Tab 1

A Quiet Apostasy - Beta Reader Hub

Welcome—and thank you for walking this road with me.

This page contains everything you'll need to beta read *A Quiet Apostasy*, a literary thriller about belief, fracture, and the cost of reclaiming your voice.

Your insight will help shape the final form of this story. Read with your gut and respond with your truth.

About the Book

Dean was raised to serve. When his Mormon community begins to crack under the weight of hidden abuse, he must decide whether loyalty is worth silence—or if faith can survive without obedience.

A Quiet Apostasy is a psychological and emotional descent through seven stages of unraveling. It explores religious trauma, generational complicity, and the dangerous inertia of institutions built on obedience.

Content & Trigger Warnings

Please read with care. This book includes themes or references to:

- Religious trauma and indoctrination
- Gaslighting and psychological manipulation
- Physical Violence
- References to Sexual Assault

If at any point you need to stop, pause, or reach out, please do.

Timeline & Reading Flow

The manuscript is divided into four sections, each containing multiple phases of Dean's transformation. You'll read each section, then fill out a brief feedback form.

Suggested pace: ~1–2 weeks per section. But if life slows you down, no stress—take the time you need.

Feedback Form

Part I: Indoctrination to Revelation (Chapters: Prologue-11)

Part II: Retribution (Chapters: 12–21)

Part III: Reclamation (Chapter 22-32)

Part IV: Rapture & Reincarnation (Chapters: 33–Epilogue)

What I'm Hoping to Learn

Your feedback can be raw, messy, stream-of-consciousness. Use bullets, rants, or reflections. I care less about format and more about what stirred (or didn't).

- Where did you feel most drawn in?
- What felt confusing, slow, or unearned?
- What emotional moments landed—or missed?
- Which characters stuck with you?
- What questions lingered after finishing?

If you want to keep a notebook as you go, great.

Confidentiality

Please do not share this document, the manuscript, or any materials with others. This is early-stage work. You're part of a small, trusted group walking this with me.

Questions? Need More Time?

Reach out anytime:

duanehowardlit@gmail.com

Whether you read the whole book or only a section, your voice matters to me. Thank you for lending your time, your brain, and your heart to this story.

Warmly, Duane Howard