

## About Brian Ranzoni...

### Q: Who is Brian?

**A:** An Irish-Italian ex-Catholic male, living in the heart of Oregon Country. I am a novelist, screenwriter, playwright, photographer, and graphic designer. Call me a multimedia artist.

I served in the United States Navy for over eight years--before a service-connected disability denied me a third re-enlistment. Until then, I deployed on WestPac 1997-1998, RimPac '98, and a historic "crew swap" between San Diego and Sasebo in 1999. I transferred to the Navy Reserve in 2000 so I could attend the college of my choice. From there, I served in Operation Nobel Eagle after 9/11/01. I ultimately left the service as an Operation Specialist Petty Officer Second Class in 2004.

I attended Linn Benton Community College between tours of duty, from 2001 to 2006. Since then, I've been taking a hiatus from my degree in Technical Communications. Too busy writing fiction, too little patience for the classroom.



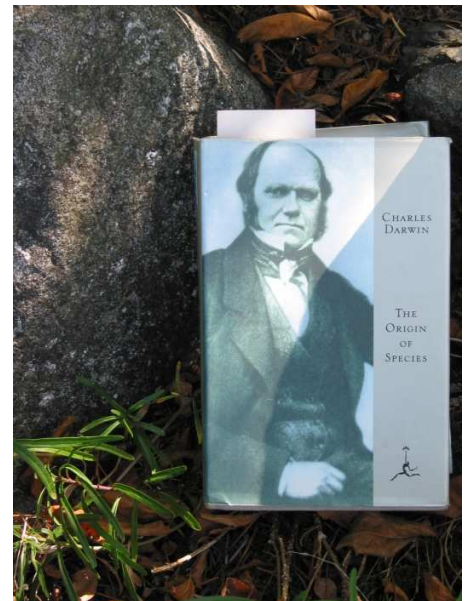
### Q: What Do You Believe In?

**A:** Good stories and loyal friends. Mixed drinks, gun smoke, and sticky leather.

I am an atheist. That is: I do not factor the supernatural into any mechanism of the world around me. My decisions ignore supernatural forces. Hence, I am atheist in the literal sense of being "without god". However, "atheist" is not synonymous with "amoral". I keep values from the same source that all humans do—from each other and the world around us. Nobody learns from gods.

My philosophy is founded in agnostic-humanism. By definition, the supernatural is beyond the realm of mortal detection and is therefore unknowable to us. That said, I go the extra step and choose not to believe in gods, ghosts, or Gaia because it makes my life manageable. Overall, I believe that no one ideology is able to explain or direct the universe as I see it, much the same way that a grand unified theory continues to elude physicists. Consequently, I do not practice any religion.

I do practice political independence from parties--especially from the two-headed beast known as the Democratic and Republican parties. I have little use for prefab slave ideologies. In 2012, I will be eligible to run for President of the United States. Just mentioning it, you know, in passing and all that.



### Q: Where Do You Come From?

**A:** The heart of the Willamette Valley in Western Oregon. My line has migrated around the world since the 1800's. Most of my paternal blood, that I am aware of, remains in Italy. My trunk of the family has lived all over the United States, and has dipped into the Irish gene pool many times. I'm hoping to put a little more Mediterranean back in our stream. Hmm, this answer seems to have gone astray.

I've lived in Oregon, Virginia, and California, and have traveled the Pacific: Australia, Bahrain, Bali, British Columbia, Japan, Jebel Ali, Kuwait, Mexico, Okinawa, Saipan, Singapore, and Thailand. I've stood in the hypozone of Nagasaki, steamed past Alaskan glaciers, and patrolled the deserts of the Imperial Valley.

### Q: When Will You Become a Professional Artist?

**A:** I already am. I have a complete novel, novella, several screenplays and stageplays, and short stories under my belt. I've published non-fiction articles for the Corvallis Chamber of Commerce and *Pyramid* magazine. And I've published reviews on Amazon.com.

Networking and self-promotion are integral to the artistic CV. Brianranzoni.com presents the industry with a web presence, presents the market with a web resource. Look for *Revelation Range* and *Hammer of Witches* next year, published by ANR Artworks.



### Q: Why Don't You Get a Real Job?

**A:** Art is a real job. You need as much skill and dedication to write a novel as you do to rebuild an engine or to assemble computer components. And the results come with a price-tag: just like your labor does. The only difference is that I get whiteout instead of engine grease on my fuckin' fingers.

Writing is work even when it's easy. Because I enjoy making art, I do it for a living. Art isn't just contributing to society. It makes me feel free.

Folks, civilization is a support system for parasitical elites. You live to die for the lifestyle of a master. Your god, your flag, even your art, amounts to a tool to leverage your labor for a king. Even in the United States of America, most of us are just serfs for one consumer-feudalism or another. We wear collars made out of debts, insurance, and prescriptions. We drag chains of legislation that withhold us from our own Bill of Rights. Hell, We the People even elected a King George to power—twice. It's just that our aristocracy wears a tie instead of a crown.

If I am going to live just to enrich somebody else, I want to be that somebody.

### Q: How Do You Feel About Life?

**A:** Troubled. I think humans are still relatively primitive creatures, ensnared by thoughtless laws of physics.

With no god or angels to look over us, we need to do a hell of a lot better job looking out for each other. That's another reason why I write: to provide assessments and solutions. I believe humans may evolve out of our primate roots entire. I believe we should.

Humans have a lot of potential. We're the only species we know in the universe to build complex tools for manipulating reality at an anticipated, reasoned level. A crow dropping pebbles into water is not the same thing as coming up with  $E=mc^2$ —or building rockets.

No other animal on Earth has yet demonstrated the imagination to escape the bounds of our cradle, the anatomy to accomplish it, and the will to put brains and brawn into motion. Yet humans of all creeds and colors still act like a bunch of dumb fucking monkeys so much of the time. A chimpanzee with a machine gun is a dangerous mix. So is a chimp with a typewriter.

