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The Old Amulet

The Fable of the Beginning Story

by Ed Gray

Hardcover, \$24.95 US, ISBN 978-1-935655-24-4

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Fiction

Publication date: June 15, 2011

A Timeless Fable Finally Gets Its Time

Lyme, New Hampshire – “Wait!” calls out Will, the youngest character, at the end of Ed Gray’s novella-length fable, *The Old Amulet: The Fable of the Beginning Story*. “Is this story true?”

It’s a good question.

The Old Amulet is a timeless and beautiful fable about nothing less than storytelling itself. With beginnings and endings, truth and meaning, science and magic, and an old promise kept, this is a story readers will wish would never end, and, in sense, it never does.

As salmon struggle upstream to the Alaskan lake of both their beginning and their end, a young physics professor brings her two children to the shore of the lake to spread their great grandmother's ashes. It is here, beside the Lake of the Beginning, that they will encounter an ancient Inuit man with a mystical tale that will change the way each of them sees their world.

The book itself has had its own upstream struggle. Ed Gray originally wrote the three overlapping tales that make up the fable as accompanying text for a book of Jeff Foott’s sockeye salmon photographs, *The Lake of the Beginning*, published in 1998 by Willow Creek Press. Knowing that he had created a potential classic that should have been published on its own, Gray spent the next 12 years trying to gain recognition for the story that instead lay between the covers of a book of color photographs, hidden in plain sight and buried deep in the backlist of a publisher that spent those same 12 years remodeling itself into a seller of animal calendars, gift books and greeting cards.

Finally, in January, 2011, with annual sales of *The Lake of the Beginning* down to single digits, Willow Creek Press took it out of print and reverted to Ed Gray the rights to his story, the timeless tale of *The Old Amulet* which, as he writes in the new book’s acknowledgments, “the first time I heard it, as the old people would say, was when I told it to myself.”

Available June 15, 2011 in hardcover, softcover, and on all major ebook platforms.

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About the author

Ed Gray, with his wife Rebecca, founded *Gray's Sporting Journal* in 1975 and was its editor for 16 years during which he discovered and published the first fiction of Annie Proulx, Rick Bass, and many others. He is the author of eleven books and numerous magazine articles and essays.

About Graybooks

Graybooks LLC is a new trade book publisher based on the traditional model and adapted to the new technologies of both production and reading. Founded in 2010 by Ed and Rebecca Gray, the founders of *Gray's Sporting Journal*, the acclaimed sporting magazine, Graybooks publishes in the categories of food, fiction, memoir and history. Most of its books appear simultaneously in hardcover, trade paperback, and on all the major ebook platforms. Current top sellers are:

Paddle Beads, a canoeing memoir by O. Ross McIntyre (ISBN 978-1-935655-12-1)
The New Gray's Wild Game Cookbook, by Rebecca Gray (ISBN 978-0-9841471-4-4)

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