

## A Closer Look at the Writers Notes Book Award Winners

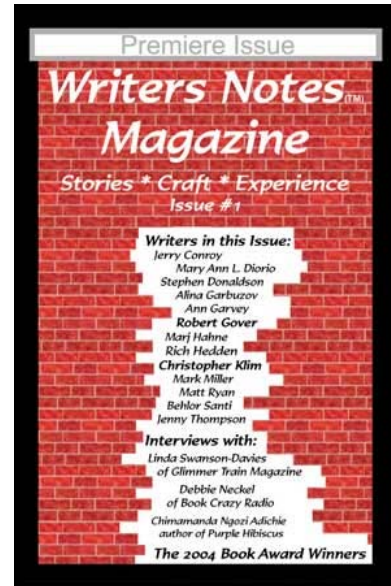
Earlier, *Writers Notes Magazine* announced the winners of the 2004 Writers Notes Book Awards. Award-winning author and senior magazine editor Christopher Klim (*Everything Burns*, *Jesus Lives in Trenton*) takes a moment to explain the winners.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*Writers Notes Magazine* is the brainchild of award-winning author Christopher Klim, widely considered a cult favorite in the U.S. and U.K. He paused while promoting his praised new novel, *Everything Burns*, to discuss the magazine and the winners of the 2004 Writers Notes Book Awards.

“Writers Notes is a forum for diverse writing and terrific small press books,” Klim explains. “The industry holds a very select view of what’s good. Apparently, readers have broader ideas.”

Here’s what Klim had to say about each category winner:



“In the art category, *The Art of the Russian Matryoshka* took us by surprise. It’s not only a beautiful coffee table book but a thumbnail sketch of Russian history in the last 100 years.

“A *Portable Chaos* has everything you want in good literature—poignant writing, drama, and redemption.

“*The Nature of the Beast* delivered a bracing plot from beginning to end. A number of commercial fiction entries had stiff openings. What were the authors thinking?

“In the children’s books category, *Hildegard and the Great Green Shirt Factory* proved that the story needed to be as captivating as the pictures. Children are very discerning readers. They’ll immediately cast aside an unappealing book.

“By all accounts, *The Thirsty Horse of Mongolia* is an unusual book in design and execution, yet a classic story for young adults, including no small number of adult fans too.

“In the culture category, *Best Damned Garage in Town* was the best damned memoir we’ve read in a damned long time.

“*The Gatehouse* joins the current trend to inspire business professionals with a story as opposed to dry recitation. It’s perhaps the best of that particular genre.

“The Slate Roof Bible was the first book to grab our attention and hold it. It’s more than just a handbook. It’s a great read and a thorough reference volume in one.

“*Mystery of Color* took an overplayed concept—selecting colors for decorating—and made it fresh and exciting for the home category.

“*Go For It!* was one of many inspiring titles in the health/self-health category. The delivery won us over in the end.

“The legacy category drew the greatest interest. These were books published two or more years ago. Entries came from all categories, and some wondered how we could judge a children’s book beside a reference volume, but like the other categories, books were quickly eliminated for mediocre writing or sloppy production. Eventually, we had a dozen or so books to compare. *All City*—a book about graffiti art and artists—rose above the others. I’m certain it would’ve placed in the culture category had it been eligible.”

Here are the complete 2004 Writers Notes Book Awards Winners. (In-depth coverage can be found in Writers Notes Magazine and at [www.WritersNotes.com](http://www.WritersNotes.com).):

## ART CATEGORY

Winner:

The Art of the Russian Matryoshka, Rett Ertl & Rick Hibberd, Vernissage Press

1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up:

Spirit & Creator, Nova Hall, ATN Safe Goods Publishing

Notable:

Abecedarium Anomalous, Ruth Keil Posselt & Jason Posselt, RoothBooks Intl.

Romancing the Rain, Stephen & Marlo Kirkpatrick, The Marvelous Works

Temptations for a Juvenile Delinquent, Sky Gilbert, ECW Press

## GENERAL FICTION

Winner:

A Portable Chaos, E.M. Schorb, 1st Books Library

1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up:

The Contortionist's Handbook, Craig Clevenger, MacAdam/Cage

Notable:

Anthropology of An American Girl, Hilary T. Hamann, Vernacular Press

Elvis and the Blue Moon Conspiracy, Mark McGinty, Beaver's Pond Press, Inc.

