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EDITORS: For review copies or interview requests, contact:

Promotional Services Department

Tel: 888-728-8467

Fax: 812-961-3133

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## **Second Pass**

*Author Takes Readers to Utopian Society in Space for New Novel about a Father and Son*

**SAN FRANCISCO** – It was supposed to be a grand new adventure in space; an advancement in technology for the greater good of humanity. However, this new utopia may not be all that it seems. Ken Ludden introduces an exciting new science fiction series with the first novel, *Second Pass: A SIL Novel* (now available through AuthorHouse).

Blending scientific and philosophical concepts, the novel begins in 2019 as NASA and their public hero, demented mastermind Commander George McVee Sr., develop SIL, Space Industries Laboratory, to replace the obsolete International Space Station in orbit around Earth. Funded by corporations and the government agency, SIL is to be a leap forward in construction. However, three months after its launch in 2036, McVee Sr. hijacks his utopian dream station with explosions and violent takeover and sends it into an 18-year solar orbit.

Now 36 years after the destructive events and his father's supposed death, George Jr. has discovered the station's coordinates on its first pass by the Earth. SIL has since become a separate nation with shaky ties to Earth. George Jr. does not believe his father died in the explosion that set SIL into orbit as he was told and is determined to meet him again. Meanwhile, McVee Sr. is grappling with his dream. Within the confines of this perfect society, conspiracy and intrigue lurk around every corner. The teenage Silians are now experimenting with a dangerous form of altered consciousness where disasters and miracles become commonplace.

With colorful characters and mind-bending philosophical concepts, *Second Pass* is a science fiction novel that examines the pitfalls and triumphs of a peace-loving utopian society and the politics that would see it crumble.

Ludden has worked as senior editor at the Charles Stark Draper Laboratories in Cambridge, Mass., and as an electronic communications advisor for Al Gore's first presidential campaign. He earned a bachelor's degree in art history from Boston University. A resident of San Francisco, he is a feature writer and entertainment editor for Spectrum Newspapers as well as a senior correspondent for "QTV Newsmagazine" on local Bay area channels. He has been writing the popular syndicated column, "Dear Diva," since 1993. Ludden is a prolific writer with many published credits, but *Second Pass* is his first novel. For more information, visit his Web site at [www.2ndpass.com](http://www.2ndpass.com).

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