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*Chasing My Father*

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Burlingham Books

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*Chasing My Father* begins in St. Joseph’s Cemetery in Perry, NY. I grew up in Perry until I moved to Geneseo in the ninth grade, but my parents, brother, and maternal grandmother are all buried at St. Joseph’s. I pay them a visit at least every five years when I’m home for my high school class reunions, and to make retreats at the Abbey of the Genesee in Piffard, NY.

It was 2002 and I was at the cemetery telling Mom and Dad that I’d remarried and was transferring to Nashville from San Antonio to start a new life with my second husband. Mom and Dad didn’t have a happy marriage, and I was determined to succeed where they had failed.

I thought the move in 2003 would give us a new start, but I was wrong. It wasn’t until I was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2006 that my world stopped spinning. I’d been angry with God for more than a year over the death of a friend’s son, and I had nowhere to turn when the possibility of death was my own.

*Chasing My Father* is the memoir of those six years since my cancer diagnosis when I started over again, just like a small child. In 2007, I traveled to South Africa where I met Archbishop Desmond Tutu and learned about love and forgiveness. When I returned to Nashville, I finally found freedom and rest.

It wasn’t a journey that I traveled in a straight line; instead I wrestled with some tough questions:

* Why does God let good people die young?
* Why do some people get cancer?
* How can I earn God’s love?
* How should we act when a Christian sins?
* How does Satan use sex as a weapon to drive us apart instead of unite us?
* Can we repair a relationship after one person has died?
* Do people change after they die?
* When is divorce the right answer?
* Does God come to us and give direction in our lives?
* Do miracles really happen?
* Do people heal when we pray for them?
* Is it possible to find rest in today’s world?

Print and ebook copies available at: <http://www.agathanolen.com/journal/chasing-my-father>