India Fortunes, Gary Worthington, Time Bridges Publishers

May Not Appear Exactly As Shown, Gordon Leenders, ECW Press

## COMMERCIAL FICTION

Winner:

The Nature of the Beast, Burton Hersh, Tree Farm Press

1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up:

Dear Heart, How Like You This, Wendy J. Dunn, Metropolis Ink

Notables:

Merlin the Sorcerer, William P. Burch, Taylor-Madison Publishing, Inc.

Andros Draws The Line, Bruce Edwards, Lean Press

Addie Fay and Old Yellow Streak, Whitt McDonald, Denlinger Publishing, Ltd

## CHILDREN'S

Winner:

Hildegard and the Great Green Shirt Factory, Ravay Snow, Snowbound Press

1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up:

Sweet Dreams Douglas, Regan Dunnick, The Junior League of Houston, Inc.

Notable:

Let's Make-Believe, P. Taylor Copeland, Grammy Time Books

My Dad, Everyone's Soldier, Tiera Rozman, Beaver's Pond Press, Inc

Tobin Learns to Make Friends, Diane Murrell, Future Horizons, Inc.

## YOUNG ADULT

Winner:

The Thirsty Horse of Mongolia, Anthony Sansom, Thirsty Horse, LLC

1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up:

Iraq, 2003, Nancy Poffenberger & Val Gottesman, Fun Publishing Co.

Notable:

Miranda and Starlight, Janet Muirhead Hill, Raven Publishing of Montana

Monday Redux, Robert Favole, Flywheel Publishing

Countdown to College: 21 'To Do' Lists for High School, Valerie Pierce & Cheryl

Rilly, Front Porch Press

## CULTURE

Winner:

Best Damn Garage in Town, Smokey Yunick, Carbon Press, LLC

1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up:

University of Psychogenic Fugue, Tye R. Farrell & Jeffrey Morrow, Meteorite Press

Notable:

New Leadership into the 21st Century, Yahya ibn Shabazz, Xlibris

The Smoke Week: Sept. 11-21, 2001, Ellis Avery, Gival Press

War Stories, Harold Evans, Bunker Hill Publishing

## BUSINESS

Winner:

The Gatehouse, Craig Elkins, Beaver's Pond Press, Inc

1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up:

Breakthrough, William Mills, Beaver's Pond Press, Inc

Notable:

Hall Career Choice Inventory, L.G. Hall, Scholastic Testing Service

Never Be Boring Again, Doug Stevenson, Cornelia Press

## REFERENCE

Winner:

The Slate Roof Bible, Joseph Jenkins, Jenkins Publishing Co.

1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up:

Restaurant Manager's Handbook, Douglas R. Brown, Atlantic Publishing Group

Notable:

Rugg's Recommendations on the Colleges, Frederick E. Rugg, Rugg's Recommendations, Inc.

The Second Coming of Jesus the Messiah, E. Keith Howick, WindRiver Publishing, Inc.

Venice In Context, Robert Wayne, Independent International

## HOME

Winner:

Mystery of Color, Rosemary Sadez Friedmann, L&M Publications

1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up:

The Floor is Not an Option, Sheila G. McCurdy, Clutter Stop

Notable:

Pants for Real People, Pati Palmer & Marta Alto, Palmer/Pletsch

Cooking Around the Calendar with Kids, Amy Houts, Snaptail Press

## HEALTH/SELF-HELP

Winner:

Go For It! Finding Your Own Frontier, Judith Kleinfeld, Ed. D., Epicenter Press

1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up:

ADHD: A Complete and Authoritative Guide, American Academy of Pediatrics

Notable:

R&R: Rescue and Relief, Gini Maddocks, LMT, Good Natured Publishing

The Mate Map, Steven Sacks, Banner

Zoey and the Zones: A Story for Children & Companion Workbook, Shawn McCormick & Nathan Schmidt, Health Springs

LEGACY (books over 2 years old; all categories)

Winner:

All-City, Paul 107, ECW Press

1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up:

Special Diets for Special Kids, Lisa Lewis, Ph. D., Future Horizons, Inc.

Notable:

A Walk for Sunshine, Jeff Alt, Dreams Shared Publication

Neuro-Cranial Restructuring, Dean Howell, N.D., Howell Canyon Press

Take a Backyard Bird Walk, Jane Kirkland, Stillwater Publishing

The premiere issue of ***Writers Notes Magazine*** may be purchased tax free and with free U.S. shipping at [www.WritersNotes.com](http://www.WritersNotes.com).

**Press Contact:**

Writers Notes & Writers Notes Magazine

[www.WritersNotes.com](http://www.WritersNotes.com)

[editor@hopepubs.com](mailto:editor@hopepubs.com)

(609) 818-1049