

Meet the Author:  
Vincent Panettiere, *These Thy Gifts*

**Noxwrite Review:** Hello Vincent, it is truly amazing to have this interview with you! When did you first notice your interest in writing?

**Vincent Panettiere:** I wrote my first short story when in high school; after submitting it to one of those grocery checkout counter magazines I received my first rejection slip as well.

**Noxwrite Review:** Many authors have quite different approach to their writing. How would you describe your writing process?

**Vincent Panettiere:** When process is used in connection with writing, I immediately think of luncheon meat, sausage and cheese spread. Writing is not a process it is creative expression. I listen to an internal voice that governs how, when, and for how long I write. I always try to end a session with a thread of story that can be used the next time I write.

**Noxwrite Review:** It's not a secret that artists often seek for inspiration in their surrounding. What inspires you the most?

**Vincent Panettiere:** Burning bushes, fiery tongues, and naked mistresses are not my inspiration; which is to say I have no inspiration for writing. I am either writing or I'm not. The reasons for either depend entirely on me.

**Noxwrite Review:** How do you deal with the infamous writer's block?

**Vincent Panettiere:** Banging my head against the wall will only cause a concussion. I choose to wait it out. I know what I want to do and I know what I need to do. If there is an obstacle in the stream of thought, I know it will become unblocked and flow again. It is this belief I rely on to move forward. Sometimes it helps to put writing aside and do something physical. Doesn't have to be strenuous. Peeling carrots with focus on the rote physical action can cause ideas to appear that remove the block.

**Noxwrite Review:** Tell us more about your book *These Thy Gifts*. How did you come up with the idea for it?

**Vincent Panettiere:** I was angered at the epidemic of child abuse by priests as well as by the indifference of both the Catholic Church and its so-called faithful. What is faithful about ignoring the rape and abuse of children who have been exploited by those they are taught to revere? As a former Catholic, I needed to find a way to explore this abomination. While the book is not specifically about priest abuse, its main thread is the power that the strong wield over the weak. Ostensibly the story is about the life of an activist priest over the span of 50 years.

**Noxwrite Review:** *These Thy Gifts* is an interesting blend of numerous sensitive, psychological and „uncomfortable“ issues we find in society. Which topic in your book did you find the most difficult one to write about?

**Vincent Panettiere:** *These Thy Gifts* is my second novel. I wanted to challenge myself by writing a story that would span 50 years. That challenge alone was difficult. Added to that was all of the unknowns. What did I know about priest abuse, or for that

**matter, the priesthood? How would I portray the sexual relationship between Father Steve and the widow Rosalie? Why does someone want to atone and sacrifice for his transgressions? How does he serve in Vietnam? How does Father Steve defend his abused grandson? This is why it took six years to finish.**

**Noxwrite Review:** Readers always like to know more about future writing plans of the authors. What are you currently working on?

**Vincent Panettiere:** I am writing *The Scopas Factor*. It features Chicago detective Mike Hegan who first appeared in *A Woman To Blame*, my first novel. Somehow he gets to France. Stay tuned.

**Noxwrite Review:** It is said that writers are usually the most passionate readers. Do you have favorite authors?

**Vincent Panettiere:** Gore Vidal, Ivan Doig, Andrea Camilleri. Unfortunately two of the three are no longer with us. I look forward to the latest Inspector Montalbano books by Camilleri .

**Noxwrite Review:** There are many amazing books out there. Which books would you recommend to everyone?

**Vincent Panettiere:** De gustibus non disputandum est. Or There is no disputing taste. Which means I can't recommend any books as each reader must find his/her favorite books by themselves.

Thank you for your time and your answers,

Noxwrite Review