

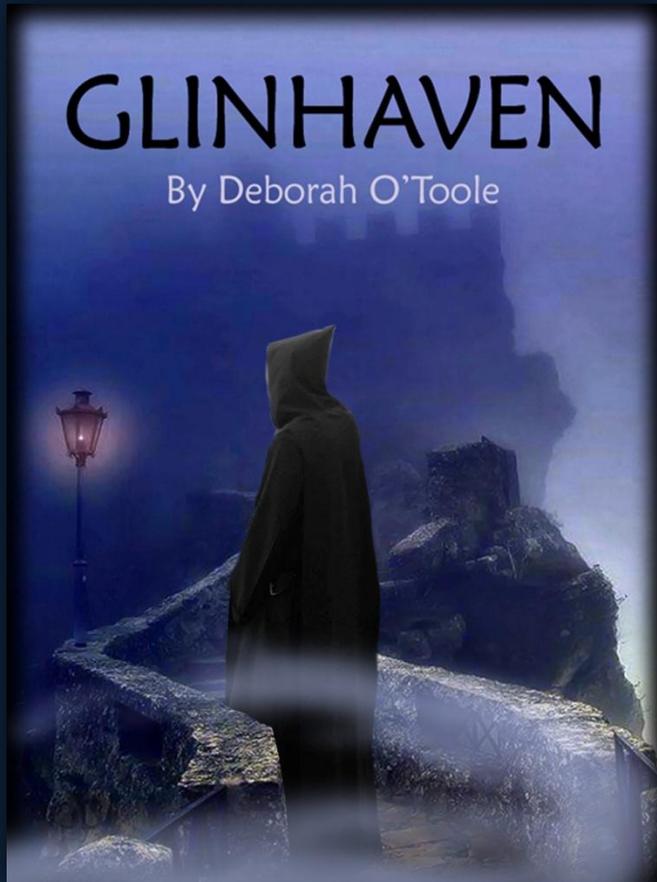
GLINHAVEN: FAQs ABOUT MONKS

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GLINHAVEN

By Deborah O'Toole



The Glinhaven Monastery was established in 1659, shortly after the village of Glinhaven, Massachusetts was founded by Scottish immigrant Andrew Glinhaven. The monastery became home to an order of Benedictine monks, who for the most part remained out of sight and mind as they went about their daily rituals. Their numbers usually hover around thirty, along with abbots who served long terms over the monastery's four centuries of celebrated history.

But as returning Glinhaven resident Piper Hunt soon discovers, there are also dark secrets hidden at the forbidding Glinhaven Monastery, which may unlock mysteries from her past.

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Glinhaven Monastery is home to some thirty-two monks, who belong to the Benedictine order. They are also known as *cenobites* (those who belong to a monastery and serve under an abbot). In addition, two of the resident monks (Brother William Kerwin and Brother Jonathan Ridpath) are "lay brothers." They have jobs outside the religious community, solely to provide an extra source of income for the monastery.

While Brother Albert Michaels is officially the Sub-Prior and Precentor (*third in charge and responsible for writing, respectively*) at Glinhaven Monastery, he is also its unofficial public liaison. In addition, he also assists with record-keeping and helps tend to resident patients within its walls. His fellow monks include:

