

2019 Fort Worth BookFest Author Interview Series



... with **Michael Scott Clifton**, author of *The Open Portal: Conquest of the Veil* and other books...

Where is your favorite place to read?

When the weather allows, I like to sit on the front porch and read. We live out in the country and for the most part, it is a serene environment to read or meditate in. The birds are chirping, the leaves are rustling, and sometimes a soft breeze is blowing...a perfect atmosphere in which to read a good book.

What is your favorite book to give an adult or a child?

I would give *The Lord of the Rings* by JRR Tolkien to an adult, the book that ignited my love of fantasy. For a child, I would give *The Face in the Frost* by John Bellairs, a pre-Harry Potter, late 60's fantasy novel, which helped further define the fantasy genre, particularly for younger readers.

What books do you return to most often, whether passages or whole?

Well the *Bible* is an obvious choice, but outside of that, *The Stand* by Stephen King is one of the few books I have read multiple times. I consider *The Stand* to be one of the best novels I have ever read, primarily because it is one of the best literary examples of the conflict between Good and Evil.

What is the last book that had you reading past your bedtime?

Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn. Talk about a twist you never saw coming...

Who made reading important to you?

Growing up, I was introverted and shy. Not necessarily a loner, but not blessed with a large cadre of friends either. When I was eleven years old, my mother brought home a box of books one day she bought at a garage sale. She told me if I did my chores, I could pick a book out of the box to read. Well, the box proved to be full of dog-eared copies of Hardy Boy Books, Tom Swift, Nancy Drew, and other youth series books. That old box became a treasure chest to me, and needless to say, chores were done promptly. My mother, though she probably never knew it, kick-started my love of reading.

BONUS QUESTION: What is your favorite book set in the southwest?

Jumper by Steven Gould and *Little Big Man* by Thomas Burger

Author Bio

Michael Scott Clifton, a public educator for over 38 years as a teacher, coach, and administrator, currently lives in Mount Pleasant, Texas with his wife, Melanie and family cat, Sadie. An avid gardener, reader, and movie junkie, he enjoys all kinds of book and movie genres. His books contain aspects of all the genres he enjoys...action, adventure, magic, fantasy, and romance. His fantasy novel, *The Janus Witch*, received a 5-Star review from the prestigious Readers' Favorite Book Reviews, and he has been a finalist in a number of short story contests with *Edges of Gray* winning First Place in the Texas Authors Contest.

Professional credits include articles published in the *Texas Study of Secondary Education Magazine*. Clifton's latest book, *The Open Portal*, launches the fantasy book series, *Conquest of the Veil*. In addition, look for the YA novel, *Edison Jones and the Anti-Grav Elevator*, to be released soon.

Follow him at www.facebook.com/michaelscottclifton

Mark your calendars for this year's Fort Worth BookFest
Saturday | 10. 12. 2019
11 AM – 4:30 PM
Maddox - Muse Center
330 E. 3rd Street
Fort Worth, Texas

Visit us at www.fortworthbookfest.com

Follow us on [Facebook](#)

Instagram | [\(fwbookfest\)](#) & Twitter ([@FWBF](#))