CURSE OF THE 8TH BUDDHA
SYNOPSIS

Richard Sinclair finds himself deep in an ancient struggle between the 21st Century Knights Templars in California and their prehistoric nemesis, the Liliths. While watching over San Francisco earthquake reconstruction site, which may conceal the lost Templar treasure buried by Sir Francis Drake, Sinclair becomes entwined in a cascading series of occult dramas. He encounters horrifying discoveries as a primordial force enters him and twists his life into a mesh of suspense and betrayal. No one and no organization is what they appear to be on the surface. As a new power arises through Sinclair, from a primordial life form within, he is able to reach into the deepest secrets of others and reveal the truth.

Sinclair is initiated into the Knights Templar after the Order saves him from a suicide attempt following the loss of his wife and daughter. He has a unique bloodline that qualifies him for their ranks. He continues his work for the Office of Emergency Services in California as a sequestered Templar implant, stationed solely for the purpose of seeking the Drake Treasure hiding place, or so he believes. Along the path of intrigue and disguised agendas he must deal with his assigned maniacal Templar overseer, Alex Bisol. His emotional state is also convoluted as Richard faces the rejection of a recent lover and the wiles of a newly found twin soul who serves the camp of the Templar’s enemies. The question is will Richard Sinclair, a man plagued with his own demons and weaknesses, survive his challenges of the heart as he is used as a political pawn?

The Machiavellian and metaphysical undertows of the new Templar’s journey reveal the powers of gold, evil, and the ultimate redeeming force of love as Richard Sinclair is bound by the curse of the 8th Buddha.
Chapter Summaries Curse of the 8\(^{th}\) Buddha

This novel spans the time from the night of July 3\(^{d}\), 2013 to August 17\(^{th}\), 2013, and includes activities in San Francisco, Sacramento, and Lake Tahoe California.

Chapter 1

Richard Sinclair is supposed to face danger without fear as a newly initiated member of the secret Order of the Knights Templar. Instead, he is bothered with his acrophobia and his bad knees as he ascends a crane sixty feet above the bowels of an excavation site in San Francisco. He must endure the rough and tumble ramblings of the crane operator, Duncan Torres, as they deal with the bitter cold of a July night in an earthquake ridden city. They briefly explore their personal losses from a recent virulent influenza pandemic. Though apparently assigned an unpleasant duty by an angry Governor, Richard Sinclair only acts out his role as an emergency manager assisting with earthquake recovery efforts. He is actually a Templar implant searching for a treasure the Templars now desire, possibly buried below them in the excavation site near China Town. But things go wrong and the pit is quickly the source of an unexpected and perilous adventure.

Chapter 2

A newly opened crevasse, created by pylons falling from the grip of the crane above, now beckons with its vapors and mystical colored lights. Richard has experience as a caver and is drawn to explore its depths to seek the lost Templar treasure, regardless of his fears. He is assisted by his former lover, Beth Calvert, the State archeologist assigned to the construction site to protect and record any artifacts. Welcomed or not by Richard’s investigation, she forges ahead to seek her own finds. The two of them explore the caustic environment below but not without a bloody encounter. Another perspective is added as a pair of San Francisco police officers respond to the crashing sounds at the site. Police Sergeant Arnie Johnson is forced to face a beast from hell as it tries to entrap Richard during his fearful escape from flooding in the collapsing abyss.
Chapter 3

It is just the beginning of August when Sinclair recovers from a deep, troubling coma following the attack. His memories drift in the mists between darkness, sword battles in medieval France, and finally a meeting with his deceased mother. Sinclair awakes to the presence of Nurse Marie Halleran. She brings him back gently so that his mentor, Alex Bisol, can also greet him upon his renewal to consciousness. Sinclair tries to recall all the actions of that night, including the attacks in the pit. Bisol tries to push him about the treasure. A team of physicians tries to assist the patient as he goes into wild paroxysms. That is a mistake as what is trapped in his body manifests and creates havoc. Electrical systems go wild. Bisol takes matters into his own hands and tries to kill the beast crawling under the skin of Richard Sinclair, but the results are not as intended. Nurse Halleran, also a member of the Knights, insists that Bisol leaves. There is a strong animosity between the nurse and Richard’s handler. Alex Bisol rushes to find a source of more information about what is happening to his ward. Whatever is going on is outside of Templar control or direction and may have something to do with Chinese black arts.

Chapter 4

In an hour’s drive from the clinic in San Francisco, Alex Bisol rushes into the University of Berkeley campus library. He encounters a return of vertigo he’s experienced in the last month since he touched the comatose Sinclair. This is a new and frightening feeling for Bisol. Once at the reference section of the library he meets with Edmund Turner, one of the brightest minds in the Templar ranks. Bisol’s research questions are all answered for a price, which also reveals a long-standing animosity between Turner and Bisol over Turner’s niece, Marie Halleran. The startling research from Turner reveals that, indeed, there may be reason for Bisol to believe that there has been an unwanted memory exchange with Sinclair. Bisol and Turner review some of the darker history of the Templar massacre in 1307. Surprising Bisol, Turner reveals that another player has appeared earlier to ask the same questions. The Chinese are clearly involved now and may be after the treasure left by Sir Francis Drake in San Francisco. The curse infecting Sinclair is likely far older than the Templars, and far more powerful than their abilities to resolve his health.
Chapter 5

Alex Bisol rushes to warn Nurse Halleran to use Templar magic to protect Sinclair from attack. He is too late. Halleran describes a wild attack by a floating entity that she was just able to stop. She is directed to move Sinclair to a safe haven in the clinic. Bisol directs her to use some basic therapy with the patient, without warning her about the repercussions. He must know if there is a truly mystical power manifesting through Richard. The results are astonishing, startling and incredibly painful. When Bisol finally arrives to evaluate the results he is shocked into rage at the results of his thoughtless directions and past acts.

Chapter 6

By August 10th Sinclair’s recovery is at the point that Alex takes him for a drive to Lake Tahoe to meet Eli, the Master Knight. The trip reveals more of the deeply troubling character of Alex Bisol and his maniacal treatment of Richard. Instead of the supporting teacher Richard expected he is seemingly tied to a reckless and cold Templar operative. Bisol is angered by the fact that Marie has been restrained for mental illness treatments after the shock of holding one of Richard’s most traumatic memories within her mind, and also because Richard now knows one of his darkest secrets and the crimes he perpetrated on a young, innocent girl a decade before. During their travels they discuss the source of Richard’s curse, the transfer of memories that occurred between Bisol and Sinclair, and more of the inner workings of the Templars, including the secrets of their leadership hierarchy. The truth about how the Templars came to power is revealed at last, along with their own curse from the Liliths: the ancient pre-Adamic demons who made a pact with the Templars under the Great Temple in Jerusalem.

Chapter 7

It is August 11th and the two men share the confines of the Templar lodge along the shores of Lake Tahoe. The Liliths cannot stand the energy of Lake Tahoe, which is one reason it was chosen as a place the Master Templars to hold secret meetings.

In a morning of emotional roller coasters and surprises, Alex reveals his deep fear of bears, the loss of his own family, and his disrespect for Richard’s attempted suicide. A powerful spirit also overtakes Alex and gives Richard new insights into his own value as the future of the Templars. Bisol also instructs
Richard about the importance of “the blood” and what it means to the Templars in all their efforts.

Chapter 8

Alex and Richard continue their verbal fencing in the outdoors on the dock jutting from the lodge into Lake Tahoe. Bisol reveals the location of a billion-dollar treasury hidden in the open on the shoals of the lake. It is a Templar strategy to hide that which is most precious in open sight.

The night finds them rowing in a stealth boat across the Lake to Fannette Island, a tea house pinnacle jutting up just to the side of the Vikingsholm resort, now managed by the State of California Department of Parks. The strange history of the site is revealed before the two men reach the stony outcropping to climb secretly to the ruins of the old stone work. They use a hidden entry to access the portal for descent well below the Lake’s waters into a splendid and artistic underground grotto.

