

Tom Hout Chow was a young boy during the civil war and genocide in Cambodia. At the hands of the Khmer Rouge and Pol Pot, unspeakable wicked and evil was perpetrated. And our sovereign and good God was still at work in the midst of it to accomplish His will and good for His children. They meant it for evil, but God meant it for good.

In *Out of Darkness: From Broken Survivor to Vessel of Grace*, the author describes the war, his suffering, and God's grace that was shining all along in the midst of one of the darkest sagas in human history. This book is a first hand, true-life accounting of Tom Hout Chow in Cambodia and how God saved him. The details of the war, of the suffering are not merely summarized, but are written of by a man who experienced and saw them in a way that makes the reader feel like you are there with him. And it's done in a way that is gratuitous or inappropriately graphic...just real. And yet, at the end of the book, your take home message—what will stand out—is not merely the evil that occurred but even more, the wonderful, glorious grace of the all-powerful, sovereign God who saves.

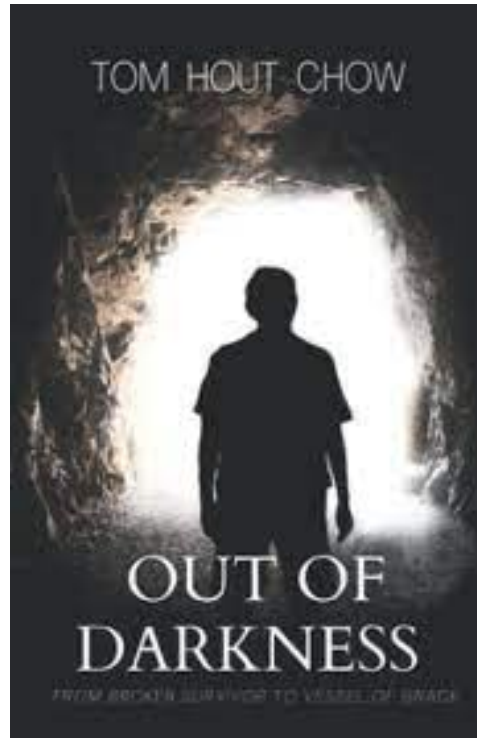
The story of Khmer Rouge and Pol Pot is one that is not known well enough to Americans today. It is one of history's most gruesome, wicked, and tragic manifestations of the murderous heart of unchecked sinful mankind. And the story of the establishment and perseverance of the church in this war is one that needs to be known even more. And here, the story is told in a fast-paced first-person view, as Tom describes the daily difficulties of life in war-torn Cambodia and how God used all of this darkness to shine the light of the gospel into his heart.

We have previously highlighted [Killing Fields](#), [Living Fields: Faith in Cambodia](#) by Don Cormack. That is a wonderful book sharing the story of the church in Cambodia from a missionary who witnessed much of it and knew many of those God used through life and death to establish it. *Out of Darkness* will be especially precious to those who have read that book and know of God's amazing work in Cambodia. This book would be appropriate to read alone or even aloud with mature children. It will certainly spark important thoughts and conversations about suffering and the Christian and God's goodness and providence in an evil, God-hating world.

— Jacob Hantla, **Pastor/Elder**

**Out of Darkness conveys a remarkable story of God's grace. Tom Hout Chow was rescued, not only from one of the darkest episodes of human history, but also from the darkness of his own heart.**

Smedly Yates, **Pastor/Elder**



**Suggested One-Month Reading Plan**

(Average 10 pages per day)

**Week 1: Monday January 2nd - Sunday January 8th**

- Khla Rock, 8 pages
- King Sihounouk's Gifts, 10 pages
- The Bookstore, 8 pages
- My Plan, 6 pages
- Pou's Radio, 8 pages
- Drafted, 9 pages
- Shadow People, 9 pages
- Our First Casualty, 9 pages
- Dancing on the Table, 8 pages

**Week 2: Monday January 9th - Sunday January 15th**

- The Thanking Ceremony, 9 pages
- The Renaming, 8 pages
- Tik and the Cows, 7 pages
- Segregation, 9 pages
- The Chickens or the Eggs, 11 pages
- Sunlight on Feathers, 10 pages
- The Physician, 7 pages
- Back at the Clinic, 9 pages

**Week 3: Monday January 16th - Sunday January 22nd**

- Broken Wings, 7 pages
- The Demon, 9 pages
- Weeping Skies, 8 pages
- Changes, 9 pages
- Life on the Lake, 8 pages
- The Flea Market, 9 pages
- Cambodia Border, 12 pages
- Chonduri, 9 pages

**Week 4: Monday January 23rd - Sunday January 29th**

- Meeting the Market, 13 pages
- No Matter What, 7 pages
- Beautiful Country, 12 pages
- Learning and Juggling, 8 pages
- The Golden State, 10 pages
- Doris, 9 pages