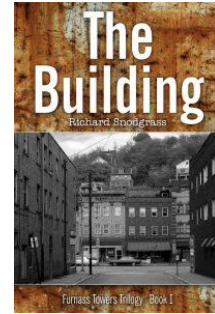


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Critically Acclaimed Local Author to Launch Book Series Set in Pittsburgh Mill Town

Eight-book series represents 35 years of creative work, first book to be released April 22, 2018

PITTSBURGH, PA – Calling Crow Press is pleased to announce the publication of Richard Snodgrass’s novel *The Building*, the first of eight books of the Books of Furnass series set in a Pittsburgh-area mill town. The eight-book fictional series represents 35 years of the author’s creative work; one new book from the series will be released every three months.

“The steel mills of the Pittsburgh region have always been a big part of my life, along with the way of life of the men and women who worked in them,” said Snodgrass, a native of this region who now resides on Mt. Washington. “I grew up in the mill town of Beaver Falls, and from my earliest days as a writer, I wanted to capture the unique culture that made these mill towns surrounding Pittsburgh so special.”

Each book in the series is set in the fictional mill town of Furnass, located along the banks of the Alleghela River, a tributary of the Ohio River. The books take place in the town during various time periods, ranging from the French and Indian War to modern day.

“I have lived and worked in cities across the country, but I came back to Pittsburgh 35 years ago to devote my work to portraying life in this region. I hope that my work pays tribute to the full experience of mill town life,” said Snodgrass.

The first book of the Books of Furnass series, *The Building*, will be released on April 22, 2018, and available for purchase in print and digital copies through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and local independent booksellers. *The Building*, Book One of the Furnass Towers Trilogy, is the story of the well-intentioned but ill-conceived attempt to construct a high-rise building in the middle of a stricken mill town, and the effect the project has on the town and the men and women who work on it.

More information about *The Building* and the entire Furnass series, including readers guides, town maps, and promotional videos, can be found at www.RichardSnodgrass.com

About *The Building*

The Building, the first book of the Furnass Towers Trilogy, is the story of the well-intentioned but ill-conceived attempt to construct a high-rise building in the middle of a stricken mill town. It is the story of a head-strong superintendent who pours concrete when he’s told not to . . . of a rebar foreman whose insecurities make him dangerous to everyone around him . . . the story of an architect who hides the

project's true cost so he can build a monument to himself . . . of a young inspector totally out of his depth . . . a local developer content to wait and pick up the pieces when the dust settles . . . and it is the story of a young woman across the alley who dances each morning in her window as she takes her shower, who distracts one worker to the point of a fatal accident and provides sanctuary for another.

About Richard Snodgrass

Richard Snodgrass is an author and photographer whose short stories and essays have appeared in the *New England Review/Bread Loaf Quarterly*, *South Dakota Review*, *California Review*, *Pittsburgh Quarterly*, and elsewhere. He is a master photographer who has been artist-in-residence at LightWorks (University of Syracuse) and at the Helene Wurlitzer Foundation in Taos, New Mexico. He is the recipient of a fellowship from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

In 1989, Viking published Snodgrass's novel, *There's Something in the Back Yard*, to critical acclaim: "Observe this mysterious book and be changed," wrote Jack Stephens in the *Washington Post Book World*. Snodgrass is also the author of *An Uncommon Field: The Flight 93 Temporary Memorial*, published in September of 2011 by Carnegie Mellon University Press, and *Kitchen Things: An Album of Vintage Utensils and Farm Kitchen Recipes*, published in 2013 by Skyhorse and named one of the year's "best books to get you thinking about food" by the Associated Press.

Richard Snodgrass lives in Pittsburgh, PA, with his wife Marty and two indomitable female tuxedo cats, raised from feral kittens, named Frankie and Becca.