Master Eli meets with his Knights and assigns Richard to meet Sir Edwin Brummel, and powerful billionaire software developer from England. All he is to do is shake hands after Alex makes the introductions. Through recent scientific evidence the Order is aware that Brummel is from Drake’s bloodline. It is possible that Richard’s new gift can withdraw ancient memories of where Drake deposited the long-lost cache in San Francisco Bay. Richard is again chided about his dislike for the secrecy of the Order, but Eli warns him that men like Alex protect the Knights from the continuing threats of Opus Dei. He is also anointed with the phrase, “You are the Lantern.”

The two Knights leave the meeting and scramble to their waiting row boat. In their departure they are nearly overtaken by a hungry nemesis: a black bear feeding at night on the migrating geese resting on Fannette Island.

Chapter 9

Richard survives the trials of his mindless chauffer as he is returned back to his condominium in Sacramento. His place is a mess and he has dozens of messages, including threats of being fired for not coming to his State job. One call, however, is from the “Lili” Bisol had heard about from Edmund Turner. The voice of the Lilith demands Sinclair to meet her, alone, at Crissy Field near the
Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. Richard tries to call Alex immediately for reinforcements only to encounter the powerful magic of the Liliths that isolates him from his fellow Knights. He is being forced into a showdown.

Sinclair sleeps but is awakened the next day by a visit from Beth Calvert, fully recovered and dressed for the evening. She parries a bit with her old lover, but finally reveals her reason to visit. Her grandmother’s spirit has directed her to give a forbidden thing to Richard, an antiquity Calvert stole with professional abandon during a dig in Israel. The object was uncovered from debris the Muslims threw away when they excavated under the Temple Mount. The ring was obviously not Judaic because of its design, in fact, it would be forbidden in a Jewish temple. Still, she had held it for years until now. Richard dons the ring and it bind to him. He is one with it. Beth leaves in her cloud of Jewish American Princess panache.

Richard gathers himself together and rushes to Crissy Field. He is running late, a habit he has also not overcome. Lili is not there. He rests. She arrives and overwhelms him with her freshness, her youth, her beauty and something else he cannot quite explain. A voice speaks through her, as the gloom of the Bay fog begins to roll into the park. The Liliths use the body of Lili Zhang to explain why Richard must not go forward with his search for the gold at the construction site. There is treasure there but it does not belong to the Templars. The source of the gold and why the Lilith guard it are shocking revelations, including an answer for what the thing is living within Richard’s chest. The Liliths try to undermine Richard’s belief in his beloved Templar Order. Richard resists and is attacked by the horrible entity within Lili Zhang. There is a strange twist of fate as the ring from Beth Calvert repulses the assault. Richard escapes, fighting his tortured and weary knees, back to his car and eventually to his condominium.

Chapter 11

Richard rests until the next day, a Tuesday, but he does not report to the State. Instead he drives to the Berkeley campus library to put Edmund Turner’s mind working on the newest revelation, but without much explanation behind it. Sinclair wants to know all about the stories of the loss of gold from the San Francisco Mint during the Great Earthquake of 1906. He also wants more data on the Liliths and their history. He is digging into subjects not normally approved of within the Order’s ranks. Turner and Richard also share their insights on the horrific experiences of Marie Halleran at the hands of Alex Bisol.
Richard hears other revelations that further convince him that his so-called teacher is pathological liar.

Richard returns to his condo with a trove of books to review. Turner has packed him with enough homework to last weeks. Richard has found plenty of evidence for a loss at the San Francisco Mint, but nothing to back up the other claims of the Liliths at Crissy Field. Richard must soon decide who is the biggest liar: the Liliths or the Templars? The texts also uncover surprising cover-ups of the true nature of the Liliths through history. Part of their story at Crissy Field may have been true—but first he must rest for a drink and some vitamins. He wants to pace himself since he’s to meet Sir Brummel later that night.

However, his Chinese goddess returns out of nowhere behind him, full of vim and vigor, and ready to twist Richard’s life around. This time he is whisked away to another life where he and Lili shared a past mystical existence. She became enlightened while he took on other duties. But Richard is not ready for Lili, the Liliths, or the love being offered.

Alex interrupts Richard in his weakened state and warns him to be present that night to face Brummel or else.

Chapter 11

Sinclair and Bisol coordinate the meeting with Brummel at the Hyatt. The exchange of memories occurs. The transfer exposes Brummel’s evil doings in this life, and the truth about the Drake legend. There are shocking turns of events that history seems to have misplaced. Brummel, on the other hand, receives an equally unpleasant a gift in the exchange.

Richard and Alex escape the confusion and turmoil left at the Hyatt and walk through the crowds of Sacramento tourists for miles in order to reach Old Sacramento as it is nearing darkness. They enter a t-shirt shop and are greeted by the keeper of another sequestered portal, this time to the Old Sacramento still buried under the new city streets. There Richard will face Eli again, but this time with news that will set the Master afire with rage. The Templars have had another set back on their search with little to show for their centuries of quest.

Richard and Alex leave their disappointed Master with an edict from him for a meeting in three days in the hollows below Lake Tahoe. Alex leaves Richard to
find his own way home, which means walking again for miles on his bad knees. On returning home Richard finds messages from Mary Beth Calvert and Edmund Turner that further complicate his day. He is beat; totally wasted. He collapses into bed only to find he is not alone as he must manage a third surprise meeting with Lili Zhang, but this time beneath his covers. It will be a night to remember.

Chapter 12

The Lilith control Richard’s body in his bed. Their powers manipulate his spirit to travel to the Astral Plane, to the Hall of Records that some call the Akashic. Here he is shown the true history of the Earth and its primordial inhabitants, the ancestors of the Liliths. Great were their powers including the control of the corridors to the multi-verse—the ultimate doorway of space/time travel used by only those who were approved by the Liliths.

The world changed, and so did the Liliths, as their spirits weakened and eventually they were overwhelmed by other alien visitors, especially the Annunaki. The manipulations of the indigenous mammalian hominids led to the development of minute life forms no bigger than a human hand and giants nearly forty feet tall. All were the slaves to dig for important ores sought by the Annunaki. Those and many other secrets are revealed of humanity’s true past including the actual finding of the treasure beneath the Great Temple in Jerusalem by the crusading knights. At last Richard returns to his body, sickened and near collapse from the strain, as Lili protects him from utter his exhaustion.

Chapter 13

Lili’s offer of sexual fulfillment is rebuffed. She leaves at Sinclair’s insistence as he finally collapses into a deep, well-deserved sleep. He roused from slumber by the pounding of Alex’s fists on his door. Sinclair is stunned to find he has been asleep for two days and has missed the rolling ground, even in Sacramento, from one of the largest earthquakes on record in the U.S. The Bay Area has been devastated. Alex is deeply troubled that Marie Halleran may die from injuries she received without having a chance to resolve the hatred she feels towards him. He pushes Richard to go with him and use his new powers to save her, even though Richard is unsure that he has any such ability to offer.
Bisol flies a helicopter over the new devastation of the Bay Area. Sinclair realizes that the size of the debris field and damage is far beyond what has been reported. Someone is withholding the true size of the catastrophe from the country. Barely reaching the heliport of the hospital, the two men rush to Marie Halleran’s side, where she is tended to by her uncle, Edmund Turner. There are unpleasant exchanges between Turner and Bisol, but in the meantime Sinclair tries to aid Marie. Richard is drawn to use a new blessing from the Order, which Bisol has once used to calm him at Lake Tahoe. From there the hospital room becomes a cacophonous storm of arcane powers and uncontrolled energies. The impossible and the improbable occur outside the control of Alex or Edmund as Richard Sinclair becomes the conduit for a much greater power. He finds out why he is “the lantern” and what significance that title holds for the Templars.

Richard leaves Bisol and Marie to work through their karma. He is determined to find the Emergency Operations Center so he can do his duty to help the survivors and restore the city. He is waylaid by Turner who briefs him on some critical information he found out regarding the treasure, the federal government’s new involvement, and a third player in the scene now representing the Asian interests, through another secret society known as the Red and Green Dragon’s Breath. Richard forges ahead without concern for his own safety through the bowels of the shredded hospital only. He is soon accosted in the street at gun point by someone who is a left over thread from the night the pit opened.

