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Killer Nashville Announces Finalists for 2013 Claymore Award

Killer Nashville is proud to present the top ten finalists for the 2013 Claymore Award. The award is given each year to the best first 50 pages of an unpublished manuscript not currently under contract. Over \$1500 in prizes are awarded, in addition to a possible publishing contract. Last year's winner, Jonathan Stone, signed with an agent, then with a publisher, and finally with a Hollywood movie producer as a direct result of entering the contest.

"Killer Nashville is about helping authors of all genres," Killer Nashville founder Clay Stafford said. "The Claymore Award is an extension of that. What better way to help authors than connecting them with reputable presses?" Killer Nashville is a volunteer organization and receives no profit participation from any of their many success stories. "It's all about giving back," Stafford says.

The competition for 2013 was fierce, especially in the final round of the blind judging process, but ten manuscripts emerged victorious. The winner will be chosen from among them by Deni Dietz, acquiring editor of Five Star Mysteries. The winner will be announced at the Killer Nashville Writers' Conference Guest of Honor Dinner & Awards Banquet on Saturday, August 24, 2013. The ten finalists are (in alphabetical order by name of author):

The Man Who Trounced God at Chess - Jacob M. Appel
The End of All Things - Laura Brennan
Dial 1-Pro-Hac-Vice - Terri Coop
Black Beans & Venom - Vinnie Hansen
Unbelievers - Charles Kingsman
Hot Shot - John Madinger
A Novel by Dickens - Joan Kane Nichols
One Tenth of the Law - Ray Peden
Profile of a Killer - Elizabeth Visser
Deadly Secrets - Shellie Williams

Congratulations to these talented authors!

The Killer Nashville Thriller, Mystery, and Crime Literature Writers' Conference, held annually on the fourth full weekend in August, was created in 2006 by author/filmmaker Clay Stafford to bring together forensic experts, writers, and fans of crime and thriller literature. The conference draws attendees from as far away as Portmahomack, Scotland; Rome, Italy; and Hadano, Kanagawa, Japan. For interviews or more information: www.KillerNashville.com, www.ClaymoreAward.com, Contact@KillerNashville.com, 615-599-4032.