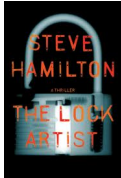


Award Winner

The Lock Artist by Steve Hamilton



Recently I decided to read a mystery that was either nominated for or won an Edgar Award. I chose The Lock Artist, 2010 Best Novel winner, because it sounded interesting. I was not disappointed. The story is narrated by Mike, a "boxman"- someone who can open any lock without a key whether it's on a safe, a door, a window or a padlock. We know this talent has landed him in prison at the age of 18 and that from there he writes his life story. We also know Mike is known as "Miracle Boy" because he survived a family tragedy that is hinted at throughout the book. This tragedy rendered him unable to speak, which brings an interesting facet to the tale. When he falls in love he is only able to communicate with the object of his desire through his other talent- drawing. *The Lock Artist* is not just one mystery, but many within the life of Mike- which job finally landed him in prison, what happened to the girl he loves, who is the dangerous and mysterious man who employs him, what happened to him as a child? Each chapter jumps to a different point in time in Mike's life with many ending as cliffhangers.

Read more

Posted by Elizabeth G. on October 22, 2011

The lock artist

Award Winner

Fiction

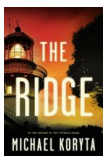
Mystery

For the Love of Reading

Information, Answers & Reviews

Elizabeth G.'s blog Log in to post comments

Authors in the News



Lauren Myracle writes about being un-nominated for the National Book in the Huffington Post. Put in a really tough position, Myracle comes across as funny, tender and sympathetic. And apparently I wasn't the only one who added *Shine* to my Goodreads list.

Earlier this week, local law enforcement in Ohio was forced to shoot 49 large animals after their owner opened gates and cages prior to killing himself. As a follow up, NPR interviews local author Michael Koryta, the author of The Ridge which includes a significant plot line involving a

large cat sanctuary in Kentucky. The interview covers challenges of regulating exotic animal ownership.

Posted by sbowman on October 21, 2011

[The ridge](#)

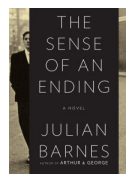
[Award Winner](#)

[For the Love of Reading](#)

[Information, Answers & Reviews](#)

[sbowman's blog](#)[Log in](#) to post comments

Man Booker Prize



Julian Barnes was awarded the [Man Booker prize](#) this week for his recent short novel,

[The Sense of an Ending](#). Reviews of the book include key words like "compelling", "memorable" and "dexterously crafted".

[Read more](#)

Posted by sbowman on October 19, 2011

[The sense of an ending](#)

[Award Winner](#)

[Fiction](#)

[For the Love of Reading](#)

[Information, Answers & Reviews](#)

[sbowman's blog](#)[Log in](#) to post comments

National Book Awards Controversy



The [National Book Award](#) finalists were announced last week and cover fiction, non-

fiction, poetry and young adult literature written by an American author. In the original announcement, Lauren Myracle's [Shine](#) was mistakenly announced as a finalist for the young adult literature category instead of [Chime](#) by Franny Billingsley. The National Book Awards admitted to the mistake right away and made an announcement that *Shine* would remain on the list due to its literary strength. But in a new shocking twist this week, The National Book Awards has asked Myracle to withdraw from the shortlist.

[Read more](#)

Posted by sbowman on October 18, 2011

[Shine](#)

[Award Winner](#)

[LGBTQ](#)

[For the Love of Reading](#)

[Information, Answers & Reviews](#)

[sbowman's blog](#)[Log in](#) to post comments

Dead End in Norvelt



Jack Gantos is one of my favorite authors, especially when I'm in the mood for a quirky, darkly funny read. Dead End in Norvelt is no exception - in fact, it had me laughing out loud in several places about the (fictional?) escapades of the protagonist, also named Jack Gantos! I wish I'd been witness to the real-life childhood of Gantos, to see exactly which of the characters and situations in this novel occurred exactly as he describes. So many favorite scenes - one where Jack is enlisted to dress as the Grim Reaper to determine whether an old person is dead or not, another when his nose bleeds AND he faints after seeing what he thinks is a woman stripping the skin off her arm with her teeth.