Chapter 14

Sergeant Arnie Johnson was called up to support the city’s police force, even after his discharge from duty for mental instability. Fate has brought him together again with Richard Sinclair. The two men make an uncomfortable pact to get Richard to the San Francisco Library, where the Emergency Operations Center is set up. Sinclair agrees to explain what happened in the pit to a deacon who has lost his job, his family, his self respect and who is on the brink of loosing his faith in his god.

Sinclair finds a way to help Johnson through his crisis, but upon entering the Library, Sinclair is overtaken and becomes a prisoner of “The Breath.” He is soon facing certain death in a torture chamber in China Town with Lili Zhang also at the mercy of the Liliths who use her as their pawn to speak through. This time,
however, the ring from Beth Calvert turns the field of battle to Richard and Lili’s favor.

Soon Richard and Lili are magically transported to the construction site where they will encounter, in a most peculiar manner, the power of the Anunnaki and the maniacal metal statuette that once tried to eat Sinclair alive in the pit. The confrontation leaves Lili and Richard saved from the Breath but now vulnerable without a ring or any powers to protect themselves from a city collapsing around them. They are now on the run to find Lili’s parents as feral dogs hunt the couple for food.

Chapter 15

Lili and Richard escape into tunnels beneath San Francisco where the old city is still preserved as it was prior to the 1906 Earthquake. Richard is once again forced to travel through the underground remains of a culture that built upon its own ruins. This path, however, is soon a death trap as its walls give way to the Bay waters.

The couple forges a path to the Taoist Temple only to find the slaughter of Lili’s parents by the Breath. There is little time to mourn as their enemies are obviously closing on them.

Lili leads Richard to a concealed crypt that holds a potential escape by using a waterway exit protected by the Chinese of San Francisco. But to use the stored boat, Lili must depend on her Uncle Harry, a smuggler and pirate from Oakland, to blast them free from the underground debris. In a torturous melee they whisk across the Bay in a militarized Cigarette craft through the remains of California culture torn to pieces by catastrophe. They evade the Coast Guard and others guarding the route to another hideaway in Oakland: her uncle’s smuggler den.

Chapter 16

With support from her Uncle Harry, Lili manages to get Richard safely back to his condo. The world is a very different place now. The two will have to rest and reorganize their lives as they have both lost all of their sense of safety and security. Edmund Turner calls as they start to settle. He warns Richard of Bisol’s attempt on Marie’s life, especially after learning she was miraculously pregnant. Edmund was able to drive him off, but Bisol escaped. Richard needs no more
warning as Bisol has surprised Lili at the door and quickly holds them both as hostages.

The new couple is forced to accompany Bisol to Lake Tahoe for the meeting with the Masters. There will be no leniency this time. Bisol brutalizes Lili during the trip. Richard is forced to drive at the threat of Lili’s life. Bisol lets down his guard and exposes his real intention towards the Templars and their interests in treasure. He directs them to the Vikingsholm Mansion and not the Templar lodge.

Chapter 17

Bisol forces Richard to carry Lili through the mansion and into a hidden elevator. The elevator leads to the same caves where they’ve met Eli before, but through the Fannette Island entrance. The couple is faced with their doom. All three Templar Masters are gathered to pay the debt owed to the Liliths: the sacrifice of a pure Knight. The Lilith and the Templars have gathered together for the slaughter of the lamb, but this time they will also have the soul of Lili Zhang as an additional offering. Alex is sent to guard the entrance and prevent the interference from intruders.

The universe has a surprise for all of those present. The prey becomes the hunter as an almost thousand-year old pact of evil crashes down in a blinding moment of time and non-time. The pure-hearted Templar brings a final justice to the league of the gold-greedy, including Alex Bisol. For now, the Annunaki have anointed the young but ancient lovers with a new task and great powers which can be used to raise or destroy the world.
Richard Sinclair has survived an attempt on his life by both a primordial force of evil and by his respected Templar Masters. He and his new found love, and twin soul, Lili Zhang now address the challenge of using their new superhuman gifts to support and assist the human race. Theirs is an untried path for all humans before them. They have truly magnificent abilities but they are also as vulnerable as eggshells in a storm.

As they find a greater purpose, to support future victims of disasters, they encounter resistance and old enemies. The Breath continues their quest for the gold they believe was theirs and then stolen by Sinclair. They also desire vengeance upon Lili Zhang for betraying their trust. The assassination attempts continue with ruthless disregard for the innocent nearby. As Richard and Lili attempt to escape their trackers, they have a chance meeting with a Hopi shaman. He bestows on them a blessing and healing stones. These become a shield of strength for the young couple under siege.

Richard has further revelations from past memory exchanges he experienced while the beast of the Liliths lived within his chest. The true nature of Sir Francis Drake’s voyages is now made evident. Sinclair decides to reunite the Templars and seek out the lost treasures so the Order can be restored to its righteous and positive path to stabilize the world’s governments. His journeys now take him to Oak Island, in Nova Scotia, where a nor’easter almost destroys the Templar Team. Surprise amounts of hidden ancient wealth and a unique alien technology are recovered at a terrible price. There is blood on the oak.

As the Templars try to reunite their efforts via Richard’s gift of wealth, a new foe enters the picture through the guise of the U.S. Treasury Department. Lili and Richard will not have an easy path to build havens for disaster survivors in America as the rest of the world turns towards conflict and the threat of nuclear war. Still, the threats of mankind’s warlike follies pale against those from an unrelenting alien denizen set on course to Earth as the Templars uncover Oak Island’s secret.
Chapter Summaries for Oak and Blood

This novel spans the time from the night of August 17th, 2013 to June, 2014, and includes activities in Sacramento, Lake Tahoe, Toronto, New York, Malta, Oak Island, Nova Scotia, Oakland, Paris and Grand Island, Nebraska.

Chapter 1

Richard Sinclair and his twin soul, Lili Zhang, return to Richard’s condominium in Sacramento to plan for their life ahead, after they dispose of Alex Bisol’s dreadful Buick. The couple then faces the challenges of the burial of her parents and the police investigation that follows. The Templars try to contact Richard and the Breath try to find Lili. The couple must now adjust to their new fortunes, powers and newly found destiny. Open this chapter with a discussion of the night in the pit, why Richard was infested but not Beth Calvert. She had the “stink” which the Lilith could not stand. She had two odors. First, she had been on holy Annunaki ground. Anyone who had actually inhaled that soil was forever touched. Second, she had the “jew” smell. Every Jew who partook of the Passover mean, originally, was spared from the curse of the Lilith killing the first born. The combination of yeast and herbs, along with the wine, changed their blood. Any Jew who now takes part in an annual Passover meal with the original ingredients boosts that immunity. Spirits from the Lilith realm cannot stand that essence. It is a total repellent.

Chapter 2

The new Great Quake has torn apart the lives of millions in the San Francisco Bay region. The U.S. economy falters. Richard resigns from the California state government as he and Lili try to keep as low a profile as possible. The condominium is no longer a safe location, and Lili’s home in Berkeley lies in ruins. They move to a small, cheap hotel in West Sacramento to reorganize for their next move.

The losses of the lives of children in the Great Quake are particularly poignant. Richard decides to use the new gifts from the Annunaki to fund emergency relocation sites for the public, in order to prepare for the troubled times that may follow in future disasters. These sites would especially support the needs of
families and children. Sinclair has dreams of the Earth facing geological, astronomical, and political crises.

Chapter 3

Lili changes her appearance without discussing it with Richard. Her hair is cut short. He counters by dying his hair completely black and growing a mustache. There is a conflict as they readjust to who they must become and how they appear to each other. Richard continues to recall more details of his transferred memories. It is clear that Sir Francis Drake left nothing in the San Francisco area, but he did leave other treasures that must now be collected and consolidated in order for peace to be reestablished in a troubled world. Richard still believes he must do something with the remaining Templar organization to ensure they complete their ancient role of good works, and to clear the Order of the darkness left by the vanquished Masters. The couple continues to wrestle with their own intimacy after all of the conflicts they have encountered, both together as a team and against each other as opponents while under the control of others.

