

# *In His Majesty's Secret Service* by Patrick D. Bell



## AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

### Patrick D. Bell

Patrick Bell is a Canadian, now living in Kelowna, BC. He's a graduate of Wheaton College Graduate School (MA, Intercultural Studies, 1995) and Regent University School of Global Leadership & Entrepreneurship (MBA, International Business, 2007).



In 1987, Patrick made a decision to join International Teams and deliver Bibles, Christian literature, food, clothing and medicine to Romania and other Eastern European countries. After six months of training, he joined a team in Austria which served as his base from March, 1988 to February, 1990. He was able to make 50 trips throughout Communist Eastern Europe including Romania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Poland, and Hungary.

Patrick began research for his novel, *In His Majesty's Secret Service*, in January, 1987, when he attended classes at the Slavic Gospel Association under Anita Dyneka and Romanian theologian, Joseph Ton.

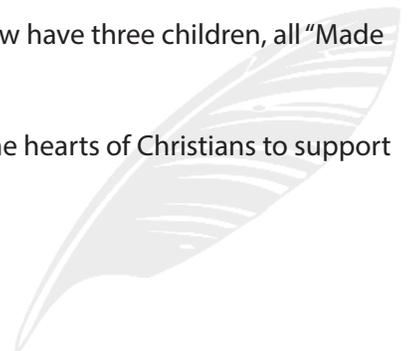
On each trip to Romania, he researched the background details for his novel, often using a cassette recorder to record his thoughts or his conversations with believers. Throughout his two years, he was fortunate to deliver tons of books and relief

supplies to the believers in Romania, and even more only days after the Romanian revolution in December, 1989. Regarding his time in Romania through the revolution, Patrick said, "You know you're in the thick of it when you hear gunfire in the streets and there are bullet holes in the window and blood on the carpet."

Patrick met his wife, Holly, while smuggling Bibles and they married in 1990. They now have three children, all "Made in Japan" where they served for over 12 years.

Patrick's heart is for the persecuted church. His goal is that this novel will again stir the hearts of Christians to support their brothers and sisters around the world who are persecuted for their faith.

Find Patrick on: [PatrickBooks.com](http://PatrickBooks.com)



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## BOOK DESCRIPTION

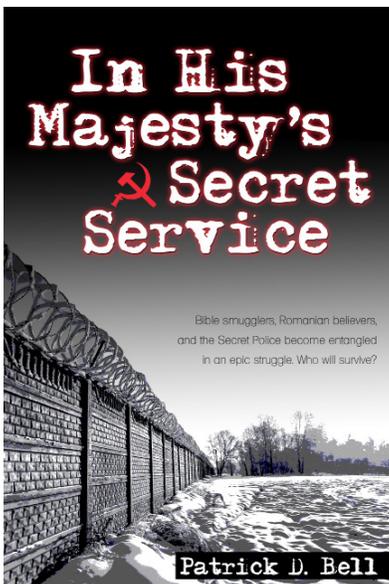
### *In His Majesty's Secret Service*

*"Three helicopters circled directly overhead, not more than two hundred feet above the ground. All eyes in the crowd seemed transfixed on them. Jim tipped back his head. What would they do next? Silence gradually overcame the people, as though everyone held his breath. The beating of the flying scorpions' propellers drowned out every other sound. Kirsten's fingers tightened around Jim's arm. The first echo of a gunshot pierced the dizzying tension of the night. A woman screamed and the protesters roared like an erupting volcano. Soon thereafter, death marched in."*

—excerpt from *In His Majesty's Secret Service*

Jim, Nick, and Kirsten have always had a heart for their fellow believers behind the Iron Curtain. It's one thing to pray for their brothers and sisters in Romania, though, and another thing entirely to face hostile border guards with illegal Bibles hidden in their van. Only God can blind the eyes of those searching the vehicle so the three of them will be allowed to pass through safely.

Someone in the underground Romanian church is an informer, and the three Bible smugglers want to know who. The brutal dictatorship of Nicolae Ceaușescu, the watching eyes of the secret police, and a personal vendetta being carried out by a colonel with a forty-year grudge have put them and all the believers in danger. As rumors of revolution swirl around them, Jim, Nick, and Kirsten face an impossible dilemma. If they can't trust those who call themselves Christians, who can they trust?



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## ENDORSEMENTS

### Acclaim for *In His Majesty's Secret Service*

"*In His Majesty's Secret Service* is absolutely captivating. This is an intriguing story about courageous young people who risked their lives to smuggle Bibles into communist Romania during the revolution in 1989. I read it in one sitting. I could not put it down."

— Lyle W. Dorsett, Ph.D.  
*Billy Graham Professor of Evangelism, Emeritus  
Beeson Divinity School  
Samford University*

"Patrick Bell hits the target with his award-winning first novel *In His Majesty's Secret Service*. Young adults 16 and older will enjoy the mystery and action in this adventure about a group of Bible smugglers who travel throughout Romania before the fall of the Soviet Union. The novel is chock full of historical information as the authentic characters brave some frightening escapades. Readers will enjoy learning more about the persecuted church through this fictionalized account. Fast moving and well written, the characters and plot engage and deliver."

