

# High School Sweethearts Reunited after 30 Years

*New novel answers the question of "What if?"*

SEATTLE – In 2004, *The Notebook* captured America's heart with the epic love story of Noah and Allie, a young couple whose whirlwind romance was torn apart only to be passionately rediscovered years later. At the movie's climax, Noah says to Allie after seven years of separation, "It wasn't over, it still isn't over!" The same line could be used for high school sweethearts, Dan and Katie, as they hope to rekindle their relationship after 30 years apart in the new novel by Greg Messel, ***Expiation*** ([published by Trafford Publishing](#)).

When Dan and Katie graduated from Ballard High School in 1969 they believed their love would last forever. But when Dan decided to attend the University of California Berkeley, the two went down separate paths.

After three decades of separation, the couple gets the chance to reconnect at the dawn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century when it seems everything is uncertain. As the rest of the world fears Y2K and the new millennium, Dan and Katie have hope for the future and a chance to reclaim their lost love.

"I am intrigued by the idea that we are never sure of what lies around the next corner. ***Expiation*** explores life's possible outcomes if you had made different decisions," says Messel.

If you've ever wondered about the one who got away or your old high school sweetheart, answer the burning question of "What might have been?" in ***Expiation***.

Greg Messel himself is married to his high school sweetheart, Carol. ***Expiation*** is largely based off his life as he grew up in the San Francisco Bay area, experiencing historical events such as the Vietnam protests at U.C. Berkeley in the 70s and the World Trade Organization riots in Seattle. He attended Brigham Young University and worked in the newspaper industry for several years. After retiring in 2008, Messel was able to focus on his writing career and begin publishing his novels. He is also excited to announce ***Expiation's*** availability in eBook format.

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