Chapter 4

Richard and Lili hatch a plan to return to the caves under Fannette Island to recover the rest of the gold, as well as the cache under the shoals along the Lake Tahoe’s coastline. They do not row to the Island but develop a clever ruse to remove the State Park Rangers from Vikingsholm. During their return to the caverns they make an amazing discovery within the caves that had been withheld from Richard on his earlier visits. They also find themselves in the middle of a wedding ceremony as they attempt to recover the other fortune buried under the shoals. This serendipitous moment leads to a spontaneous decision for the new couple.

Chapter 5

The couple takes a leisurely few days in a Lake Tahoe honeymoon. Richard begins to use his new knowledge and discoveries in the caverns below Fannette Island to develop a clear plan to visit the Oak Island site in Nova Scotia. Richard reveals the entire history of Drake’s treasure to Lili. Lili is not convinced that continuing on this pathway is wise since it will engage Richard with the Templars. Richard is convinced that he must move ahead and recover the organization the original Templars developed.
Still, there are pieces of the puzzle missing. Sinclair needs to know more hidden details before proceeding, so he decides to consult his favorite librarian, Edmund Turner. He finds Turner has moved to Toronto, Canada on a honeymoon with Beth Calvert. Turner left the University abruptly after becoming suddenly very wealthy from pari-mutuel betting. Sinclair finds them both living on a sailboat in the Toronto harbor. They talk about the events that have transpired, including the status of Marie Halleran, their life as married men and the future of the Templars. Turner agrees to do a little research as requested, since without Richard he might not have met Beth.

After receiving Turner’s input, Richard makes his first attempts at reconciling with some of the Templar operatives he trusts back in Malta.

Chapter 6

While traveling between West Sacramento and New York by automobile, to avoid detection at airports, bus stations, or on trains, Richard and Lili are attacked on the road by a van filled with surviving members of the Breath. There is a violent high speed chase on Interstate 10 through Tucson, Arizona. Richard and Lili barely avoid being shot, but the Breath kill a number of innocent drivers.

Richard and Lili continue on and reconsider their travel plans. There are other problems brewing for the couple as well as they continue their personal struggles physically intimacy. The couple eventually reaches El Paso, Texas. While waiting overnight in their hotel the couple is approached by a Hopi shaman. Lili invites him to join them and describes her work in American Indian studies. They have dinner and the shaman reveals what he sees around them and asks them if they really understand who they are and why they have come to the Southwest. At his departure he gives them a tribal blessing and each of them a healing stone to protect them on their journeys. The next day Richard and Lili risk a plane ride to New York.

Chapter 7

After arriving in New York, Richard and Lili make arrangements to stay at a hotel near Madison Square Garden, which has been renamed Trump Center. A secret meeting is set up with a gathering of the medium-level management of Templars remaining in North America. The site is an abandoned Irish Pub near the Hotel Pennsylvania. Those gathered demand to know what has happened to
the Grand Masters. There is fear that the Catholic Church gave its apology to the Templars years before just so they could find them again and massacre the Order completely this time. Richard provides proof to them that there has been a transfer of authority. He describes the “transition” of the Masters, by telling half the truth, and that he remains as the tutelary head of the remaining Order. He uses his powers to demonstrate his authority.

Chapter 8

The early fall weather cools New York a bit. Lily and Richard take some personal time to visit art galleries, travel on the subway to some of Lili’s old friends in the Bronx, and they take a romantic ride in a carriage through Central Park. The days of peace and quiet are the best they have had since the horrors of the battle with the Templar Masters and the Liliths. Richard and Lili feel a new closeness. They find a way to enter the roof of the hotel. There they look out over the River, the bridges, and the moon rise. The cosmic love of who they truly are opens the door to their intimacy in the coolness and promise of a September night.

Chapter 9

The couple has ignored the tensions building in other parts of the world for days. They are shocked to hear of a new crises brewing between China and Russia. Sino-Soviet instabilities are reported as grave with battalions moving to their borders. Richard consults with his Templar colleagues.

Richard seeks out a contact to access the Oak Island complexes. Edmund Turner has friends in Nova Scotia. Edmund also warns Richard about the curse that has yet to be fulfilled, that there must be one more death before the treasure is revealed.

Lili hears from her Uncle Harry. He may have to return home to Hong Kong to assist in plans to defend against a Russian attack. Soviet submarines have been detected just offshore.

Chapter 10
In a final meeting with the Templars in New York, Richard surprises those gathered with a gift of hundreds of millions of gold Krugerands set in neat piles. His instruction to them is to find a way to deposit the funds through scattered accounts and then later compile them into a single fund. This fund will be used to support Templar activities in the United States and for Richard’s projects. Richard suggests an offshore bank in Bermuda that the Templars have used for over a hundred years. He was able to visit it during his travels during his period of initiation.

Richard and Lilli establish a non-profit to hide the source of their wealth. They continue to be close as a true partnership grows deeper. They speak often of the children lost in the earthquake and their hopes to someday have their own family. Richard still has some pangs of guilt over the loss of his own daughter, but he still hungers for the laughter of his own child.

Chapter 11

Richard leaves Lili behind in New York with some of her friends from NYU. He takes a plane to Nova Scotia and then travels by land and ferry to Oak Island. It is now late October. It is very cold and stormy, but perfect to cover the workings of the Templars. Richard meets two new Templars from Canada who are his envoys. The woman is a member of Canada's Parliament in Ottawa. The man is a well-known baseball player on the Toronto Blue Jays. They stay in a hut provided by a previous excavator on the Island.

Richard uses the pull of his ring to seek out the center of the treasure along with compiled GIS maps provided to the Templars by Edmund Turner. A violent storm roars over Nova Scotia's coastline. The Templars use it to their advantage. The site is found, about a quarter mile from the famed “Treasure Pit”. Tree limbs and debris impede their search. There are other threats from one of the other island diggers following them out of suspicion. There is a face off in the woods as they reach their goal. The person following is armed and insane from years of isolation and frustration. The Island takes its last victim. The Hopi stone saves a life.

Chapter 12

Richard uses his new powers to raise the treasure up to the surface. It is more than what he expected. There is an ancient artifact of great power that pre-dates
the Annunaki and Atlantis. The odd crystalline objects is activated and sends a powerful ray of blue light off the planet into deep space. The other Templars are in awe of the powers they have seen and the cache contents.

The Templars are being overwhelmed by the weather. It becomes so serious that they now fear for their lives. Richard surprises the team by absorbing all of the treasure into his ring. The ring also becomes warm again and bathes them all in a warm, protective white light. They disappear. In moments they are back in their cottage, safe from the storm and unharmed. They do, however, experience disorientation, chilling cold and nausea for a time. Richard now must tell his two companions more of what is happening to him and the Templars.

Lili is with friends at a party. The weather has grown difficult even in the City. She worries for Richard. She is talking with friends when she feels her ring grow warm. It sheds a dull, red glow. This leads to concern and amazement from her friends. Lili is caught off guard and must find a way to talk herself out of a corner, while wondering what Richard is doing.

Chapter 13

In two days Richard is able to return safely to New York. He is afraid to use the ring’s teleportation powers as he does not have control over them, or when or how they will work. He and Lili talk about their adventures and the power of the shaman’s blessing. Lili has guarded her stone with care.

They are called to the small airport used by the Templars to fly their own jets in and out of the country. Richard promises Lili they won’t do any driving across country again. Their conflict in Tucson could have been avoided if he had acted sooner to restore his position in the Order. From now on everything will be by private jet whenever possible.