— Pippa Davies  
*Director, HCS Blended Learning Commons  
Heritage Christian Online School  
Kelowna, British Columbia*

"Patrick Bell takes us on a stirring, memorable, and historic journey in the book *In His Majesty's Secret Service*. As a long-ago former Bible Courier myself, I can viscerally relate to the emotions of anxiousness, uncertainty, hope, and joy that cycle in every chapter. Patrick vividly describes the remarkable witness of believers behind the Curtain, the honor of those from the West who served the Church in the East, and the staggering suffering that despots like Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceaușescu unleashed on millions of his own countrymen. Reading the book is not only a riveting experience, it's a first-hand exposure to one of the most momentous global events of the second half of the 20th century."

— Craig Glass  
*Peregrine Ministries  
[www.peregrineminstries.org](http://www.peregrineminstries.org)*

"Read the amazing, exciting fictional account of Bible couriers going through the Romanian revolution. Feel the pain and the joy of those that suffer for their faith. See how God works His plan for our good and His glory!"

— Dr. R. Mark Beadle  
*CEO, Sevenstar LLC.*

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"What a treat! Just finished reading *In His Majesty's Secret Service* in one sitting. I could not put it down. The detail, the character development, the weaving of stories...incredible!"

—Darlene Unrau, MA  
*Educational Coordinator, True To You*

"I loved this novel! Each page brings adventure, intrigue, heroism, and deep faith. Author, Patrick Bell, lived this incredible story in real life. It's a must read."

— Jim Burns, PhD  
*President, HomeWord*  
*Author of Doing Life With Your Adult Kids: Keep Your Mouth Shut and the Welcome Mat Out*

"Having traveled myself through Romania and other former Iron Curtain countries, I was looking forward to reading Patrick Bell's new book, *In His Majesty's Secret Service*. This action-packed thriller has a masterful blend of history and fiction; a real page-turner! Patrick's character development is so superb that I was drawn quickly into this intriguing adventure. A fun, must read!"

— Jerry Lewis  
*Former Director, Mount Hermon Conference Center*  
*California, USA*

"As a bible courier in the late 1980's, Patrick Bell was not just a front-row observer of the momentous collapse of the communist regimes of Central & Eastern Europe, he was right in the mix of things. So even though *In His Majesty's Secret Service* is a fun, action-packed work of fiction, Patrick has managed to capture the tension, uncertainty, and exhilaration of that time and place. Reading through this page-turner brought back to mind many of the places, people, conversations, naiveté, and soul searching I remember from my own experience as a youthful 'bible smuggler'!"

— Greg Reader  
*International Teams, Canada*  
*Former Bible Smuggler*

"Patrick Bell is a master storyteller. You'll feel like you are there in Eastern Europe in the years around the collapse of Communism. You get a sense for the things that Christ's Ambassadors see in the parts of the world where the Church is politically powerless, and it isn't pretty. I hope this book calls out the best courage and faith in another generation who will spread the Good News to those who have no access to it."

— D. C. Keane, *Mission Mobilizer*  
*Phoenix, AZ*

## INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

### For Patrick D. Bell:

- Why did you choose to smuggle Bibles?
- How did you actually smuggle them in?
- Tell us an exciting story that actually happened to you.
- Why did you decide to write the book?
- You were there in Romania for the revolution. What did you experience?
- How did the sudden nature of the revolution change the plot of your book?
- There's some romance in your book. Was that a part of your experience?
- How much of the book is real?
- We've heard that your book sat on a shelf for 25 years. Tell us about that.
- How can Christians get involved in helping the persecuted church today?
- What are you working on next?
- Where can we find your book?

For media inquiries or to schedule an interview with Patrick, please contact:

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## ABOUT WORD ALIVE PRESS

### Who We Are

At Word Alive Press, we pride ourselves on being accessible and providing excellent one-on-one customer care. That means that you reach real people who are genuinely interested in seeing your manuscript come to life and have an impact on your readers.

The publishing industry can be intimidating to a new author, and we're here to answer your questions and clarify the mysteries of publishing. We are neither a traditional publisher nor a self-publisher. We provide professional publishing services and distribution (like a traditional publisher), though there is a cost to publishing with us (like a self-publisher). We support authors through the process, provide feedback on marketability, offer marketing services, and have publishing industry standards.

### How Did We Get Started?

Word Alive Inc. began as a distributor over thirty years ago and today is one of the largest and most trusted suppliers of Christian books, entertainment, and giftware in Canada. They represent over thirty publishing houses in the Canadian market of Christian bookstores, trade bookstores, such as Chapters/Indigo, Costco, Superstores, and Wal-Mart, as well as thousands of churches, ministries and schools.

With Word Alive Inc.'s relationship with publishers in mind, authors would often approach the company looking either for a publisher or a distributor for their books. Seeing the high calibre of these manuscripts, and the lack of interest in them from traditional publishers, an idea was formed. Word Alive Press was created in a format best described in today's vernacular as a "hybrid" publisher—a company that harnesses the power of conventional royalty-based publishing, Word Alive Inc.'s distribution, all while being easily accessible to Canadian authors.

On June 1 of 2016, Word Alive Inc. (the distributor) merged with US-based Anchor Distributors. This new North American strategy directly benefits our Canadian authors as their books will now be stocked and available to the U.S. market, as well as Canada. This nugget of history is a major distinction between our services and those of any other publishing company. Since our inception, sales, marketing, and distribution have been at the forefront of our growth. We understand the Canadian Christian market, and our authors benefit from that expertise.