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Science Fiction/Fantasy and Thriller Colorado Book Awards Finalists Read

GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO

Science Fiction/Fantasy and Thriller Colorado Book Awards finalists will read in person Friday, June 3, 2022 at 7 p.m. MT at BookBar in Denver. Attendees can pose questions and talk with the finalists, and finalist books will be available for purchase. Register for this free event and view the full finalists list and reading schedule at Colorado Humanities & Center for the Book's website, coloradohumanities.org/programs/colorado-book-awards/

Science Fiction/Fantasy Finalists

Khyven the Unkillable
Todd Fahnestock

A rising champion. A secret rebellion. A deadly crossroads. After forty-nine victories in the bloody Night Ring, Khyven the Unkillable is a celebrity gladiator. If he can survive one more battle, King Vamreth will free him and declare him a knight. As Khyven struggles to complete his mission, he is caught between a growing respect for a rebel queen who will do anything for her people and a ruthless king who will stop at nothing to crush her. Todd Fahnestock is a writer of fantasy for all ages and winner of the New York Public Library's Books for the Teen Age Award. *Threadweavers* and *The Whisper Prince Trilogy* are two of his bestselling epic fantasy series. He is a 2021 Colorado Book Award finalist and winner of the Colorado Authors League Award for Writing Excellence for *Tower of the Four: The Champions Academy*. Todd lives in Englewood.

The Reincarnationist Papers
D. Eric Maikranz

Discovered as three notebooks in an antique store in Rome at the turn of the millennium, *The Reincarnationist Papers* offers a tantalizing glimpse into the Cognomina, a secret society of people who possess total recall of their past lives. D. Eric Maikranz has been a foreign correspondent in Rome and has worked as a tour guide, a radio host, a bouncer, and as a Silicon Valley software executive. *The Reincarnationist Papers*, his first novel, has been adapted into the Paramount Pictures film *Infinite*.

Magic and Misrule

KM Merritt

Vola, the books' main character, might be new to the whole adventuring thing, but she's pretty sure it shouldn't be going this way. No one at her academy wanted an orc graduating as a paladin, so they've sent her to the back end of a swamp, hoping she'll never find a quest good enough to earn her shield. Books have been Merritt's escape for as long as she can remember. She used to hide fantasy novels behind her government textbook in high school, and she wrote most of her first novel during a semester of college algebra. Older and wiser now (but just as nerdy), KM writes fantasy with unexpected heroes and lives in Denver.

Thriller Finalists

My Heart Is a Chainsaw

Stephen Graham Jones

This small-town America murder story offers biting critique of American colonialism, Indigenous displacement, and gentrification, and a heartbreaking portrait of a broken young girl who uses horror movies to cope with the horror of her own life. Stephen Graham Jones is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Only Good Indians*. He has received several awards including an NEA Fellowship, the *Los Angeles Times* Ray Bradbury Award, the Bram Stoker Award, the Shirley Jackson Award, the Texas Institute of Letters Jesse Jones Award for Best Work of Fiction, the Independent Publishers Award for Multicultural Fiction, and the Alex Award from the American Library Association. He is the Ivena Baldwin Professor of English at the University of Colorado Boulder and lives in Longmont.

The Secret Next Door

Rebecca Taylor

Alyson Tinsdale is giving her son the childhood she never had: a stable family, a loving home, and a great school in a safe neighborhood. Bonnie Sloan is the neighborhood matriarch. With her oldest son headed to Yale, and her youngest starting kindergarten, Bonnie is now pursuing her own long-held political aspirations despite private family struggles. As Bonnie and Alyson fight to keep their children safe and their messy personal lives from becoming neighborhood knowledge, it becomes clear that their neighbors might not be who they appear to be. Rebecca Taylor is an award-winning, best-selling author of eight novels. *The Secret Next Door* was selected as one of Apple Books Best Books of November and was a Target bestselling title. Rebecca lives in Thornton.

The Dead Husband

Carter Wilson

One family. One murderer, one victim, and one witness . . . but no one in this house is innocent. Twenty years ago, a boy disappeared, and only Rose and her family know what happened to him. Haunted by guilt, Rose escaped into a new life. Now she appears to have it all: a marriage, a son, and a career. But then her husband is found dead, and foul play is suspected. Carter Wilson is the *USA Today* bestselling author of eight critically acclaimed, standalone psychological thrillers, as well as numerous short stories. He is an International Thriller Writers finalist, a four-time winner of the Colorado Book Award, and his works have been optioned for television and film. Carter lives in Erie.

