



**THE WRITERS'
UNION OF CANADA**

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DATE: May 28, 2011
For immediate release

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WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR DANUTA GLEED LITERARY AWARD

The Writers' Union of Canada and John Glead are pleased to announce that **Billie Livingston** is the recipient of the \$10,000 DANUTA GLEED LITERARY AWARD for *Greedy Little Eyes* (Vintage Canada), judged the best first English-language collection of short fiction by a Canadian author published in 2010.

Jury members **Douglas Glover, J. Jill Robinson, and Claire Holden Rothman** said of *Greedy Little Eyes*: "Billie Livingston's writing has energy, spunk and daring. In this collection the writer's eyes are wide open, taking in the world and then reflecting it in all its strangeness and beauty. She pushes edges, teeters on brinks, creating the exhilaration that comes only with taking risks. Her characters are real people in a real world who achieve break-out velocity and recreate themselves by signal acts of courage and self-definition. Frequently, her plots hinge on a demand for justice in a world clouded with calculation and evasion, resulting in a collection as strong in content as it is in style."

Runners-up **Darcie Friesen Hossack** and **Alexander MacLeod** will each receive \$500.

Of **Darcie Friesen Hossack's**, *Mennonites Don't Dance* (Thistledown Press) the jury said: "Readers easily and gladly enter the world Darcie Friesen Hossack has created in *Mennonites Don't Dance*. That world, a primarily Mennonite world, is peopled with an array of characters both fair and foul, kind and cruel, characters all engaged to greater or lesser degrees in what Faulkner has called the 'struggles of the human heart.' These fine stories are written with great care, unfolding naturally and skilfully."

Of **Alexander MacLeod's** *Light Lifting* (Biblioasis) the jury said: "The stories in Alexander MacLeod's *Light Lifting* are dense with the tragic poetry of the everyday. His narrators speak in a deceptively relaxed vernacular that reflects a fierce emotional intensity just beneath the surface of the words, the stoic heroism of the common man and woman, and MacLeod's commitment to realistic story-telling."

The short list of five books was announced on May 2, 2011 and also included **R.W. Gray's** *Crisp* (NeWest Press) and **Teri Vlassopoulos's** *Bats or Swallows* (Invisible Publishing).

The DANUTA GLEED LITERARY AWARD was created as a celebration of the life of Danuta Glead, a writer whose short fiction won several awards before her death in 1996. Danuta Glead's first collection of short fiction, *One of the Chosen*, was posthumously published by BuschekBooks. The Award is made possible through a generous donation from **John Glead** in memory of his late wife, and is administered by The Writers' Union of Canada.

The Writers' Union of Canada is our country's national organization representing professional authors of books. Founded in 1973, the Union is dedicated to fostering writing in Canada, and promoting the rights, freedoms, and economic well-being of all writers.