[Read more](#)

Posted by Ellen A. on October 15, 2011

[Dead end in Norvelt](#)

[Award Winner](#)

[Fiction](#)

[Oh, the Thinks You Can Think](#)

[Ellen A.'s blog](#)[Log in](#) to post comments

Heavens to Betsy



Betsy Blessing is an interim reverend at Church of the Shepherd in Nashville, TN, but

when the senior pastor retires without warning the church reluctantly turns the reigns over to her. The board, for the most part, is not fully supportive of Betsy because she's a female and Edna Thompkins, Betsy's nemesis, knows just how to get under Betsy's skin. Little does the congregation or Betsy's best friends, LaRonda and David, know that Betsy is planning to go to law school in the fall. All she has to do is get through a few months and she's free...or so she thinks.

[Read more](#)

Posted by kmilks on October 8, 2011

[Heavens to Betsy](#)

[Award Winner](#)

[Inspirational](#)

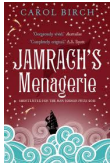
[Romance](#)

[For the Love of Reading](#)

[Information, Answers & Reviews](#)

[kmilks's blog](#)[Log in](#) to post comments

"Why Do We Care About Literary Awards?"



Asking that question is Mark O'Connell at [The Millions](#). He makes a good point: it is kind of ridiculous how seriously people take these things, how offended people can get if their favorite isn't chosen. There's no way for one award to please everyone, to choose the one book that is truly, objectively the best--there is very little "objective" anything when it comes to art. However, for librarians these awards are pretty indispensable. You'll see plenty of posts on this blog, for example, about winners and shortlists. We use them when deciding what to buy, what to recommend to people, what to read ourselves. Maybe it would be better if everyone read all of the books and judged every one for themselves, but that's never going to happen. [Read more](#)

Posted by mkinney on August 9, 2011

[Award Winner](#)

[For the Love of Reading](#)

[Information, Answers & Reviews](#)

[mkinney's blog](#) [Log in to post comments](#)

2011 RITA Award Winners



The 2011 [RITA Awards](#) were announced last week for excellence in the romance genre by recognizing outstanding published romance novels awarded by the [Romance Writers of America](#).

Some of winning titles that MCPL owns include:

REGENCY HISTORICAL ROMANCE: [The Mischief of the Mistletoe](#) by Lauren Willig

HISTORICAL ROMANCE: [His at Night](#) by Sherry Thomas

[Read more](#)

Posted by sbowman on July 6, 2011

[Award Winner](#)

[Fiction](#)

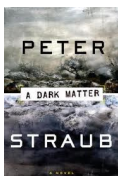
[Romance](#)

[For the Love of Reading](#)

[Information, Answers & Reviews](#)

[sbowman's blog](#) [Log in to post comments](#)

2010 Bram Stoker Award Winners



The Horror Writers Association works to "raise the profile of the horror genre in the publishing industry and among readers in general." In an effort to support their mission, The

Horror Writers Association every year awards prizes for the best in the horror genre. Last week the Bram Stoker Award Winners were announced.

[Read more](#)

Posted by sbowman on June 21, 2011

[Award Winner](#)

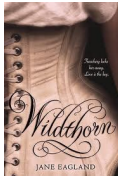
[Horror Fiction](#)

[For the Love of Reading](#)

[Information, Answers & Reviews](#)

[sbowman's blog](#)[Log in](#) to post comments

2011 Lambda Literary Awards



The 2011 Lambda Literary Awards were announced last week for excellence in lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans literature available in the United States.

A sample of winning titles published in 2010 that MCPL owns include:

TRANSGENDER -- Fiction

[Holding Still for As Long As Possible](#), by Zoe Whittall

[Read more](#)

Posted by sbowman on May 29, 2011

[Award Winner](#)

[LGBTQ](#)

[For the Love of Reading](#)

[Information, Answers & Reviews](#)

[sbowman's blog](#)[Log in](#) to post comments

[« first](#) [previous](#) [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) **5** [6](#) [next](#) [?last](#) »
