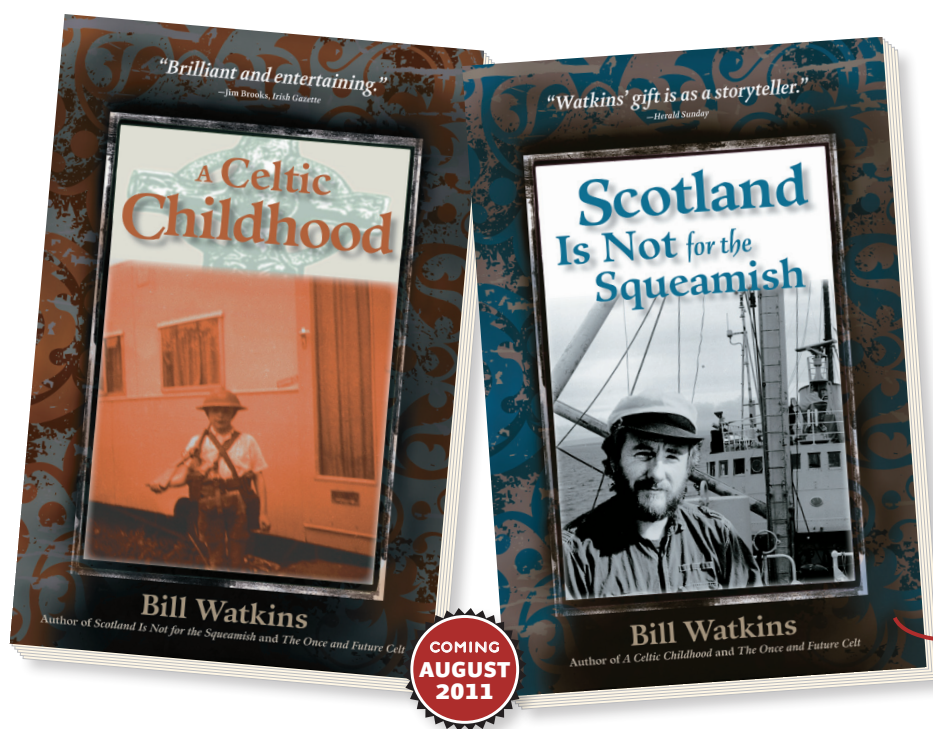


## Announcing the re-release of the ever-mischievous and cultural Bill Watkins' first two books



**PUB. DATE** AUGUST 9, 2011  
**TITLE** A CELTIC CHILDHOOD  
**AUTHOR** BILL WATKINS  
**ISBN** 978-0-9765201-8-4 (TR)  
978-0-9824584-6-4 (E)  
**SPECS** \$14.95, TRADE  
PAPERBACK, 6 X 9"  
312 PAGES

**PUB. DATE** AUGUST 9, 2011  
**TITLE** SCOTLAND IS NOT FOR  
THE SQUEAMISH  
**AUTHOR** BILL WATKINS  
**ISBN** 978-0-9765201-7-7 (TR)  
978-0-9824584-5-7 (E)  
**SPECS** \$14.95, TRADE  
PAPERBACK, 6 X 9"  
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COMPLETE WITH A NEVER-BEFORE-READ MISSING CHAPTER

MINNEAPOLIS (JUNE 2011) — The time for re-release is here. On August 9, 2011, Bill Watkins' first two books will once again be available to the public [*A Celtic Childhood* ISBN 978-0-9765201-8-4; *Scotland Is Not for the Squeamish* ISBN 978-0-9765201-7-7; Reprinted Editions, Scarletta Press].

The two books have been reformatted to fit the design of Bill's third book, *The Once and Future Celt*, previously published by Scarletta Press in May 2008. The trilogy now has the look of a complete set with a single publisher. Scarletta Press is keenly pushing an electronic media campaign to start selling the e-book versions. In an evermore-digitized world, those at Scarletta understand the need for electronic books. The press is now utilizing the Perseus Constellation services through their distributor so as to offer many of their books on the Apple iPad, Amazon Kindle, Barnes & Noble Nook, eBrary, OverDrive,

Sony Reader, Google Books and many other readers. It's expected that these two books will lead the electronic sales for the press. The two titles will also be available in print.