Finalists will be celebrated and sign books before winners are announced and read briefly Saturday, June 25 at Ellie Caulkins Opera House Studio Loft, 980 14th Street, Denver CO at 4:30 p.m., \$30 includes reception. Register and buy tickets at coloradohumanities.org

2022 Colorado Book Awards Finalists

Anthology

All the Lives We Ever Lived, Volume 2
edited by Manuel Aragon and Roxanne Banks Malia
(Lighthouse Writers Workshop)

Shadow Atlas: Dark Landscapes of the Americas
edited by Carina Bissett, Hillary Dodge, and Joshua Viola and illustrated by Aaron Lovett
(Hex Publishers)

Tell It Slant: An Anthology of Creative Nonfiction by Writers from Colorado's Prisons
edited by Elijah Null, Julie Rada, and Suzie Q. Smith
(University of Denver Prison Arts Initiative – LuxLit Press)

Biography

The Girl Who Dared to Defy: Jane Street and the Rebel Maids of Denver
by Jane Little Botkin
(University of Oklahoma Press)

Alpha: Eddie Gallagher and the War for the Soul of the Navy Seals
by David Philipps
(Penguin Random House)

Borderlands Curanderos: The Worlds of Santa Teresa Urrea and Don Pedrito Jaramillo

by Jennifer Koshatka Seman
(University of Texas Press)

Children's Literature

Read Island
by Nicole Magistro and illustrated by Alice Feagan
(Read Island LLC)

The Beak Book
by Robin Page
(Simon & Schuster)

Hugsby
by Dow Phumiruk
(Penguin Random House)

Creative Nonfiction

The Next Everest: Surviving the Mountain's Deadliest Day and Finding the Resilience to Climb Again
by Jim Davidson
(St. Martin's Press)

Bless the Birds: Living with Love in a Time of Dying
by Susan J. Tweit
(She Writes Press)

Desert Chrome: Water, a Woman, and Wild Horses in the West
by Kathryn Wilder
(Torrey House Press)

General Fiction

The Night of Many Endings
by Melissa Payne
(Lake Union Publishing)

Mixed Company
by Jenny Shank
(Texas Review Press)

The Boundaries of Their Dwelling

by Blake Sanz
(University of Iowa Press)

General Nonfiction

The Entrepreneur's Weekly Nietzsche: A Book for Disruptors
by Dave Jilk and Brad Feld
(Lioncrest Publishing)

Breakthrough: How to Overcome Doubt, Fear, and Resistance to Be Your Ultimate Creative Self
by Todd Mitchell
(Owl Hollow Press)

The Holly: Five Bullets, One Gun, and the Struggle to Save an American Neighborhood
by Julian Rubinstein
(Farrar, Straus, and Giroux)

Historical Fiction

Luther, Wyoming
by Tomas Alamilla and Mario Acevedo
(Five Star Publishing)

Chloe's Mistigri
by Thomas L. Hall
(NoCo Publishing)

The Cape Doctor
by E.J. Levy
(Little, Brown and Company)

History

Queen City: A Brief History and Illustrated Architecture New and Old of Denver, Colorado
by Karl Christian Krumpholz
(Tinto Press)

Black Smoke: African Americans and the United States of Barbecue
by Adrian Miller
(The University of North Carolina Press)

Going to Trinidad: A Doctor, a Colorado Town, and Stories from an Unlikely Gender Crossroads
by Martin J. Smith
(Bower House)

Juvenile Literature

Noah McNichol and the Backstage Ghost
by Martha Freeman
(Simon & Schuster)

Alone
by Megan E. Freeman
(Simon & Schuster)

Bats, Bandits, and Buggies: A Ruby and Maude Adventure
by Nancy Oswald
(Burro Books)

Literary Fiction

Site Fidelity: Stories
by Claire Boyles
(W. W. Norton & Company)

What If We Were Somewhere Else
by Wendy J. Fox
(Santa Fe Writers Project)

Jeremy Bannister, or The Ups and Downs of an Aspiring Novelist
by Gary Reilly (posthumously by Mark Stevens)
(Running Meter Press)

Mystery

Red Rabbit on the Run
by Jodi Bowersox
(JB Artistry)

Canyonlands Carnage: A National Park Mystery
by Scott Graham
(Torrey House Press)

Break Bone Fever: A Finnerty and Liccione Mystery
by Wanda Venters and Mary Rae
(Written Dreams Publishing)

Poetry

Barefoot and Running
by Morgan Liphart
(Morgan Liphart)

We the Jury
by Wayne Miller
(Milkweed Editions)

Convergences
by Ruth Obee
(Ruth Obee)

White Lung
by Kimberly O'Connor
(Saturnalia Books)

Science Fiction/Fantasy

Khyven the Unkillable
by Todd Fahnestock
(New Mythology Press)

The Reincarnationist Papers
by D. Eric Maikranz
(Blackstone Publishing)

Magic and Misrule
by KM Merritt
(Blue Fyre Press)

Thriller

My Heart is a Chainsaw
by Stephen Graham Jones
(Simon & Schuster)

The Secret Next Door: A Novel

by Rebecca Taylor
(Sourcebooks)

The Dead Husband: A Novel
by Carter Wilson
(Sourcebooks)

Young Adult Literature

To Break a Covenant
by Alison Ames
(Page Street Publishing)

Rise of the Red Hand
by Olivia Chadha
(Erewhon Books)

Girl on the Ferris Wheel
by Julie Halpern and Len Vlahos
(Macmillan Publishing)

Colorado Humanities & Center for the Book joins with hundreds of program partners statewide to design and provide education resources and programs in history, reading, and writing, as well as offering opportunities for conversations about challenging questions.

Learn more at coloradohumanities.org, or call 303.894.7951.

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