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NEWS RELEASE

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Now Available

A Martyr for Suzy Kosasovich

a novella by Patrick Michael Finn

A Winner of the Second Annual Ruthanne Wiley
Memorial Novella Contest, selected by Tom Barbash

9 x 6 x 0.27 inches, 96 pp. \$15.95 paper
ISBN 978-1880834-77-0, LCCN 2007051700

A novella set in the working-class community of Joliet, Illinois, a dark landscape of factories, freight trains, barges, canals, and the foreboding iconography of old Catholicism, *A Martyr for Suzy Kosasovich* follows an adolescent girl's fierce passage into the consequences of adulthood. Suzy Kosasovich, sheltered by fear and anonymity, longs to be noticed and accepted by her neighborhood's more dangerous inhabitants. And on Good Friday, as Pulaski Street's reckless young gather in Fat Kuputzniak's tavern to slake their lusts and hatreds, Suzy is shoved into an even darker pocket of the world, where cruelty and violence burst from the caustic furies of dim futures and dead ends, culminating in a night that will change her forever.

“Patrick Michael Finn has written a fierce and frightening, often gorgeously described, swirling, pulsing, sweating runaway car crash of a novella that reminded me of the darker works of Denis Johnson and Hubert Selby. *A Martyr for Suzy Kosasovich* is an unsparing look at the other side of the American dream; the rage that passes for friendship in some corners. While Finn's characters are often short-sighted and mean-spirited, his luminous writing and knack for telling detail makes their story relevant and unforgettable.”

—Tom Barbash, author of *The Last Good Chance*

Patrick Michael Finn was born in Joliet, Illinois, and was raised there and in rural Southern California. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of California, Riverside, and completed his M.F.A. at the University of Arizona, where he was a Dean's Teaching Fellow. A winner of the AWP Intro Award and the 2004 *Third Coast* Fiction Prize, his work has appeared in *Quarterly West*, *Ploughshares*, *Third Coast*, *The Richmond Review*, *Punk Planet*, *TriQuarterly*, and Houghton Mifflin's *Best American Mystery Stories*. He lives in Arizona and teaches writing at Chandler-Gilbert Community College.

ORDERING INFORMATION: *A Martyr for Suzy Kosasovich* is available through many corporate and independent bookstores, as well as Amazon.com. Media review copies and requests for printed catalogs should be directed to Poetry Center Manager, Rita Grabowski at 216-687-3986, 888-278-6473 toll-free.

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