The Templars have tried to fly their gold to the bank in the Bahamas, but they cannot get flight permission. This makes no sense. When Richard arrives two black vans are parked in front of the Templar Lear Jet. The side of the vans are marked U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

There is a confrontation of wills. The agents reveal a new threat to the couple’s plans as they draw weapons. The rings pull Richard and Lili’s hands together. There is a terrible resolution.
Chapter 14

After the battle at the airport, Richard convinces Lili that they cannot be safe for a time in the United States. There are too many forces working against them. Once the funds are set in place and the foundation is formed they may be able to return and build a new power base to protect their interests.

Lilli and Richard move to Malta as a central point of operations. Richard is selected as the new head of the Templars after the stories of his powers are distributed through the ranks. He can now direct them to do the good they were meant to do. Richard finds a long-lost cave complex deep below the current Templar holdings. There he deposits the entire Oak Island, Lake Tahoe and San Francisco cache. He develops plans with the Maltese Templars to build a Team of researchers to evaluate the new technology found with the gold and jewels.

There is another attempt on Lili and Richard by the Breath when they take a short visit to Paris. Lili is wounded but recovers thanks to the recuperative powers of the Hopi healing stone. In her hospital stay she learns she is also newly pregnant. It is nearing Christmas.

Chapter 15

Lili tells Richard about the pregnancy. They are closer now than ever before. When they come together the space around them quivers and time is altered.

A new plan is developed to return to the United States to Grand Island, Nebraska. Richard has a vision of the future and is further convinced that the power of the riches must be used to secure the safety of the victims of future cataclysms. Lili is opposed and wants to just return to her visit her pirate Uncle Harry in the Bay Area. She wants to share the news of her pregnancy. There is a strong tension between them over this. She wants the warmth of the Christmas season, whether the Bay Area is a mess or not. Richard is fearful of her going into the heart of the Breath’s territory.

A compromise is reached along with a scheme for making both of their plans work.

Chapter 16
In early February, 2014, a conflict breaks out between Russia and China. There are concerns that the ground battles could lead to nuclear war. The United Nations attempts to find a peaceful solution. The United States remains neutral.

Lili is torn about this issue. She believes in peace above all things and wants a future for her child. Their family now has the wealth and power now to do almost anything, but they cannot buy peace. Richard and Lili go into deep states of meditation within the caves of Malta, where it is rumored Jesus and Buddha both came to pray.

They find that they are suddenly transported to the bedroom of the Soviet Premiere and later the Chinese President. They explain to the leaders who the couple is, what they can do, and why the war must stop immediately. They also show the repercussions they can bring upon both the loser and winner. There must be peace. Each leader is told that no one will believe that they were visited, so find other ways to justify their withdrawal. The effort works and the Great War is averted.

Chapter 17

The Oak Island treasure is revealed for the first time to the new Team of Templar scientists in mid-March. The complex research begins to evaluate the true value of the find and the mystical powers of the tools. In the middle of the testing a powerful light returns to Earth, through a mile of Malta’s stone, and strikes the tool that once emitted light. A holograph of a hideous creature is projected which somehow reaches out to consume two nearby scientists in a grisly display of barbarism. The message is clear. The tools may be bringing unwanted visitors to Earth. The question now is how long the Templars have to find a defense.

Edmund contacts Richard and warns him about the U.S. Treasury agents who raided his boat and roughed up Mary Beth. Edmund later did more research and finds that a cabal of America’s power elite families is behind this and they want the missing mint treasure. They believe that the Breath knows who has it and that anyone close to Richard and Lili might be hiding it. They have used the Treasury Department as a cover to seek out the gold since the San Francisco Earthquake of 1906. There are some rumors that the Treasury Department has agents within the Breath.

Chapter 18
Following their plans, Lili and Richard conceal themselves in their new disguises as they set plans and staffing to build a massive evacuation compound in Grand Island, Nebraska. They look out at night at the big sky in June and wonder how long before the alien threat will arrive. Will their child have a chance to grow up? They wonder about the Breath and the new secret order behind them, and what they will do next.

Richard tells Lili that there is a possible hope to resolve their defense. There is one final treasure to recover from Drake’s voyages. Drake didn’t give everything to the French. The Oak Island construction was part of a larger scheme to disperse the treasures of the Templars away from the Papists. There was still something far more valuable taken to another part of the world.

Edmund Turner tells Richard that the last treasure’s location is hidden in the poem written after Drake’s death called, “Ode” by John Dryden. Drake had many voyages, not just the famous circumnavigation. He did some other work for the Templars when he was cavorting with pirates in the Caribbean…which is when Oak Island was developed. The pirates thought of Oak Island as a bank for their treasures, but the Templars had something else in mind. Unfortunately Drake was unaware of the coming change in water levels with world climatic change. The final treasures location would have been chosen safe above the ocean but readily accessible by ship.

The world might remain safe if Richard can now find the last part of the puzzle hidden somewhere in the four corners of heaven.
FOUR CORNERS OF THE SKY
SYNOPSIS

Richard Sinclair faces a renewal of conflicts between his old enemies, the Breath, and the cabal of the U.S. military-industrial complex that wants the treasure they believe he has stolen from San Francisco. In time it becomes clear that the two enemies are strangely connected. Along with this surprise is the arrival of Marie Halleran to the Nebraska evacuation center, along with her son. Her child is a true anomaly who develops at ten times the speed he should. She becomes a part of the new plan to operate the evacuation center for the protection of the Indigo children who are runaways in America’s cities.

War and rumors of war continue to plague the progress of the Templars’ search for the final lost treasure cache of Sir Francis Drake. It has only been vaguely described as being under the fourth corner of heaven. The attacks from Richard and Lili’s enemies become so serious that the evacuation complex, in Nebraska, must be closed. The Templar staff is forced to return to the safety of Malta. Richard must move his injured wife and mystic partner, Lili, immediately to save her life. In the meantime, the United State leadership plummets into madness as the country is locked down under martial law and rushes towards a world war.

Richard is contacted by a race of Pleiadian space colonists. These peaceful space travelers offer strong warnings against using the technologies hidden by Sir Francis Drake. The evil coming from deep space may indeed destroy all life on Earth, including any alien races trying to live nearby or under the Earth’s crust or oceans.

As Richard and his intrepid team of Knights attempt to find the final hiding place of Drake’s treasure, the Middle East explodes into turmoil. The repercussions of the war are brutal on the armies of all those fighting, and on the Island of Malta as it becomes a logistical target. Meanwhile the Templars encounter a new device that bends space and time on the Earth, and by an odd turns of events, brings the Great War to an immediate end. But the galactic battle is yet to come as Richard must decide what price he is willing to pay to stop the onslaughts of a cosmic race that consumes all life before it.
Chapter Summaries for Four Corners of the Sky

This novel spans the time from the night of June, 2014, to November 11, 2014 and includes activities in Grand Island, Nebraska, Crawford, Nebraska, Malta, Rio de Janeiro, and Saudi Arabia.

Chapter 1

In late June Richard and Lili have similar dreams. They discover during breakfast that an enlightened being has come to both of them and given them a panoramic view of the United States. As they pass over the vista of cities they are shown specks of violet lights rising up from the ground, flickering and flashing. The focus of the new foundation now will be to establish a central evacuation center for gathering bright children, the Indigo children, who are runaways in cities across the U.S.

The Templar workers begin to build a major complex just outside of Grand Island, Nebraska, including a huge runway with multiple helicopter landing pads, a local children’s hospital, and other centers. This brings incredible new, positive growth to Grand Island as the Foundation hires as many local residents as possible, and supports local farmers and ranchers to provide food stores for the new center.

Nurse Marie Halleran appears at the site and asks to work with children. She and Richard share an unusual bond because of their past shared memories. He asks her to help Lili through her pregnancy. She introduces Richard to her son, who is growing unusually quickly and already appears almost seven years old, instead of just over a year. She has named him Richard.

The Templars approach Richard and Lili about an applicant who was found to be an agent for the U.S. Treasury Department. Decisions must be made on how to manage this intrigue.
Chapter 2

In late June political and military events become volatile in the Middle East. Richard and Lili watch carefully this time, remembering what actions they had to take in the Sino-Soviet threat. They must consider if this is safe to do now that Lili is almost eight months pregnant. It might hurt the fetus.

