? And what would they be doing to keep themselves busy for all those centuries? Thus, Anton was born.

## **What other writers influence or excite you?**

I grew up reading Marvel horror comics and authors like Marv Wolfman and Roy Thomas. I loved John Steakley's *Vampires*; it's probably the best action horror novel ever written. Authors whose works I treasure include Fred Saberhagen, Les Daniels, and Christopher Farnsworth.

## **What are some of your habits while writing?**

I've discovered through trial and error that I get my best writing done in the morning when I first wake. The longer I'm up, the less creative I become, so it's best to get things done early.

## **What are you reading right now?**

*An Old Friend of the Family* by Fred Saberhagen.

## **What project will you be working on next?**

I am working on a third Anton collection.

## **Where else can readers find your work?**

I have an author page on Amazon and my website is [www.scottharpermacabremaestro.com](http://www.scottharpermacabremaestro.com).

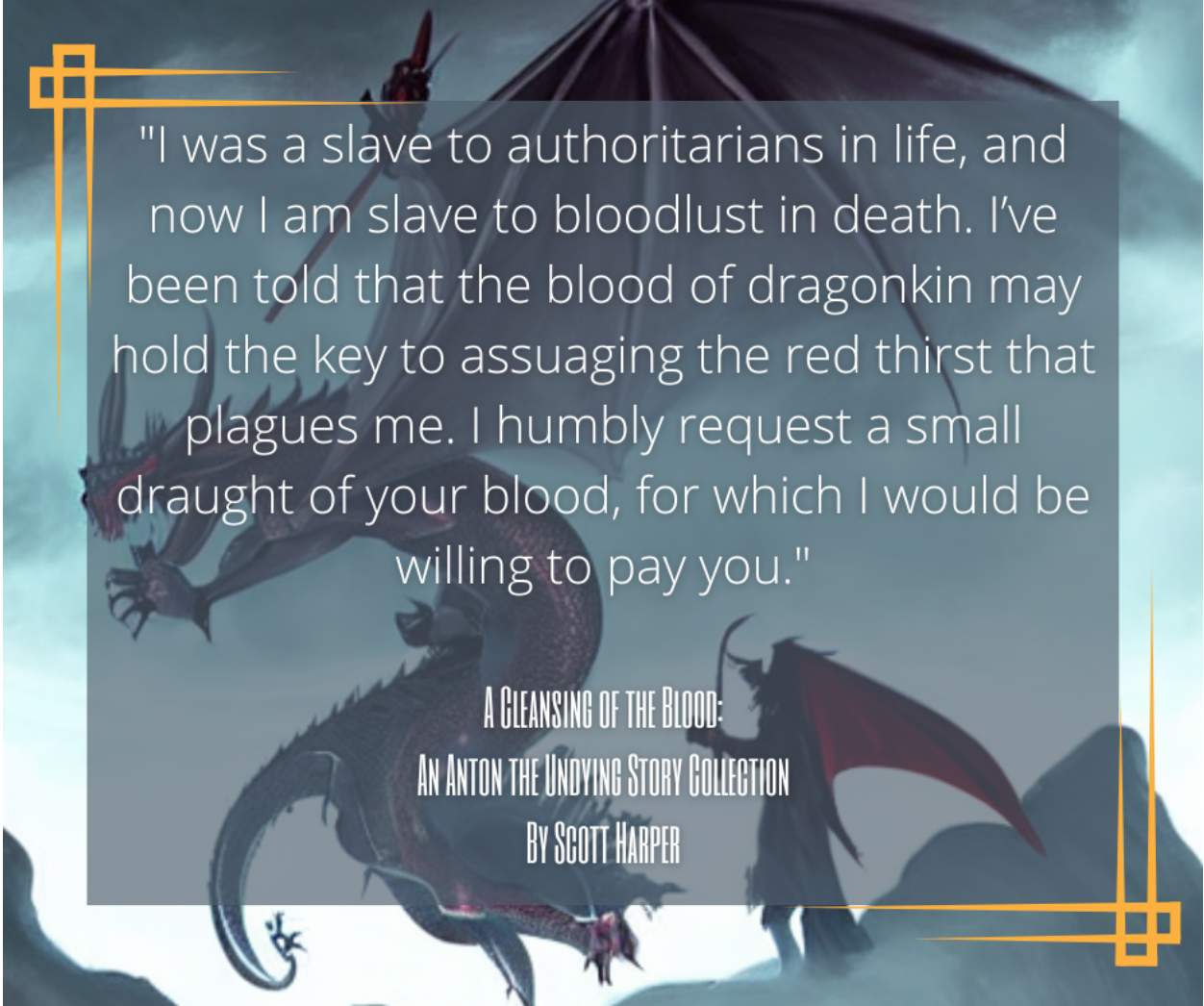
**What's one piece of advice for aspiring writers?**

Read Stephen King's *On Writing* - it contains invaluable advice.



## Promotional Material





"I was a slave to authoritarians in life, and now I am slave to bloodlust in death. I've been told that the blood of dragonkin may hold the key to assuaging the red thirst that plagues me. I humbly request a small draught of your blood, for which I would be willing to pay you."

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**CAN A VAMPIRE'S  
BLOODLUST BE CURED?**

FIND OUT IN:

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“PATIENCE, MY FRIEND,  
PATIENCE. THE  
CACCIATORE’S NEW  
MAGIC WILL SOON BE  
OURS,” JERMAIN  
ASSURED THE  
TALISMAN, STROKING  
IT REASSURINGLY.





**"There were legends, my Spartacus, legends of  
one of our kind who overcame the thirst."**





## About the Publisher

Input/Output Enterprises (alternately I/O Enterprises) is a small, independent publishing house based in New England. Like many great authors from the region, I/O Enterprises takes its inspiration from the dark history that lurks in the narrow streets of its historic towns and in the woods and swamp that permeate the region.

Specializing in horror and weird fiction, I/O Enterprises has become known for its vampire fiction and published several publications that feature everyone's favorite bloodsuckers. I/O's publications include short fiction anthologies, chapbooks, and novellas. It has also published one volume of the weird fiction literary magazine, *The Periodical, Forlorn*.

Inquiries about submissions or any of I/O Enterprises' publications can be made through managing editor Katherine Emily, who can be reached at [inputoutputenterprises@gmail.com](mailto:inputoutputenterprises@gmail.com).