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**ADAM SWEET AND “NEW YEAR’S EVEY” WIN THE**

**BRNO SHORT STORY WRITING CONTEST**

**—**

**“Kuba’s Rotation” by Theo Singleton Is Second**

**“Dark Horse” by Maja Vusilović Is Third**

BRNO, Czech Republic — The 2017 Brno Short Story Writing Contest was won by Adam Sweet for his story about dealing with the loss of a loved one in a story entitled “New Year’s Evey”. He earns the top prize: 6,000 kc.

“New Year’s Evey” was described by Sweet, an American, as: “A man grappling with the death of his wife spends New Year's Eve at a hidden place in Brno near the birthplace of Bohumil Hrabal where he searches for solace and where the unbelievable comes true.”

“Kuba’s Rotation” by Theo Singleton, an Englishman, was second and earns 2,000kc. “Dark Horse” earns 1,000kc for third place for Maya Vusilović, a Croatian. Eight additional stories were awarded honorable mention.

All of the award-winning stories and most of the also ran entries are available at brnowritersgroup.blogspot.com.

The free contest, which was supported by the Brno Expat Centre, attracted 87 entries. Every entry had to include the City of Brno in some significant way. There was only one entry per person. The short stories had to be in English and 2,500 words or less. The deadline was April 30 at midnight.

The jury included Simon Mawer, the internationally acclaimed author of “The Glass Room” and many other books, and a cross-section of local cultural icons and writing enthusiasts: Don Sparling, a co-founder of the Brno Expat Centre and a longtime leader in the local expat and Masaryk University communities; Tomáš Kačer, a teacher in the Department of English and American Studies at MU and a translator; Anna Formánková, the Chief of Staff for Re:Views Magazine; and contest co-founder and Brno Writers Group co-founder Lee Adams, the At the Movies blogger for the Brno Expat Centre.

The jury was instructed that the contest was focused on creating a story that included Brno in some significant way. The story was the most important aspect, including writing, originality, character development, and plot development.

The Brno Short Story Writing Contest was made possible by a grant awarded by the Brno Expat Centre.

Eight additional entries were awarded honorable mention, listed in alphabetical order:

• Before The Lights Fade Away, by Veronika Baršová

• Brnight, by Barbara Tambini

• Chime (Tweleven), by Jerguš Števko

• Confessions of an Unborn Child, by Tereza Málková

• Hrabal, In the Air, by Hugh Smith

• Imprisoned, by Richard Skolek

• My Personal Prison, by Anna Johanes

• The Endless Renouncement of Feelings, by Inga Morawski

For more information, go to the contest website at [www.facebook.com/brnowritersgroup](http://www.facebook.com/brnowritersgroup) or the Twitter feed @Brnowriters or send an email to the contest administrator, Bruno Zalubil, at brnowritersgroup@gmail.com .

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