



PATRICK W. CARR

"Carr has created an extraordinary start to what promises to be an extraordinary saga."  
—JILL WILLIAMSON, Christy Award-winning author of *By Darkness Hid*

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## An Epic Medieval Fantasy Saga From a Debut Novelist

*A Cast of Stones*

THE STAFF AND THE SWORD #1

by Patrick W. Carr

### ***A Cast of Stones***

THE STAFF AND THE SWORD # 1

by Patrick W. Carr

Trade Paper ISBN: 978-0-7642-1043-3

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Minneapolis, MN—Bethany House is pleased to welcome Patrick W. Carr to their talented group of inspirational fantasy writers, which includes two-time Christy Award winner Anne Elisabeth Stengl and acclaimed novelist R. J. Larson. Carr's debut novel, *A Cast of Stones*, is an epic medieval fantasy in the tradition of George R. R. Martin and Stephen Lawhead.

Errol Stone, the main character in *THE STAFF AND THE SWORD*, may seem an unlikely hero at first glance. But, says Carr, "I believe we all hold within ourselves the capacity, not only for evil, but for great nobility. This theme stretches across all three volumes of the trilogy." In *A Cast of Stones*, Errol is forced to develop new depths when he is thrust into a world of dangerous political intrigue, church machinations, and the unrest surrounding the selection of a new king.

*In the backwater village of Callowford, roustabout Errol Stone is enlisted by a church messenger arriving with urgent missives for the hermit priest in the hills. Eager for coin, Errol volunteers to deliver them—only to find himself hunted by deadly assassins. Forced to flee with the priest and a small band of travelers, Errol soon learns he's joined a quest that could change the fate of his kingdom.*

*Protected for millennia by the heirs of the first king, the kingdom's dynasty nears its end and the selection of a new king begins in secret. Amidst mounting dangers, Errol must leave behind his idle life, learn to fight, and discover his destiny.*

With a successful blending of high action and a spiritual quest, *A Cast of Stones* is the thrilling tale of an unconventional band of men trying desperately to save their kingdom.

**"Carr's debut, the first in a series, is assured and up-tempo,  
with much to enjoy in characterization and description—  
not least the homely, life-as-lived details."**

**—Publishers Weekly**

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Patrick W. Carr teaches high school math and makes his home in Nashville, Tennessee, with his incredible wife, Mary, and their four awesome sons, Patrick, Connor, Daniel, and Ethan. Learn more at [patrickwcarr.com](http://patrickwcarr.com).

Available at your local bookstore, [bethanyhouse.com](http://bethanyhouse.com) or by calling 1-800-877-2665.