

Press Release

Little Rock, AR. July 1, 2013 – Little Rock author and noted sound engineer, Daniel A. Smith received the 2013 Best Indie Book Award in the mainstream category for his historical novel, *Storykeeper*. Given annually to five authors of independently published books in the USA, The Best Indie Book Award is about raising the bar on Indie Authors to become as critically acclaimed as their traditionally published peers.

Storykeeper explores an almost forgotten but formative period of Arkansas and American history. In the drought-ridden summer of 1541, Hernando De Soto and an army of three-hundred battle-hardened conquistadors crossed the Mississippi River into Arkansas. The old-world diseases they carried, the wars they instigated, the social, political, and religious unrest they caused resulted in the decimation of the numerous ancient nations that once populated the local region.

In a recent interview for Author Land, Daniel Smith said, “I had no idea of the complexities and sophistication of the different cultures that thrived on land I routinely traveled, until I began reading the three surviving journals from the De Soto expedition. My novel is an attempt to shed some light on those lost nations and their forgotten people.”

Storykeeper was originally published on Amazon in paperback and Kindle e-book. In conjunction with receiving the Best Indie Book Award, *Storykeeper* is now also published through Smashwords, the world’s leading e-book publishing and distribution platform for multi-format e-books. In addition to Amazon, *Storykeeper* is available from Barnes & Noble (Paperback and Nook), Apple itunes (iPad and iPhone), Sony (eReader), Kobo, and the Diesel eBook Store (Android devices).

Daniel A. Smith is currently working on the second and third novels of the “Nine-Rivers Valley” series both set in Arkansas’s historical past. Daniel has traveled to all 48 continental states and five provinces of Canada working as a sound engineer behind the scenes to entertain, inform, and observe all manner of audiences, but he prefers to live and write in Arkansas with his life-long friend and wife.

A recently interview about *Storykeeper* and its author is posted at Indie Author Land <http://www.indieauthorland.com/archives/2443>. For more information contact storykeeper.danielsmith@gmail.com.