Richard and Lili discuss where the Four Corners of the Sky might be located, based on the poem and Bible text in Acts. Richard reveals he has remembered more of his memories of the past including the French Captain Guillaume Le Testu, who was a Templar tied to the French Huguenots and helped establish colonies near Rio de Janeiro. Drake and Le Testu worked together to find a special place to hide one of the greatest treasures taken from under the Great Temple in Jerusalem...a device that allows the bending of time and space.

Richard begins to have vivid dreams of flying saucers and blue skinned aliens who keep beckoning to him. These are very disturbing. He finds himself far outside the compound one morning, with his bed clothes on backwards.

Chapter 3

On June 26th the U.S. Treasury initiates an investigation against the center and starts to interfere with the project at Grand Island, Nebraska. Richard meets with Senator Jackson Williams of Nebraska to try to get control over the federal agents. Williams asks for financial support from the Templars. He receives it and is assassinated a week later.

Richard leaves for the canyon country of Crawford Nebraska, through the sand hills of western Nebraska. He finds a place to enter deep meditation. While in an alpha state of consciousness he is teleported to the offices of the National Security Agency at Ft. Meade, Maryland. He observes the agents who had harassed his operations as they are entering into the main NSA building. Richard realizes this is the center of the cabal, not the Treasury Department. He walks to the outside walls and touches the building. There is a horrific price paid by the NSA for their meddling. The United States is put on immediate war time alert without any clue to what has just happened to the NSA Headquarters. Richard returns his resting body in the Canyons. He later drives back to the new evacuation center in Grand Island with no ill effects.
The ambassador of Israel is assassinated in a car bombing in New York City on July 4th. Two days later the ambassador from Israel in England is killed by a gun man in London. The Israeli army is put on high alert and fully activated through Israel.

Chapter 4

Lili begins to suffer symptoms in her final trimester. She and Halleran bond and give each other support. Richard’s attempts to provide aid through his ring are useless. He is helpless and decides to return to the Canyon Country to center his soul. However, on this venture he encounters a space craft and those who call themselves Pleiadians. These aliens warn him about opening a doorway to their old planet. They have not been in contact with their world for hundreds of thousands of years, but they know the legend of a technology on Earth before their arrival that allowed the opening of great voids in space to travel through the time-space continuum. At the time of their escape from the Pleiades system there were gigantic evil aliens invading their worlds who appeared with many snake like limbs. These monsters were impervious to all assaults and weapons as they consumed every living organism.

Richard asks them why they have contacted him and why they are there, in Crawford. The answer is a surprise to the Templar and his understanding of eco-commitment by outside life forms and their connection to Native Americans. The shaman in Tucson was one of their agents to do good works through contact with advanced members of mankind.

After Richard returns to Grand Island he works with Edmund Turner to find old predictions from Aleister Crowley and others about the return of the old gods from the Pleiades. The research provides frightening insights into what may be ahead for the Earth. Sinclair withholds what he knows from Lili so she will not have any further stresses on the baby than what she has already encountered.

Chapter 5

Richard flies back to Malta and asks about the outcome of research on the “tool” that let the monster through. It is clear now that the hunters from the Pleiades have a new beacon to follow. The crystalline object from Oak Island continues to hum but changes frequencies every hour or two. No clear pattern can be made of the signals. The Templar scientists have found no internal mechanism or device, and the crystal cannot be cut or damaged by any force, energy, or tool.
Richard contacts Turner again and asks for help on research about Rio de Janeiro, including stories of Templars, treasure, caves, and any kinds of clues to look for that might be tied to Drake’s travels.

July 18th U.S. Treasury agents visit Richard again and threaten him and Lili at gun point. They disappear in thin air even without a conscious response from either Richard or Lili. Later, during the national news, Richard and the Templars watch footage of the remaining NSA headquarters buildings disappearing into thin air with all personnel inside. The federal government is in total panic, fearing some new foreign weapon being used against the U.S. The President uses Homeland Security Presidential Directive 20 to lock down the United States and suspend the Bill of Rights and the Constitution. He puts the entire country and its protectorates under martial law.

Chapter 6

Edmund Turner contacts Sinclair with information about the stories concerning Rio de Janeiro and the lost caves of the pirates that were known to frequent the seas with Drake. Turner describes stories of Rio being raided in 1711 by René Duguay-Trouin, an active Templar.

There are rumors that the Catholic Church had wanted to build the Christ the Redeemer statue for centuries to cover their digging where they attempted to recover the treasure hidden by Drake and Le Testu, and later sealed permanently by Trouin. The area around the statue and the hill it rests on has been reforested after once being stripped by cane and coffee growers in last century. It will be a real test to find anything, especially if there are thousands of tons of concrete over the entrance.

Regardless of the challenges, Sinclair is now sure that Rio is the fourth corner of the sky, with the others three being Oak Island, Malta, and Jerusalem.

Turner warns Sinclair July 25th about the problems he is having. He was wise to hide his racing funds in many places, especially outside of the banking and credit system. The little he had in his electronic accounts have all been emptied or locked by someone the banks will not acknowledge, including the Templar bank in the Bahamas. Sinclair is alarmed and has his staff check the Foundation accounts. They are still intact. The decision is made to move everything to the primary Templar bank in Malta and to hold the funds there until martial law is
withdrawn in the United States. Two hours after the transfer the Templar bank in the Bahamas is bombed and all electronic holdings are destroyed.

Chapter 7

A shooting war begins in August 1st in the Middle East with rockets exchanged between the Palestinian camps and Israel. The Syrian Army moves its forces against the border of Israel. Egypt and the Saudis break all ties with the United States. On August 4th an El Al jet is bombed on the ground in New York with all passengers on board just before leaving the terminal connection. Edmund Turner was returning with Mary Beth Calvert for a visit with her cousins in Haifa. They are both killed along with 487 other passengers and crew members. Another 820 people are killed, and 1261 injured at the terminal where the jet was still connected. The United States immediately enters into the attack on Palestine with the Israelis.

Richard is depressed over the loss of his friends and sets into a deep depression. Lili is just a month or less away from the birth of his child, but he cannot withstand the pressures. He goes back to the Canyon Lands and encounters the Pleiadian’s craft a second time. He goes aboard and speaks with the leaders. He discusses how they should interrupt the potential world war developing in the Middle East.

The Pleiadians note that they cannot interfere, but they will not let nuclear weapons be exchanged. That would threaten the air and water that they also shared on the planet. They once again warn Richard not to attempt to use the tool he is testing in Malta. They describe leaving the Pleiades due to a supernova that followed soon after the invasion of the marauding species. If Sinclair was to open the doorway he might actually open it to the others side of a huge supernova, or worse, a collapsing singularity after the nova pulled back. It could destroy the entire section of this galaxy. They warn him about the rings that he and Lili have received from the Annunaki, and what powers they might hold.

The Pleiadians return him to his car and rub green oil on his head. He relaxes beneath the rustling leaves of a giant cottonwood tree near the banks of a river. When he awakes his head is clear and he is ready to return to the compound to support Lili and plan out the hunt in Rio.
Chapter 8

On returning to the evacuation compound he finds destruction and death. The day before men in black military commando suits arrived and attempted to kill everyone on the grounds. Half of the staff lost their lives. Lili was brutally attacked but was able to survive. Marie Halleran saved her with her ready skills with fire arms, but she sustained several wounds before the attackers were driven away. A gun fight ensued with state police, killing several officers. The shrouded mercenaries are later ambushed by an Army gun ship flying near Nebraska’s capitol on orders to protect the country from terrorist attack. The official report identified the attacker casualties as Palestinian extremists.

Lili is now in serious medical trauma, along with her baby. The attackers did not take any consideration for a pregnant woman. They were furious when they could not find Sinclair. Her internal injuries are substantial. She is stable but she will need constant medical attention.

