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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# NOVELIST TACKLES MODERN DAY SLAVERY AND SEX TRAFFICKING IN STUNNING DEBUT

“We’re taught in history class that slavery ended with the Civil War,” says author Corban Addison, “when in reality there are more slaves alive in the world today than ever before.” In fact, today there are 27 million slaves in the world. 2 million children are exploited in the global sex trade. Trafficking in persons touches every nation on the globe and reaps \$32 billion in profits worldwide each year.

A novel with a literary soul and the taut pacing of a thriller, ***A Walk Across the Sun*** (SilverOak / January 2012 / \$24.95) delves into the underworld of human trafficking. Through his compelling fiction, Addison exposes the horror faced by millions of women and girls and educates the reader about an important human rights issue.

When a tsunami rages through their coastal town, teenaged sisters Ahalya and Sita are left orphaned and homeless. Searching for protection in a devastated landscape, they are abducted by human traffickers and thrust into a hidden world of sexual violence and illicit commerce, where the most valuable prize is the innocence of a child.

Halfway across the world, Washington, D.C., attorney Thomas Clarke makes the fateful decision to pursue a pro bono sabbatical in India. Learning of the plight of Ahalya and Sita, Clarke makes it his personal mission to rescue them, setting the stage for a heart-stopping showdown with an international network of ruthless criminals.

Spanning three continents, ***A Walk Across the Sun*** is an unforgettable tale of love’s transformative power, even in the face of unimaginable obstacles.

### **About the Author**

**Corban Addison** holds degrees in law and engineering from the University of Virginia and California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. After completing a federal clerkship, Addison began his career specializing in corporate law and litigation. He has an abiding interest in international human rights, and is a supporter of numerous causes, including the abolition of modern slavery.

In researching ***A Walk Across the Sun***, Addison traveled to India and spent a month with a team of investigators, attorneys and social workers from the International Justice Mission. During his visit, he went undercover into the brothels of Mumbai and met trafficking victims face to face. In addition, he spent time with activists in Paris and with a senior official from the U.S. Department of Justice.

Addison lives with his wife and two children in Virginia. This is his first novel.

Please visit [CorbanAddison.com](http://CorbanAddison.com), [facebook.com/CorbanAddison](https://facebook.com/CorbanAddison), and [@CorbanAddison](https://twitter.com/CorbanAddison).

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### **Praise for *A Walk Across the Sun***

"Addison has written a novel that is beautiful in its story and also important in its message. *A Walk Across the Sun* deserves a wide audience."—*John Grisham*

"[A] dazzling transcontinental story about the power of conviction, the bonds of family, and the tenacity of love."—*Publishers Weekly*

"This chilling, suspenseful, and powerful debut weaves fictional characters into the reality of contemporary slavery. ... The story is compelling, but the message is greater and will leave an impact on everyone who picks up the book."—*Library Journal*

### **Suggested Interview Questions**

1. Where did you get the idea for *A Walk Across the Sun*? Why did you choose to write about human trafficking?
2. Much of the novel is set in India. How did you go about learning about the land and its culture?
3. You traveled to India to conduct research for the novel. What were your impressions of the country?
4. While in India, you visited brothels undercover. How would you describe that experience?
5. In researching modern day slavery, were you surprised by what you learned? Is human trafficking a "third-world" problem?
6. Why did you choose to tackle this issue through fiction instead of writing a journalistic or true-life account?
7. Were the central characters—teenaged sisters Ahalya and Sita—based on anyone? How did you get into their minds?
8. What do you hope the reader will take away from *A Walk Across the Sun*?

### **A Walk Across the Sun**

By Corban Addison

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