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**DARKROOM
WINS 2017 INDIEREADER DISCOVERY AWARD FOR FICTION**

June 3, 2017 – Today, CJ Lyons, *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling indie author of twenty-one novels announced the winners of the 2017 annual IndieReader Discovery Awards (IRDAs) at BookExpo America (BEA), a major trade show in New York City.

DARKROOM by Mary Maddox won First Prize in Fiction.

[IndieReader](#) launched the IRDAs in order to help worthy indie authors get the attention of top indie professionals, with the goal of reaching more readers. Noted Amy Edelman, founder of IR, “The books that won the IRDAs this year are not just great indie books; they are great books, period. We hope that our efforts via the IRDAs insure that they receive attention from the people who matter most. Potential readers.”

Judges for the awards included notable publishers, agents, publicists and bloggers. IndieReader’s reviewers praised DARKROOM for its “sharp, quick dialogue and nice descriptive passages.”

A crime thriller with noirish overtones, DARKROOM recounts a woman’s search for her vanished friend, which leads her into an underworld of powerful men with deadly secrets.

Mary Maddox lives in Charleston, Illinois, where she taught for many years at Eastern Illinois University. Now retired, she devotes her time to writing fiction and riding her Andalusian horse.

“I’m honored and thrilled to receive this prestigious award,” Maddox said. “I hope it will bring DARKROOM to the attention of more readers. My primary goal is for people to read and enjoy my books.”

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