BOOKLIST Calls New Novelist 'An Author to Watch'

Firefly Island, the debut fantasy novel of author Daniel Arenson, is generating a lot of buzz. BOOKLIST has called Arenson "an author to watch", while an editor at Thomson Gale Publishing called Firefly Island "damned good stuff!"

Toronto, ON (PRWEB) June 18, 2007 -- A new fantasy novel scheduled for an August release is already generating a lot of buzz. BOOKLIST recently reviewed the novel, titled Firefly Island, by newcomer Daniel Arenson. Their review called Arenson "an author to watch", and added that Firefly Island "is filled with interesting details and cultures". Meanwhile, an editor at Thomson Gale, which is publishing the novel under its imprint Five Star, said that Firefly Island "would have to be in the top three speculative fiction titles I have dealt with. Damned good stuff!"

Those who have read advanced copies seem to concur. One reviewer at ReaderViews.com wrote, "This is the most excited I have ever been about a science fiction/fantasy book." She added, "Daniel Arenson has an amazing gift of bringing his characters off the pages. I would highly recommend the book to anyone."

Stories and poems by Daniel Arenson have appeared in various publications, including Flesh & Blood, Chizine and Orson Scott Card's Strong Verse. Firefly Island, which recently became available for preorder at Amazon.com, is his first novel. When asked about the book's pending release, Daniel said, "I wrote Firefly Island while living in Israel. It began as a distraction during wartime, and I'm obviously delighted that the book found a top-notch publisher like Thomson Gale. The response so far has been very encouraging." Born in Israel in 1980, Daniel Arenson lived in Manitoba and New Jersey before settling in Toronto, Ontario.

Fellow fantasy artists and authors also spoke of Firefly Island. Author Janrae Frank said, "Daniel Arenson writes with a natural grace to bring us into the lives of characters we come to care deeply about. I love his work." Fellow Thomson Gale fantasy author Jon Baxley said, "I wish Daniel great success. His book deserves it." Uwe Jarring, a prominent fantasy painter, called Firefly Island "a must read."

What kind of story is Firefly Island? Daniel answered, "It's a fantasy adventure in the tradition of The Lord of the Rings and Harry Potter. A cruel king, his flesh made of stone, tyrannizes the enchanted Firefly Island. No sword or arrow can harm him. Aeolia, a servant girl, can magically share feelings and senses -- even pain. Only she, by hurting herself, can hurt the mad monarch. But can she save the island from his grasp?" Readers will have to wait for the book's release in August to find out.

The book's website, DanielArenson.com, includes sample chapters, writing tips, and free stories. It also features an illustration for Firefly Island by renowned painter Stephanie Pui-Mun Law.

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For review copies or to schedule an interview, please find contact details at DanielArenson.com.

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