The attack is a set back on the project and on Richard’s life. He decides to close the project to pull the Templar staff back to Malta to recover and reorganize. Lili must be in a safe haven at all cost.

Richard begins to lose faith that the project will work in America, regardless of the dream he and Lili shared. There have just been too many attacks from the government and the Breath. Now there are also the ominous warnings from the Pleiadians. He gathers together the six Knights he trusts most to discuss their future plans and the risks associated with finding the fourth corner of the sky.

Richard seeks out the wisdom of one of his former teachers in Malta who has just arrived after fleeing from Egypt. This is Al Zhighar, who taught him to use palindromes at times of stress.

Chapter 9

By August 23d the threat of a world war continues and there are great tensions in Malta. There is talk that a U.S. fleet is poised to take over the island and use it for a staging area to support the Israelis. Richard must watch this carefully considering his challenges with the U.S. government. The six knights gather and describe their various skills to support a mission to Rio and the Christ the Redeemer statue.
Lili is recovering but is in pain. He asks Marie, who has recovered from her own wounds, to guard over Lili. Marie’s son is now almost seventeen in appearance and very strong. He often talks with the older Richard and they share meals together. He is interested in going on the trip to Rio, but Sinclair warns him off. There is just too much going on with the phenomenal child’s growth to trust him at the moment, but Sinclair also asks him to look out for Lili and Marie.

The Templar Team gathers their tools and weapons. They have a private jet fly them to Rio on August 24th but not without danger and threats.

Chapter 10

The Rio exploit involves the seven travelers appearing as monks traveling to give homage at Corcovado Mountain, the home of the Christ the Redeemer statue. They travel in silence up the Mountain on the small, crowded train. They enter the chapel and manage to distract other visitors away as they search for secret entrances and clues. All their equipment detects no entrances. They finally find a skull and cross bones with an arrow on the ceiling over the entrance door that is covered with the current paint. It points to SugarLoaf Mountain, a complete surprise to the Team. The expert on the area with them suggests they may, indeed, be looking for something at the crest of SugarLoaf since the sign was overhead looking down on the visitors. It also has the design of the keyhole, the Piedra Tajeada, a supposedly natural physical feature coming into the Rio Harbor, which Templars used as a symbol for a major sanctuary. It is a clear sign that sailors, and maybe pirates working for the Templars, had relatives who were still passing down the secrets of Drake’s treasure.

On August 27th the tank battles begin between Syria and Israel. The Syrians are using new technologies gained from the Russians and the Chinese, as well as some French technologies sold secretly to them. In the first day of fighting the Israeli’s are badly beaten in the field. They loose 1/3 of their tank forces and a battalion of infantry. The Syrians are also suspected of launching missiles with bio weapons into several small border towns in Israel.

On August 29th the U.S. task force enters Maltese waters and takes over the island. A contingent of submarines has already moved forward into the Mediterranean off Greece. In the second day of fighting, the submarines launch cruise missiles that destroy the front line tank capability of the Syrians. The
Egyptians then begin to assist by moving their tank corps on another front. The Egyptians are warned that Cairo is at risk if they proceed further. Both the U.S. and the Israelis make the threat clear. The Egyptians move forward anyway. In the middle of the day the military headquarters and capitol building are bombed in Cairo by U.S. fighter bombers. Turkey surrounds the Air Force base at Ankara and begins to attack U.S. forces on the ground. Within an hour the city of Istanbul is in shambles and on fire.

The Templars escape deep within their underground sanctuaries below Malta as the Muslim world turns on Israel and also bombs the U.S. fleet and Malta. Russia is now fully engaged in support of the Arab and Muslim forces.

Chapter 11

The news of the attack on Malta reaches Richard as he and the knights are about to explore SugarLoaf. They had just completed days of critical research about SugarLoaf. There are heated discussions about flying back to their families, but with the knowledge they might not be able to enter the air space safely, plus their presence might give away the Templar stronghold, where the others were surely secured by now, a mile below Malta.

The Templar Team proceeds as Richard uses the poem by Dryden once again to look for clues. The lines in the poem help them as they take the silver gondola cable car pods to the summit in two stages. They know that Templars prefer to find access at the high point of a mountain, so they will start from the top. When they stop at the half-way point resting area, the hill below the SugarLoaf (Morro Urca), they find both the skull symbol and the double snake carved into rocks off the trail used by hikers to climb Urca. They board the second set of cable car gondolas, packed with tourists, leaving one Templar behind to watch in case they are being followed. They listen to the tourists talk about the Middle East and the terrible loss of life on Malta and the U.S. fleet being sunk.

Chapter 12

The Templar Team reaches the summit and finds a cap of concrete over everything that might have once been an entrance, but they are sure some signs were left by the builders if they knew anything at all. They move away from the viewing platform and the little café at the top. Richard’s ring begins to throb and burn as they push over the top of the concrete crest where it bares against native
rock. Richard is nauseated and requests to rest. The heat atop SugarLoaf may be wearing on him out, but no, it is the power of the ring driving him forward. As they reach a solid face of rock one Templar takes readings from a thermal imaging sensor. The wall may have a cave behind it. The rock in front is cooler there, but it is solid. There is no entrance.

Richard directs the remaining knights to guard the path back at the main gondola debarkation area. Once alone, he moves his hand forward over the cool area of rock and steps through it with the power of the Annunaki. It is like walking through thick snow that slides over him.

He enters a core room that is self-illumined. He finds mountainous hordes of gold and gems, which he reduces with the ring’s influence into a small pile. He also encounters a bell-shaped, throbbing object that is just large enough to fit in his hand. He cannot reduce this. In trying to resize the object in his left hand he is thrown back against a wall, breaking his shoulder in a compound fracture. He watches as it heals before his eyes. He wrenches the bell loose and secures it in his backpack, then walks out of the wall again.

He finds the knights bewildered and frightened. For several minutes they were lost in a green haze and had no idea where they were. They had returned just in time to see Richard walk through solid stone. They simply bow and say no more. The Team proceeds quickly back to the gondola to return.

When they return to Morro Urca they find the scout knight dead, along with a dozen tourists. The local expert on the Team suggests taking the trail down. It is too risky to be out in the open on the cable car. Someone is after them and knows of their plans. A fog is rushing over the hills. It conceals them as they move down the trail, taking back the body of the fallen knight.

Chapter 13

Bombardments continue on Malta for a week starting on September 4th. Richard cannot return and has no direct contact with Lili. He travels mentally to verify that his dear Lili is okay. He is not sure of himself. He cannot reach her. The presence of the small black object has disturbed his sleep with constant nightmares. There are occasions when the room ripples in waves. He finds his watch stops running and time around him is slowed. The television and radios in his room won’t work right. Finally, he has a dream of Lili in the room, reaching to him, and then fading away.
The Knights meet with Richard to discuss their options. They have been careful to only meet for a few minutes at pre-designated locations, and then for only a few minutes. All of them are staying at locations far apart in Rio.

The Russians have started to move divisions of their troops into Syria by air. There are also incursions with Russian troops along the borders of Poland. NATO has called up its forces and the entire world is poised to launch into a full-fledged nuclear confrontation. Strangely enough, China has come out with a declaration of neutrality and is requesting the UN to call all countries to the table immediately. It shocks the world with the news that it has a new technology in space, orbiting the planet that can destroy world capitols instantly with a powerful beam. They will use it if the conflict does not stop in every country, immediately. Surprisingly, most countries respond and buckle under this threat, but not the United States. They call the bluff of the Chinese. There is an immediate repercussion for this lack of judgment.

When the Chinese fire their weapon on Washington D.C., the bell shaped object in Richard’s room glows red hot and sweeps a wave of energy across the surface of the Earth and into space. The Chinese technology is completely laid to waste, as are the centers of China from where it was fired. It is, however, too late for Washington. The United States is now without its Mediterranean fleet and its national capitol and leadership.