Bill Watkins has been a cultural icon of Minneapolis for many years. His spirited nature only makes him that much more endearing to the people he meets everyday. This characteristic is easily portrayed in all three of Bill's books, which have the feel of a true storyteller. His books are "stuffed full of mischief and yearning, and all manner of whimsical absurdity that bedevils the soul of the dispossessed Celt." — Erin Hart, author of *Haunted Ground*, *Lake of Sorrows*, and *False Mermaid*.

*A Celtic Childhood* vividly portrays his eccentric and richly colloquial Celtic family; his vibrant Irish mam whose "hand is on the tiller" as the head of the

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household; his principled but stout-loving Welsh dad, who dances a jig to escape from the fairies; and his Grandda, who has “a generous supply of Celtic songs and tall stories for all social occasions.” The fleadh nights with his family bring forth a rich understanding of young Bill’s place in Celtic history.

Continuing from where *A Celtic Childhood* leaves off, *Scotland is Not for the Squeamish* reflects on the events that transpired through Bill’s early twenties and shaped him as a man. Rich and colorful, Bill Watkins deftly mingles Celtic poetry, history, and song with true and tall tales of his high-seas adventures and explorations of the Scottish highlands. Tackling his rugged surroundings with humor and smarts, Watkins recounts the magic of his younger years of soul-searching exploration in animated detail, giving *Scotland is Not for the Squeamish* the rare quality of equaling its predecessor.

Both books are currently available for pre-order. The trilogy’s third book, *The Once and Future Celt*, is available for sale at your nearest retailer or online. To learn more about Bill Watkins, please visit [www.keltcom.com](http://www.keltcom.com) or [www.merlinsrest.com](http://www.merlinsrest.com).

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



BILL WATKINS was born in Birmingham, England, to a Welsh/Irish family in 1950. His bilingual parents were notable traditional singers. Having learned to play the tin whistle, fiddle, guitar, banjo and mandolin at an early age, Bill is also an accomplished singer/songwriter whose most famous ditty, “The Errant Apprentice,” has been recorded worldwide. Now living in Minneapolis, he serves as the cultural ambassador at Merlins Rest Pub. Bill’s company, Keltcom LLC, designs and builds Irish and British Isles pubs, repairs vintage radio equipment and makes kilts. More information is available online at [www.scarlettapress.com](http://www.scarlettapress.com) or [www.keltcom.com](http://www.keltcom.com).

**“Watkins’ gift is as a storyteller.”**

—HERALD SUNDAY

**“Deserves to be read for its own brilliance ... laugh-out-loud funny ... Watkins’ tales make for pure reading pleasure.”**

—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY, STARRED REVIEW

**“Watkins’ work stands out because of the quality of the writing and the underlying humor behind the facts.”**

—IRISH VOICE

**“Will appeal to all people who enjoy music and myths and a wee bit of mischief.”**

—SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS-NEWS

**“A memoir that will remind some of Angela’s Ashes—except this one is laugh-out-loud funny.”**

—ST. PAUL PIONEER PRESS, PRAISE FOR A CELTIC CHILDHOOD

**“Sailors, Caledonophiles, traditional musicians and those who appreciate ripping good yarns will all appreciate this book.”**

—SHERRY LADIG, MINNEAPOLIS BOOK REVIEWER, PRAISE FOR SCOTLAND IS NOT FOR THE SQUEAMISH

BILL IS A LIVELY CHARACTER, AND LOVES CULTURAL EVENTS. HE PLANS TO DO A READING SERIES IN EARLY AUGUST 2011 IN THE TWIN CITIES AREA. PLEASE STAY TUNED FOR MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS OF BILL’S EVENTS.

TO HAVE HIM AS A GUEST AT YOUR BOOK CLUB, ON YOUR RADIO SHOW, IN YOUR PAPER, OR AT ANY OTHER EVENT, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCARLETTA PRESS PUBLICIST, DESIREE BUSSIÈRE, AT [DESIREE@SCARLETTAPRESS.COM](mailto:DESIREE@SCARLETTAPRESS.COM) OR AT 612.455.0252.

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CONTACT INFORMATION  
DESIREE BUSSIÈRE, PUBLICITY DIRECTOR  
612.455.0252  
[DESIREE@SCARLETTAPRESS.COM](mailto:DESIREE@SCARLETTAPRESS.COM)

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