

Contact: Michael Breen
Email: MichaelBreenBooks@gmail.com

For Immediate Release

“Ever the Night Road” Wins Gold Medal for Fantasy in 2023 IPPY Awards

May 23, 2023 – The novel “Ever the Night Road” by indie author Michael Breen has won the Gold Medal for Fantasy from the 2023 Independent Publisher Book Awards, known as the “IPPY” Awards.

The IPPY Awards launched in 1996 as the first unaffiliated book awards program open exclusively to independents. It has grown steadily in size and prestige over the years, drawing thousands of entrants from around the globe. Notable past winners include fantasy illustrator Brian Froud and authors Margaret Atwood, Elena Ferrante, Howard Zinn, Dave Eggers, and former U.S. Poet Laureate Juan Felipe Herrera, to name a few.

The expert judging panel of editors, designers, reviewers, booksellers and librarians select winners based on quality of content, originality, design and production with an emphasis on innovation and social relevance. According to the IPPY website, the Awards’ mission is “to reward those who exhibit the courage, innovation, and creativity to bring about change in the world of publishing.”

“Wow, what a thrill. I’ve been absolutely humbled at the positive response from readers, and now this,” Michael said. “It’s an honor to win the IPPY in this year’s book award contest, and hopefully the exposure will help get the word out to more people who might be interested in reading something a bit different in the fantasy genre.”

“Ever the Night Road” is a coming-of-age story featuring seventeen-year-old protagonist Dagny Losh. The teenager’s longing for adventure becomes a high-stakes quest guided by the stars and ancient myth, as she and an array of companions encounter danger from both criminal and supernatural forces. Along the way, Dagny will discover the bonds of true friendship, young love and the depths of her own bravery in a brutal and enchanting world.

Indie Reader literary critic Rob Errera gave the book 4.8 out of 5 stars and said, “Michael Breen packs a lot into his novel. As a fantasy thriller, EVER THE NIGHT ROAD has an Indiana Jones vibe combined with the ‘lawless frontier’ themes of a good Zane Grey western. ...[It] is a fantastic adventure tale filled with believable characters, striking imagery, and enlightening allegory. An excellent read for fans of character-driven, coming-of-age fantasy.”

In addition to the IPPY, the book has received multiple awards and accolades, including:

- Bronze Medal in the U.K.-based 2022 Wishing Shelf Book Awards
- Finalist for the 2022 Foreword Indies Book of the Year (winners to be announced in June 2023)

- Indies Today 2022 Finalist Award
- International Review of Books Gold Badge of Achievement

“Ever the Night Road” is available in print and e-book through Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

Michael is currently writing the highly anticipated sequel, “Jud,” which is expected to be released in late 2023.

To explore The World and subscribe to receive e-newsletter updates, visit www.MichaelBreenBooks.com.

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For more 2023 IPPY Awards info: <https://ippyawards.com/81/medalists> (Fantasy is Category 15)

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