

THE ROCK MAGAZINE INTERVIEW WITH AUTHOR FRANK CHASE

By Jerry Sampson

THE ROCK: Who is Frank Chase?

Frank: Well, I've been a born again Christian since 1980, when I was in the military. If I had to say something about myself, I'd say that I'm an enjoyable person, funny, intellectual and discovering more about myself every day. I'm a graduate of Washington State University with a degree in Communications. My personality is that of a counselor. Secondly, let me proudly say that I'm a father of six children, three boys and three girls. I've been married for eight years. I thank my lovely wife, Teresa, for her patience and for being a woman of God. My other interests include tennis and racquetball.

THE ROCK: Where are you from and currently residing?

Frank: I'm from Baltimore, Maryland. That's where I lived until I enlisted in the Army. My current residence is Alabama.

THE ROCK: When did you start writing?

Frank: That's a good question. The writing bug caught me while I was in elementary school. It became a method by which I coped with the struggles of growing up in a single parent home; however, the more I wrote, the more I liked it. I began to write short mystery stories and read them to my friends.

THE ROCK: What prepared you to become an author?

Frank: That's a loaded question. Life prepared me to become a writer. My true gift and desire was to write.

THE ROCK: What inspired you to become a writer?

Frank: I think watching movies growing up. I'd wonder how they got the movie to the screen. Of course, I'd be interested in who wrote the screenplay at the end or the book. Reading played a role in inspiring me to write. Sometimes when I'd read books, they shook my bones.

THE ROCK: What inspired you to write your book?

Frank: For years, I've always desired to write a book. I didn't know what subject it would cover. My intrigue concerning the rites of passage into manhood, and my divorce set the stage. When I could not find any written book material of recovery for men, then God sparked a match in my soul to write False Roads to Manhood so no man would go through what I went through trying to heal and deal with hurt and pain. Besides divorce, seeing men struggle drove me to write something to empower, teach and heal youth and men so they would think before they travel false roads to manhood. In the end, men in all kinds of predicaments inspired me to write the book. Again, it's not what, but who inspired me to write False Roads to Manhood.

THE ROCK: Tell us about your newest creation. What is the premise?

Frank: My newest project is a men's 12-month devotional journal. Its premise is to have men read inspiring articles and to do journaling about themselves, until the next month's article. I want to include questions that would break them from the false traditions of men so they can become the authentic strong and tender warriors God made them to be.

THE ROCK: Any publishing contracts in the working?

Frank: No publishing contracts are in the works at this time, but I'm not totally against a major publisher looking at my book. Some already have, but they believe that they can't sell men issues' books. I find that hard to believe, since my success has been ongoing.

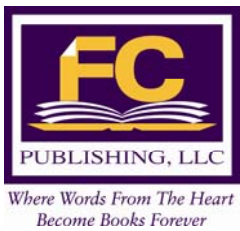
THE ROCK: Have you ever self-published? Why or why not?

Frank: Yes. False Roads to Manhood is my dream. A self-published book that took me seven years to write and research. I self-published because I wanted to do something no one else had done that I knew personally.

THE ROCK: What are "traditional publishers" looking for?

Frank: That depends on whether it's secular or Christian. Traditional publishers are looking for best sellers. Christian fiction is real hot these days. The secular publishers and Christian publishers are looking at their bottom line. The publishing business is extremely tight and cut throat. My prayer is that they change their focus and attitude about men's issues and publish more books on the subject. I believe it's an untapped gold mine for men and women. I included women, because they are asking questions I believe my book answers.

THE ROCK: If you were a publisher, what would be your niche?



Frank: I am a publisher, and my company name is FC Publishing, LLC. My niche is educating men about themselves and informing women so they can unlearn the babble of misinformation they've been taught through life experiences, self-proclaimed credible authority figures, and the pain passed on from wounded women from bad relationships. My job as a publisher is to inform and educate on the subject of manhood from a whole person perspective.

THE ROCK: Is having a publishing contract with a "traditional publisher" important?

Frank: That all depends on the author. For some it means not having to do it all on your own: marketing, distribution, etc. In my thought pattern, I'm a professional author and a publisher. With a traditional publisher, you lose some control over your intellectual rights. So, it's all in what kind of a contract you sign with a traditional publisher.

THE ROCK: Who are some of your favorite authors?

Frank: TD Jakes, Gordon Dalbey, Philip Yancey, and Myles Monroe. When I was growing up, Stephen King had my undivided attention.

THE ROCK: Where do you want to be in five years?

Frank: I'm already in the future, and I see my book as a major play and becoming a movie. I see myself publishing books that uplift men.

THE ROCK: Where can readers find you?

Frank: The reading audience and internet searchers can find me at www.positivejourney.com. My web site has some insightful information and encouragement for men and women.

THE ROCK: Thank you very much, Frank.

Frank: Thank you for taking the time to interview me.

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