

The Snowmelt River

Author: Frank P Ryan

Basics: B-format paperback **ISBN** 978 -1-874082-48-4; 548 pages.

Series: This is the first in a four book epic fantasy series, “The Three Powers”, with each book a complete adventure in itself, but all four books coming together in an integrated narrative progression involving the same characters.

Cover illustration by Mark Salwowski.

Publication: 6 September 2010.

Summary of plot: Chance has brought together four young people in the small, historic Irish town of Clonmel. Alan is American, Kate Irish, and the adoptive brother and sister, Mark and Mo, are Londoners. They discover that they share a terrible secret in common, one that cannot be coincidence, and it makes them wonder if it was fate, and not happenstance, that really brought them together, and which now binds them inseparably as friends. And then, over the long hot summer, the calling begins...

The four friends are drawn to the fabled mountain of Slievenamon, a mountain enshrined in magic and legend, on the summit of which is the Gate of Feimhin, which will take them into the enchanted but war-ravaged world of Tír. Through a perilous wilderness, fought over by the spiritual forces of good and evil, they set out to rescue the enslaved Olhyiu and avenge the murders of their own families – a seemingly impossible quest for their arch enemy, the Tyrant of the Wastelands, is said to be immortal.

Author summary: Frank P Ryan is an international best-selling writer whose books have been translated into nine languages. They have gathered widespread critical acclaim, including the accolade of ‘Book of the Year’ for the New York Times.

Market: Young adult/ adult fantasy readership.

Key selling points:

- We have taken orders for almost 6,000 copies already (some six weeks prior to publication).
- The book involves deep characterization of the youthful personalities, who come of age, and power, during the narrative, and it is beautifully written, with haunting landscapes and wild imagination. This is why it became the John West Chosen Book for 2010.

- John West is sponsoring a major promotion in Ireland, including a fantasy short story competition, the rules and guides for which have been written by Frank P Ryan. This will be taken into schools throughout Ireland.
- Swift Publishers is extending the media coverage to the UK, with adverts in the Bookseller on-line and an extensive radio blitz of the major cities – Frank P Ryan is a popular media speaker and there is an important healthy minds/ teenage literacy connection he will be discussing. We believe there will be enthusiastic uptake.
- Frank P Ryan has produced several bestselling books already. He also has an established fantasy readership having sold 10,000 copies of a previous fantasy, *The Sundered World*.
- Dedicated website under construction, which will allow reader (and fantasy competition) interaction with the author – see www.frankpryan.com.