

Contact: Ben Cameron
ben@cameronpm.co.uk
07903 951957
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
AUTHOR AVAILABLE
FOR INTERVIEW

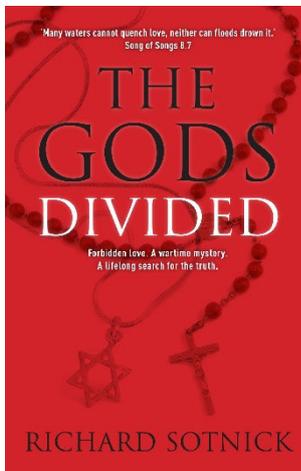


The Gods Divided

***Forbidden love. A wartime mystery.
A lifelong search for the truth.***

By Richard Sotnick

Publishing June 15th



- Shortly before she died, Olive Bell asked author Richard Sotnick to tell her remarkable true story – a story of courage, a love that overcame everything and an obsessive 55-year search for the truth. The amazing end of this story will leave you in tears.
- When Ben Bloom’s Lancashire bomber was downed over enemy territory in 1944 he was wearing his Shield of David under his shirt – despite knowing that if he was ever captured by the Germans he would be immediately shot. After the war the bodies of the bomber crew were found and buried, all except for Ben Bloom.
- Olive Bell, a devout Catholic and Ben Bloom, from a strict Jewish family, met and fell madly in love, despite all the forces of family and religion conspiring to keep them apart. After Ben’s disappearance Olive maintained her devotion to him through extreme poverty as she raised their children.
- Richard Sotnick is the author of two acclaimed previous books. He was a lawyer and well-known politician (including Lord Mayor of Portsmouth) before moving to north London and a writing career.

Wartime love is always difficult – but for Jewish airman Ben and married Catholic Olive, it’s even harder. Especially as – unusually for the times – they have two children. To stay together, they must defy the expectations of society, religion and Ben’s family.

When Ben goes missing in action, everything changes. Olive faces poverty and prejudice as a single mother in 1940s Britain. She must make some tough decisions, not only to support her sons but also to keep Ben’s memory alive. As years pass and the facts seem to grow dimmer, she refuses to give up. But uncovering the truth is the hardest struggle of all. Will Olive ever discover what really happened to Ben after his plane went down?

Based on true events and meticulous research, *The Gods Divided* is a haunting story of loss, hope, courage and the enduring power of love.

About the Author

Richard Sotnick is the author of two previous books, *The Coburg Conspiracy* and *Retribution*. He was senior partner of a family law firm and a well-known politician in Portsmouth. Richard's first book, *The Coburg Conspiracy: Royal Plots and Manoeuvres*, is the story of how Queen Victoria's uncle ensured the Coburgs dominated monarchies throughout Europe. His second book, *Retribution*, is a critique of the judiciary. He is also passionate about classical music and was the founder of the Portsmouth International String Quartet Competition in 1977 which translated to London in 1988. He now lives in north London.

***The Gods Divided* will be available at all good bookshops and online outlets
in paperback and ebook**

Paperback ISBN: 978-0-9557125-5-5 RRP: £8.00

Ebook ISBN: 978-0-9557125-6-2 RRP: £3.00