



For Immediate Publication

Contact: Thom Chambliss, Executive Director
Phone: 541-683-4363 • Fax: 541-683-3910 • Email: info@pnba.org

The Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association is proud to announce the winners of its 2007 Book Awards, which were selected by a committee of independent booksellers from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Alaska. The committee chose the following six authors from nearly 300 nominees published in 2006.

William Stafford Memorial Poetry Award

David Biespiel, Editor of Portland, Oregon

Long Journey: Contemporary Northwest Poets

Oregon State University Press

pb: 9780870710988

Ivan Doig of Seattle, Washington

The Whistling Season

Harcourt, Inc.

hc: 9780151012374 pb: 9780156031646

David James Duncan of Lolo, Montana

God Laughs & Plays: Churchless Sermons in Response to the Preachments of the Fundamentalist Right

Triad Books/Triad Institute, Inc.

hc: 9780977717002 pb: 9780977717019

Children's Book Award

Iain Lawrence of Gabriola Island, British Columbia

Gemini Summer

Delacorte Press Books for Young Readers

hc: 9780385730891

Greg Mortenson of Bozeman, Montana **and David Oliver Relin** of Portland, Oregon

Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace... One School at a Time

Viking

hc: 9780670034826 pb: 9780143038252

Jess Walter of Spokane, Washington

The Zero

ReganBooks (HarperCollins)

hc: 9780060898656

See page two for author publicity information and bookseller comments about these books. Each year since 1965, the Pacific Northwest Book Awards have celebrated exceptional books written by Northwest authors. This year, the PNBA Book Awards will be presented Friday, March 16 at the PNBA Spring Tradeshow at the Portland, OR Airport Holiday Inn. Media interested in attending the PNBA Awards Banquet should contact the PNBA office.

The PNBA is a non-profit trade association representing the interests of literacy, free speech and independent bookselling in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. The Pacific Northwest Independent Bestseller List, a weekly list of the bestselling books in the independent bookstores of our five-state region, is free to any publication. For information about publishing the list, contact PNBA. See this week's list at www.pnba.org.

2007 PNBA Book Award Winners
Publicity Information and Bookseller Comments

Long Journey: Contemporary Northwest Poets Edited by David Biespiel

Contact Tom Booth, Oregon State University Press

T: 503-796-0547 E: tsbooth@comcast.net

David Biespiel begins this collection saying, "There is no such thing as regional poetry." No poet awakes to write a specifically "Northwest" poem. Not every poet here is a native, nor are all of the poems about this fine region, yet a familiar sense of place emerges to define them all as Northwestern. —PNBA Awards Committee

The Whistling Season by Ivan Doig

Contact Michelle Blankenship, Publicity Manager, Harcourt, Inc.

T: 212-592-1023 E: mblankenship@harcourt.com

Doig once again masterfully invokes the spirit of early 20th century Montana, revisiting the simplicity that was and mourning the voids left by the inevitable march of time. He reminds us not only to always stop and smell the roses, but to occasionally wish upon a shooting star. —PNBA Awards Committee

God Laughs & Plays by David James Duncan

Contact: Mr. Laurie Lane-Zucker, President & CEO, Publisher; Triad Books/Triad Institute, Inc.

T: 413-441-6646 E: info@triadinstitute.org

In his wonderfully rich storytelling ways, Duncan explains why the "Christian Right" is wrong in their stranglehold on religion in this country. Humorous and poignant, Duncan hits all the right notes, reminding us that honoring our neighbors and ourselves shouldn't be a political thing. —PNBA Awards Committee

Gemini Summer by Iain Lawrence

Contact Kathy Dunn, Random House Children's Books Publicity

T: 631-283-5923 E: KDunn@randomhouse.com

Many of us experience a singular defining moment in our childhood. For Danny Rivers, it came the summer of 1965, amidst the escalating space race and the U.S. build up in Viet Nam. Heavy with loss and dreams dashed, *Gemini Summer* is ultimately an unforgettable tale of strength and hope. —PNBA Awards Committee

Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson & David Oliver Relin

Contact Louise Braverman, Associate Director, Viking Penguin Publicity

T: 212-366-2752 E: Louise.Braverman@us.penguinroup.com

Never felt the urge to scale the world's largest mountain peaks, but have wondered if one person can make a difference in the world? How might the two relate? Mortenson's story proves that wild things are obtainable and his work is a shining example of how to leave a legacy. —PNBA Awards Committee

The Zero by Jess Walter

Contact Suzanne Wickham, Director of Publicity, ReganBooks

T: 310-228-6280 E: Suzanne.Wickham@HARPERCOLLINS.com

Imagine a man with huge gaps in his memory trying to make sense of his city and his life five days after 9/11. From the laughable absurdity of celebrity tours of ground zero to the terrifying reality of what one's government may do in times of crisis, the reader slowly recognizes all that our hero has lost—and all that we have lost as well. —PNBA Awards Committee