



BOOKLIFE PRIZE - 2023 -

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<https://www.publishersweekly.com/>

There are about 156,000,000 book titles in print. About 4,000,000 were published last year. Titcomb's, a large local bookstore, only carries about 17,000 titles from all years in their store. There were over 400 entries in this contest. This gives you an idea of the magnitude of the competition. So, I'm pretty thrilled to be a Quarter Finalist!

ITCHIWAN by J.J. Cunis

Quarter Finalist

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/1938517830>

Plot/Idea: 9 out of 10

Originality: 10 out of 10

Prose: 9 out of 10

Character/Execution: 9 out of 10

Overall: 9.25 out of 10

Plot/Idea: Cunis's story of the discovery of a mysterious time portal by a group of teenagers is at once bewildering and highly enjoyable. Although the plot suffers from being a little meandering, it packs a hefty punch that will leave readers dazzled and giddy.

Prose: This bizarre time traveling adventure is executed with supreme attention to detail and evocative imagery. Its short chapters are packed with depth, detail, and the occasional pop culture reference.

Originality: The novel's blistering opening is full of humor, mystery and wonder. The different time periods visited during the course of the novel are effectively brought to life with minute attention to detail.

Character/Execution: Cunis's text features myriad characters that are all excellently rendered in pinprick detail. From the evil homicidal maniacs of Wampanoag to the disparate group of goofy teenagers, Itchiwan's pages are filled with well-crafted and effervescent personalities.

Assessment: A frenetic, intense, and thoroughly enjoyable journey through time.

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