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NOVEL HOOKS READERS INTELLECTUALLY WITH MALE PROTAGONIST'S JOURNEY TO THE PRECARIOUS BALANCE OF ADULTHOOD

A man's novel, *Powder Dreams* mixes author's love of skiing and experience with dream analysis

August 3, 2011 – The gender gap in literature has been extensively explored in the media, and survey after survey finds that women read more books than men. With men accounting for just about 20 percent of the fiction market, it's time a book comes along to change that statistic.

Enter *Powder Dreams* by second-time author David Ward-Nanney, releasing October 1 from Mud Season Publishing. This deep-thinking novel introduces avid skier Bo Grayson as he struggles to reconcile his inner ski bum with impending adulthood.

"*Powder Dreams* by chance explores the difficulties of being a man when society does not expect you to grow up anytime soon (why would it if you're likely to live 90 years), of balancing a man's sensitivity with the expectation of being tough as hell, and finally of how women's liberation (which I love) has made all of this so much more difficult," Ward-Nanney said.

The male protagonist is led to a Jungian analyst – much like Ward-Nanney was himself after an extended depression in 2002 – who causes him to dig through his past, take a closer look at his friends and resolve his collection of clamoring voices driving him into dangerous territory. Dream analysis, one method used in Jung's analytical psychology, is part of the novel and is showing up more frequently in popular works. Hollywood flick *Inception* and HBO's *In Treatment* are two examples, but novels featuring the Jungian approach itself are few and far between, only a handful being published since Robertson Davies' *The Manticore* in 1972.

"To discover that *Powder Dreams* was not a simple 'ski novel' was thrilling and intellectually stimulating. I was hooked from the very first line," said legendary ski filmmaker Greg Stump, an ISHA Lifetime Achievement Award recipient.

Ward-Nanney debuted as an author in 2009 with *A Particular Obedience*. A graduate of Emory University in Atlanta, the author has lived in Tennessee, North Carolina, Colorado and Utah, the last two where his love of skiing became obsessive. He lives in the United Kingdom now, just east of London, and calls the rolling woods of England and France's Haute Savoie his playground.

<http://nanney-land.com/>

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