



NEW ENGLAND
book festival



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NEW ENGLAND BOOK FESTIVAL NAMES WINNERS

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BOSTON (December 25, 2009) The 2009 **New England Book Festival** has named Darwin Porter's *Paul Newman, The Man Behind the Baby Blues, His Secret Life Revealed* as recipient of an "Honorable Mention" in its annual competition honoring the best books of the holiday season. Such a designation places it among the year's top ten winners.

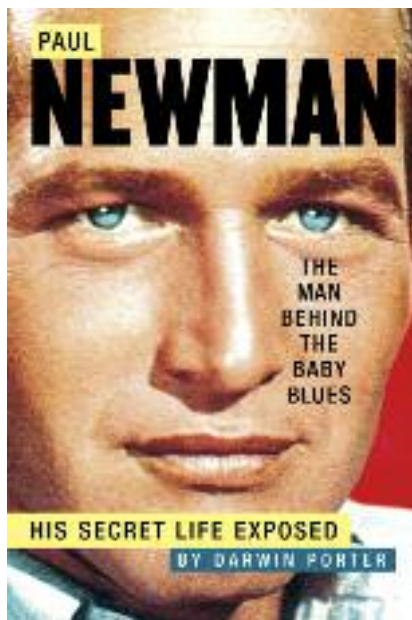
Published by **Blood Moon Productions**, and released nationwide in August through the **National Book Network** (www.NBNBooks.com), Porter's biography of Paul Newman is the most candid, honest, truthful, and unapologetic biography of the superstar ever published. The object of national attention in both tabloids and the literary press, it focuses on previously unpublished accounts of Mr. Newman's undercover life as a "barely closeted" bisexual, with hundreds of insights into "The Man Behind the Baby Blues" based on firsthand interviews with the actor's lovers, friends, acquaintances, and enemies, compiled over a period of forty years of meticulously detailed research.

As quoted by Danforth Prince, President of Blood Moon Productions, "The fact that this award originates from Paul Newman's home territory of New England makes it especially valuable--sort of a tacit agreement that readers of New England respect the research and style of a biography that some reactionaries interpreted as a sign of disrespect toward one of America's greatest philanthropists and most prominent actors. Darwin Porter's biography rips apart Hollywood's velvet curtain, revealing the extent of gay and lesbian influences on the movie industry during its so-called "Golden Age," and the many compromises that celebrities of this stature endure along their road to stardom. Porter's documentation of these poignant but previously unrecorded truths has salvaged what might otherwise have been lost forever."

Despite hundreds of entries, only seven other titles were equivalently honored with Honorable Mentions by the judges at the awards ceremony: The most noteworthy of those other seven was authored by the late, great Senator from Massachusetts, **Edward Kennedy**--*True Compass*, his deathbed autobiographical tract that has been firmly pinned for many weeks to *The New York Times* bestseller list.

As quoted by Darwin Porter, "I am honored to have had my book placed on a par, insofar as literary awards are concerned, with that of Teddy Kennedy, whose lifetime work I greatly admired."

The organizers of the New England Book Festival will honor the recipients of their annual awards at the Omni Hotel in Boston on January 16, 2010.



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PAUL NEWMAN 1925-2008