Chapter 14

The Knights find Richard mumbling and incoherent in the rubble of the hotel he was staying in. When he recovers he demands the Team recover the bell. They already have, knowing the significance of the events that have occurred and deducing that it was the cause of the hotel destruction. Richard should have been killed like all the other guests and those in homes for blocks around, but he was not. The destruction is blamed on the Chinese as a misfire of their weapon, since it happened at the same time D.C. was destroyed.

At the same time Lili takes a serious turn for the worse from her attack. She is not healing like Richard. That gift did not come to her. Her heart begins to fail and she goes into labor. There is an underground clinic but it is not advanced enough to deal with troubled births. Marie does all she can. On September 21, the Autumnal Equinox, Lili dies but not before her daughter is born. Before she dies she asks that if her daughter lives that Marie will care for her along with her
son. Marie reluctantly agrees. Marie requests the girl be named Celeste because of the skies in Nebraska. Just before her death she hands her ring to Marie and tells her to guard it for Richard.

At the time of her death Richard collapses in the hospital in Rio and goes into a deep coma for three days.

The warring nations step away from the battlefields and retreat quickly to their homelands. China does not disclose that their weapon is now completely disassembled. The war has ended and September 21st is set aside as an International Day of Peace.

Chapter 15

Richard recovers slowly in the hospital through the remaining part of September. His Team has to inform him about Lili’s death and the birth of Celeste. They watch him closely; afraid he might take his own life.

Richard and his Team fly back to Malta with Richard under sedation. In the middle of the Atlantic the plane begins to have severe navigation problems. They through one of the “dead zones” that are like the Bermuda Triangle. They encounter a green fog again. Even under sedation Richard uses his ring again to lead them through the magnetic murk. The bell makes a humming sound that shudders through the plane. They are simultaneously over Malta. The pilot and passengers are very cold and covered in sweat. Many are vomiting uncontrollably.

Richard and the knights land and trek back through the rubble of Malta to the hidden caves. Richard must deal with Lili’s death and tries to accept his new daughter. He is consoled by Marie. He takes Lili’s ring from her and places it on his other hand. He feels a new rush come over him and the color of his irises turn dark, sparkling green.

He also spends time with Marie’s son as young Richard has now advanced almost to mature adulthood. Sinclair is stunned to see himself in the young man. Marie reveals to him that young Richard does not match the DNA of any of her past lovers. Instead, it is discovered he is Richard’s son, somehow magically conceived in the hospital room in San Francisco. Marie has suspected for some
time. Yet, their child is some kind of mutation as he carries three sets of DNA, with the third strand being non-human.

Chapter 16

Richard is approached by his past teacher right after an emotional gathering of the few remaining staff from the Nebraska site. There are many things to discuss. The world is at a point where the all national governments are disintegrating. The masses are revolting against their leaders after their rash decisions to move so quickly into war. Even mosques have been set afire worldwide by Muslims upset with their leaders. The United States is a complete, tragic mess. There are rumors that Venezuela is forming a coalition with Cuba and Mexico to invade all the Gulf Coast States, with assistance from China.

It is time for the Templars make themselves known and to set up a world government that is stable and led by wisdom instead of politics, greed, and power. Richard is not in agreement as this puts him in a leadership position he does not want. He is tired and weary from the losses in his life.

The researchers in Malta have made a breakthrough with the other alien device. They have found a way to turn it on and off quickly, they believe. Should they attempt to use the tool or not? Richard decides to delay.

At the end of October a Templar working at the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena, California contacts Malta. A massive wave of Leptons is detected rolling through our solar system. The source appears to be the Crab Nebulae, but there is no indication why as there are no visual indications of a major celestial event. There is something coming closer and quickly. We are just getting the waves ahead of the event.

Chapter 17

Richard leaves the caves in early November. He goes into deep seclusion into the shattered mountains of Malta. He has serious discussions, arguing with God, the Annunaki, the Pleiadians, and any other force that will listen. He does not want this weight. He wants to just retire quietly somewhere away from the terrors of the world. When he is at his darkest moment, as the sun rises over the Mediterranean, he feels an arm on his shoulders. Marie has found him. She comforts him. They embrace and make love overlooking the morning sea. Later
they discuss their future. He can be the world leader but he can also be a great father to his children. Lili would have wanted this. Marie can provide the support he needs. They embrace.

On November 4th a huge time rift opens up over Japan. A massive spirit appears. It is a female form surrounded by thousands of gigantic snakes coming from her body. Behind her are other angry, hungry beings in giant reptilian form. They fall upon Japan and consume all living things within hours. Nothing is left except bare rock. The marauders then pull back into their time rift and disappear.

Chapter 18

Richard and Marie return to the Templar stronghold. Everyone is terrified by what has happened in Japan. No one has an answer. Only a few people observed what happened and survived. Their stories are unbelievable and horrific. Richard recognizes the risks at hand immediately and what drew these monsters from another part of space.

Richard flies to the U.S. and the sand hills of Nebraska. He begs for the Pleiadians to come to him. They do, but they are also terrified. The Taknuwok have arrived. They are only known as the devourers. The only fact known is that wherever they travel in the universe no life remains, not even a virus.

Richard asks how to destroy them. There is no way. How can he fight them? There is no way. The Pleiadians are withdrawing from this Solar system. They are the last of their race. They must escape this new threat. It is too late for the Earth. Richard returns immediately to Malta.

A rift forms over England on November 8th. In an hour there is only bare rock.

Richard calls the Templars of Malta together. He announces he is going on what may be a final pilgrimage. He designates who is to lead while he is away and defines a way for the Templars to reveal themselves to the world. He also takes them to a room where he has released all of the treasures trapped in his rings into one vast array of wealth. The Templars have more influence now than any government on Earth.
Richard has his pilot take him to an extremely remote section of the deserts in Saudi Arabia where there is no major form of life for a hundred square miles. He has both the opening tool for the Pleiades and the bell with him.

Chapter 19

Richard sits on the top of a giant sand dune as the sun rises over the cold desert. It is the morning of November 11\textsuperscript{th}. The pilot had left the night before. As a wind begins to rise, Richard pulls the two ancient artifacts near each other. He activates the rift machine. A giant hole opens up through the light bluing and red sky. Through the rift comes the Taknuwok in complete glory. There is nothing to eat. Nothing to fill their bodies and hungers. Nothing to overwhelm but a single life form on the dune. The attack starts immediately but not before Richard raises the bell object over his head between the two rings on his hands. His body shimmers in the sunlight. A wave of black energy rolls from the bell as Richard dissolves. It strikes the armada of Taknuwok. They writhe and attempt to withdraw but the rolling wave speeds up. Richard is not there any longer to observe as one of the greatest monstrosities every spawned is shattered like thin pond ice. The screams and moans fall on the empty desert as the rift closes, sucking the drifting remains of the Taknuwok into an eternal singularity.

Marie waits for Richard’s return. After a week all hope is lost. Marie goes to the same mountain top where they made love and watches the sun come up again, wondering where Richard may be. She feels a cold breeze. Standing behind her is the giant Annunaki last encountered by Richard and Lili in the caves below Lake Tahoe. He telepathically explains that millennia of genetic engineering on many worlds, with many species, finally resulted in the development of someone whose blood would allow the destruction of the Taknuwok. The Annunaki had been almost destroyed by the Taknuwok millions of years before this latest attack on Earth. The Annunaki did not know how they would overcome them. The answer was a galactic breeding project involving hundreds of thousands of conscious species. Only Richard Sinclair provide the culmination to bring all of the ideas and tools together in a way and in a place that would allow a surprise response to overcome the those who were indestructible.

Marie describes her fears that she now has to raise two children alone because of the meddling of the Annunaki. The alien visitor responds with an offer. He is there to gather up Marie and the two children to take them to the Annunaki home world, where they will be treated like gods. They have unusual blood,
both of them, and they need an Earth mother to raise them. When the Earth people have tired of their continuous petty wars and killing, then the children may return to lead the survivors in a golden age of peace and enlightenment. Marie agrees. She turns and she and the Annunaki disappear in a tinkling rainbow of glittering light that disappears into the morning breeze over the sea.