



2009 THRILLER AWARDS

Now Open for Submissions

From: [Allison Brennan, ITW 2009 Awards Chair](#)

LET THE COMPETITION BEGIN!

International Thriller Writers is proud to announce its 2009 Thriller Awards Competition.

Best Novel	Best First Novel	Best Short Story
This award honors the best thriller novel of the year. Hard cover and paperback original novels are eligible to compete.	This award honors our debut thriller novelists. Eligibility covers an author's first novel, whether under the author's name or a pseudonym, in hard cover or paperback. ALL FIRST NOVELS MUST BE ENTERED IN THE BEST FIRST NOVEL CATEGORY.	This award honors the best short story (up to 35,000 words, to enable novellas to participate) of the year.

RULES OF ELIGIBILITY FOR PRINTED WORK

All novels first published in the English language by a commercial ITW Recognized Publisher within the 2008 calendar year are eligible for the respective categories listed above.

ITW maintains a list of recognized traditional commercial publishers on its website. Any publisher or author may fill out ITW's "Publisher Questionnaire," seeking admission to the list. Generally, to be a commercial ITW Recognized Publisher, the publishing house must be a print publisher, pay advances and issue royalty statements, edit books, create covers, neither solicit nor accept financial payments

from its authors, copyright an author's title under the author's name or business entity, and never expect or ask authors to buy a certain number of copies of the author's books.

ITW will solicit publishers for eligible work, but ultimately it will be the responsibility of each author who would like to be considered for an award category to contact his publisher and ensure copies reach each judge in that category by the stated deadline dates. Publishers are requested to submit a title to only the appropriate category: Hard cover and paperback novels must be entered in Best Novel category (except for First Novels). All First Novels must be entered in the Best First Novel category.

ELIGIBILITY AND RULES SPECIFIC TO SHORT STORIES

The term Short Story is expanded to include novellas.

Entries must be under 35,000 words to be eligible for entry in the Best Short Story Award category.

Entries must be first published in the English language in print or ezine format between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008.

Original publication or a copy of the story published is admissible, provided it is accompanied by proof of publication (i.e. publication's copyright page/notice).

Hard copies must be mailed to the judges; electronic submissions will not be accepted.

The Entry Form is posted on the ITW website and attached to this email, or you (the author, agent, publisher, publicist) may obtain an entry form from the Awards Chair, Allison Brennan via email address: itw@allisonbrennan.com.

Once your entry form is received, your entry will be assigned to a panel and you will receive email instructions on where to send the novels for judging. Preliminary Round judging requires two copies of the novel/story be sent to two individual judges. Primary Rounding judging requires three copies of the novel/story be sent to three individual judges. (Only novels advancing from the Preliminary Round are sent to Primary Round. Entrants are notified of this advancement by email.) **Each entry receives specific instructions from the Awards Chair.** Novels forwarded to judges outside these specific instructions will be disqualified.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Novels published from January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008 are eligible. Publishers, agents, publicists and/or authors are required to get copies of eligible work into the hands of the category judges no later than **December 1, 2008**, to allow adequate time to review the titles.

Books may be sent to the judges now and entrants are encouraged to do so.

Only works received by the appropriate judges at the close of business on December 1, 2008 are eligible for award consideration.

SCHEDULE OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Finalists will be announced in April 2008. Winners will be announced at next summer's International Festival of Thrillers in New York, New York (aka ThrillerFest).

To receive notification of these announcements, please email the Award Chair, Allison Brennan at itw@allisonbrennan.com.

Authors contact your publishers.

Publishers download the entry form from the website, complete it, then contact the ITW Awards Chair for panel assignment and judges' mailing addresses.

The floodgates are now officially open. Let the thriller competition begin!