

"SALVATION" - REMODELING GUIDELINES INCLUDED!

**How the Unpredictable Demons of
Remodeling and Construction Taught
Expensive, Hellish Lessons to a Trusting Guy**



REMODELING

CHARLES G. IRION

Table of Contents

CHAPTER 1: MY DEAL WITH THE DEVIL.....	1
The Devil himself, disguised as a contractor, lures me to sell my soul when I think I am buying services.	
CHAPTER 2: THE TEMPTING HOUSE.....	10
An emotional, shimmering vision of the palace of my dreams hides the entrance to remodeling hell. Common sense is missing in action.	
CHAPTER 3: MAT, PIGGIE AND ZOEY	16
The unlikely trio of professionals who will take us to hell and back. One of them is a stone statue with mysterious powers.	
CHAPTER 4: KNOW YOURSELF TO SURVIVE	
THE TRIAL	29
You may die in remodeling hell if you have not learned resiliency from your life experiences. I was lucky. I survived.	
CHAPTER 5: COLLIDING WORLDS OF LIGHT	
AND DARKNESS	36
A helpful angel named Zoey appears in the depths of the conflict in Hades and saves the day.	
CHAPTER 6: EMAILS TO AND FROM HELL.....	54
The Devil begins to slip up and reveal his true identity in emails. It isn't pretty.	

Table of Contents

CHAPTER 7: FOOD AND GHOSTS71

While I unwittingly become a food bank for construction workers, a ghost haunts the premises. Or does he?

CHAPTER 8: DEMONIC SCORPIONS85

Ugly, stinging scorpions teach me to love my neighbors and understand that their problems are mine, and that my problems affect them. Not that the scorpions care.

CHAPTER 9: FATEFUL DECISIONS94

While the remodeling project screams for hundreds of decisions, workers scream for money. I learn how to decide without screaming.

CHAPTER 10: FAUX HELL VS. REAL HEAVEN..... 102

While the “Forces of Faux” try to divert the intrepid remodeler to cut corners on everything from landscaping to the home entertainment center, Heaven is found in claiming the Real.

CHAPTER 11: DON’T TRUST THE TRUSSES 111

Trusses hold up the roof, but mine practically collapse on my project when an inspector notices serious problems. No one is responsible, naturally!

CHAPTER 12: PEPE’S SHADOW WORLD..... 122

A short guy with a hairy mole knows more about electricity than he does about showing up, paying his workers, and getting organized. Is Pepe worth the juice, or is he a blown fuse?

CHAPTER 13: FIRE AND BRIMSTONE..... 130

While Mr. Evil lies about money, a humble workman eventually completes the roof, but not before the Thunder and Rain God drenches part of my beloved renovations. Meanwhile, fireplace disputes turn up the heat.

CHAPTER 14: THE END TIMES 141

When the boss is away, *everybody* plays! The final battle of Armageddon draws nearer when the Devil froths at the mouth.

CHAPTER 15: SETTLING INTO OUR NEW DOMINION..... 150

As if it isn't bad enough to move into the chaos of an uncompleted home, we discover that some workers have made it *their* home too.

CHAPTER 16: DEMON PLUMBERS AND ANGELIC CARPENTERS..... 167

A smelly, sweaty plumber is better at spitting tobacco juice than running pipes. While the Devil demands more money and finally gets the boot, a family of carpenters earns my respect.

CHAPTER 17: TAKING CHARGE—TURNING DARKNESS INTO LIGHT 180

Taking charge brings both freedom and enormous responsibility. Everything from cabinets and electronic installations to draperies and alarm systems demand decisions. But clear leadership helps the crew pull together.

Table of Contents

CHAPTER 18: LESSONS FROM REMODELING HELL 195

Practical lessons learned by earning a Ph.D. in Remodeling from the School of Hard Knocks. Follow them to avoid paying the tuition that I paid for 18 months of hell.

CHAPTER 19: SALVATION.....201

A succinct, practical, how-to primer on home remodeling and construction. A must-read guide for anyone doing a remodeling project or building a new home.



Charles G. Irion is the author and founder of Irion Books www.irionbooks.com which includes *Remodeling Hell*, *Autograph Hell*, *Car Dealer Hell* and soon to be released *Divorce Hell*. In addition, Charles is co-authoring eight novels that quench his thirst to write murder mysteries, coupled with his experiences of climbing Mount Everest. The first three Summit Murders series novels include *Murder on Everest*, *Abandoned on Everest* and *Murder on Elbrus*. As an explorer, Irion has visited more than 60 countries and is an accomplished SCUBA diver. He participated in a 1987 expedition to Mount Everest from the China side. Irion holds a Masters of Business Administration in International Marketing and Finance from The American Graduate School of International Management, and Bachelor of Arts degrees in both Biology and Economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara. A successful investor and businessman, Irion is founder of U. S. Park Investments, a company that owns and brokers manufactured home and RV communities. In addition, Charles has just released *Roadkill Cooking for Campers - The Best Dang Wild Game Cookbook in the World*. He is also the founder of a children's dictionary charity, a founding member of Phoenix Social Venture Partners, and past president of a local Lions Club.