

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## LOCAL AUTHOR WINS HIGHEST LDS AWARD FOR FICTION

### Whitney Award given for top novels published by LDS authors

**PROVO, UTAH | April 23, 2010** | Winners of the annual Whitney Awards – voted on by an academy of LDS publishing industry professionals, including authors, publishers, bookstore owners, distributors, critics, and others -- were announced at the annual academy gala in Provo, Utah on Saturday 23, 2010.

Laketown, UT resident John Brown, 44, won the award for best speculative fiction (science fiction, fantasy, and horror) with his novel Servant of a Dark God, an epic fantasy about a young man and woman whose families are being hunted for using dark magic. Brown's book was competing against three New York Times best sellers and another novel that saw eleven printings in Europe before being released in the US. Brown is also a winner of the international Writers of the Future Award, the largest contest for new speculative fiction writers in the world.

The Whitney Awards seek to honor the best Mormon novels published each year. "The very best LDS fiction is as good as anything you would find nationally," said author Robison Wells, director and founder of the Whitney Awards. "We can hold these up as examples of LDS fiction at its finest."

The full list of winners include:

- Best Romance: Counting the Cost by Liz Adair
- Best Mystery/Suspense: Methods of Madness by Stephanie Black
- Best Youth Fiction: The Chosen One by Carol Lynch Williams
- Best Speculative Fiction: Servant of a Dark God by John Brown
- Best Historical: The Last Waltz by G.G. Vandagriff
- Best General Fiction: Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford
- Best Novel by a New Author: I Am Not A Serial Killer by Dan Wells and Gravity vs. The Girl by Riley Noehren
- Best Novel of the Year: In The Company of Angels by David Farland

#### MORE INFO

- Author's website: <http://johndbrown.com>
- Book information: <http://johndbrown.com/fiction/>
- Images: <http://johndbrown.com/the-man/newsroom/>
- Whitney Awards: <http://www.whitneyawards.com/>
- Whitney Academy Members: <http://www.whitneyawards.com/academy.html>

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