MONKS AT THE GLINHAVEN MONASTERY

Abbot Garrett Magee (<i>leader</i>)	Brother Michael Abercrombie (<i>legal</i>)
Brother Sean Ardiss (<i>assistant to Sub-Prior</i>)	Brother Eugene Baird (<i>Prior; abbot assistant</i>)
Brother Sebastian Collier (<i>cellarer; chief baker</i>)	Brother Samuel Dunn (<i>gardens & kitchen</i>)
Brother David Dupree (<i>resident doctor</i>)	Brother Eliot Emslie (<i>Chamberlain</i>)
Brother Gerard Glackin (<i>patient records</i>)	Brother Ian Gladstone (<i>nurse</i>)
Brother Kieran Kennedy (<i>choir</i>)	Brother Fallon Gimmins (<i>laundry</i>)
Brother Benjamin Hewson (<i>Cantor</i>)	Brother William Kerwin (<i>lay brother</i>)
Brother Russell Kinder (<i>library</i>)	Brother Peter Kirkbride (<i>Hosteller</i>)
Brother Kodiak (Kody) Ledgerwood (<i>Circuitor</i>)	Brother Leonard Leiper (<i>maintenance</i>)
Brother Brian MacBee (<i>maintenance</i>)	Brother John MacGow (<i>gardens</i>)
Brother James "Jemie" MacLaird (<i>Kitchener</i>)	Brother Albert Michaels (<i>Sub-Prior & precentor</i>)
Brother Thomas Monteith (<i>patients</i>)	Brother Robert (Robin) Mutch (<i>garden</i>)
Brother Isaiah Quilliam (<i>chapel</i>)	Brother Baron Reid (<i>brewer</i>)
Brother Lee Renfrew (<i>technical & web</i>)	Brother Jonathan Ridpath (<i>lay brother</i>)
Brother Kenneth Webster (<i>kitchen</i>)	Brother Jason Wedderburn (<i>assistant to Prior</i>)
Brother Dennis Yarrow (<i>resident dentist</i>)	Brother William Yeats (<i>library</i>)



PAST ABBOTS

Abbot Gerard Abernathy (<i>from 1932-1979</i>)	Abbot Imrie Kelty (<i>from 1946-1979</i>)
Abbot Donal Duguid (<i>from 1903-1946</i>)	Abbot Roland Dorward (<i>from 1852-1903</i>)
Abbot Peter Cross (<i>from 1799-1852</i>)	Abbot Millhouse Severin (<i>from 1729-1799</i>)
Abbot Aibne Moncrieff (<i>from 1692-1729</i>)	Abbot Tomas Neathery (<i>from 1659-1692</i>)

DID YOU KNOW?

Facts about monks & monasteries.

- ❖ The head of a monastery is usually known as an **Abbot** (the female equivalent being an *Abbess*). An Abbot typically serves for a term of eight years and can also be re-elected. He is chosen via secret ballot whereby monks vote for the person they think is best suited to lead the monastery.
- ❖ The term "Monastery" is defined as a building or complex of buildings consisting of living quarters and workplaces of monastic monks or nuns, whether they are part of a community or living alone as hermits. The monastery usually includes a place reserved for prayer which may be a chapel, church or temple, often serving as an oratory as well. A monastery may also be an abbey (*under rule of an abbot*) or a priory (*under rule of a prior*), or a hermitage (*dwelling of a hermit*). Monasteries can be communities of men (*monks*) or women (*nuns*).
- ❖ Roman Catholic monastic orders include Canons Regular (*Black Canons*), Benedictine ("*Black Monks*" founded by *St. Benedict*), Cistercian (*White Monks*), Bridgettine (nuns and monks), Order of Saint Paul the First Hermit, Carthusian hermits, Gilbertines, Passionists, Poor Clares, Carmelite nuns, Premonstratensian canons (*White Canons*), Tironensian (*Grey Monks*) and Valliscaulian monks.
- ❖ There are four "types" of monks, including **cenobites** (*those who belong to a monastery under the rule of an abbot*); **anchorites** or **hermits** (*those who have lived in a monastery for a long time and are beyond the first fervor of monastic life*); **sarabaites** (*also known as remoboths, these monks live in their own homes, or dwell near cities, and they do not acknowledge any monastic superior or obey definite rule*); and **gyrovagues** (*those who spend their entire religious life drifting with no permanent residence or leadership, often staying in different monasteries for a few days at a time, relying on the charity and hospitality of others*).
- ❖ Most monastic orders use the term "monastery" or "priory," while the term "convent" is used by friars from the Latin *conventus* (Italian: *convent*; French: *couvent*), which means "gathering place." Franciscans rarely use the term "monastery," preferring to call their house a "friary."
- ❖ In order to become a monk, a man must be single, Catholic and between the ages of 20-50.
- ❖ The "monastic vow" is a promise freely made by an individual to give his or her life to God by living the monastic life.
- ❖ Benedictines take solemn vows of celibacy, obedience, poverty, stability and fidelity to the monastic way of life.
- ❖ Those desiring to join a monastery must first become a "postulant." Postulancy is a trial period where the individual stays in the monastery for three to six months, living and working alongside the resident monks to gauge whether monastic life is for him. If so, he becomes a Novice and is "clothed" with a habit. The Novitiate may last



anywhere from one to two years; once complete, the Novice is invited to make his vows for three years or more. If all goes well, he then makes life-long vows. Some monks go on to be ordained as Catholic Priests as well.

- ❖ The monastic day is structured with six church services, which monks must attend. The first is *Matins* at dawn, followed by *Lauds*. After morning work, there is a short time for *Midday* prayer. *Mass* is in late afternoon, followed by *Vespers* in the evening and lastly *Compline* at night.
- ❖ A monk's day is well balanced between times of prayer, monastic labor and rest.
- ❖ Various positions of responsibly within a monastery can include the *Abbot* (leader), *Almoner* (manages alms for the poor), *Cantor* (leads the choir), *Cellarer* (in charge of baking and brewing), *Chamberlain* (tends to day-to-day essentials, such as laundry and cleaning); *Circuitor* (in charge of discipline), *Hosteller* (looks after visitors, also known as guest-master); *Infirmarian* (in charge of the infirmary), *Kitchener* (in charge of the kitchen; answers to the cellarer); *Lay Brother* (monk who has an outside job in support of the monastery), *Lector* (reads lessons in the chapel or church), *Librarian* (manages the books in a monastery), *Novice-Master* (senior monk who supervises novices), *Precentor* (takes care of writing in the monastery), *Prior* (second in charge; Abbot's assistant), *Sacrist* (keeps tabs on the monastery's treasures, such as religious relics), *Sub-Prior* (third in charge, behind the Abbot and Prior), and the *Treasurer* (supervises accounts, along with jewels, ornaments and vestments).
- ❖ Buddhist monks are known as *Bhikkhu* or *Bhikṣu*, while female equivalents are *Bhikkhuni*. Buddhist monks are focused on spiritual practice, meditation and simplicity, and the desire to attain Nirvana.
- ❖ Some of the more well-known monasteries include Alcobaca (Portugal), Belmont Abbey (North Carolina), Buckfast Abbey (England), Glenstal Abbey (Ireland), Gradac (Serbia), Gregorio in Mount Atos, Greece; Madonna del Sasso (Switzerland), Melk Abbey (Austria), Meteora (Greece), Monte Cassino Abbey (Italy), Montserrat (Spain), Ngaphechaung (Burma), Ostrog (Montenegro), Popa Taungkalat (Burma), Rila (Bulgaria), St. Catherine's (Mount Sinai), St. Michael's (Ukraine), San Lorenzo de El Escorial (Spain), Sumela (Greece), Taktshang (*Tiger's Nest*) in Bhutan; Tengboche (Nepal), Troitse-Sergieva Lavra (Russia), Yumbulagang (Tibet), among hundreds of others.



RESOURCES & CREDITS:

- ❖ Mellifont Abbey (*Collon, County Louth, Ireland*)
- ❖ Monastery of Christ in the Desert (*types of monks*)
- ❖ Monastery of the Holy Cross, Chicago (*daily life*)
- ❖ Monks of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary of Mt. Carmel (*Wyoming*)
- ❖ Pluscarden Abbey (*Black Burn Glen, Elgin, Moray, Scotland*)
- ❖ Portsmouth Abbey (*Portsmouth, Rhode Island*)
- ❖ St. Mary's Monastery (*Petersham, Massachusetts*)
- ❖ St. Meinrad Archabbey (*St. Meinrad, Indiana*)
- ❖ Strolen's Citadel (*Monastic religious order ranks and titles*)
- ❖ Subiaco Abbey (*Subiaco, Arkansas*)
- ❖ The Path of Life (*blog from St. Meinrad Archabbey, Indiana*)
- ❖ Wikipedia (*monks & monasteries*)
- ❖ Worth Abbey (*Turners Hill, West Sussex, England*)

"Glinhaven" by Deborah O'Toole:

https://deborahotoole.com/books_glin.htm



"Glinhaven" by Deborah O'Toole is a traditional gothic fiction novel similar in style to classic 1970s paperbacks written by Dorothy Daniels, Marilyn Harris, Victoria Holt, Marilyn Ross and Phyllis Whitney.