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AISLING EYE BOOKS ANNOUNCES ITS UPCOMING RELEASES FOR 2008  
First Titles for Indie Book Publisher Include Children's  
Fantasy Adventure, Blind and Gay Coming of Age Memoir, Comic  
Sci-fi Thriller, and Short Story Anthology

BURBANK, CA - Aisling Eye Books announces its very first titles, set for hardcover release next year.

The debut release will be **The Brotherhood and the Shield: The Three Thorns**, the first part of an elaborate children's fantasy/adventure trilogy written by A.M. Gibney. Gibney, 24, is a native of Northern Ireland, and is currently at work on the sequel. "The Three Thorns" marks his writing debut.

Set in pre-WWI London, the story follows three orphaned boys who, while on the run, discover that they are actually brothers by blood -- and rightful heirs to a magical, powerful kingdom, now ruled by an evil king who betrayed the boys' father and cast them out to earth when they were born. And while the brothers struggle with the knowledge of their true heritage -- and destiny -- the false king plots to turn them against each other for control of all the universe.

**The Brotherhood and the Shield: The Three Thorns** is expected to hit bookshelves in February, with Gibney participating in book signings in both the United States as well as the UK.

Aisling Eye Books' second release will be **Chasing Echoes Through the Dark**, written by first-time author D.J. Wessler in collaboration with Adam McDaniel. The book, to be released in the summer of 2008, is Wessler's semi-autobiographical tale of

a gay teenager who, blind since birth, also survived years of sexual abuse, three suicide attempts, and the loss of his best friend to AIDS.

Wessler, 25, is a working sculptor and lives in Pennsylvania. He was previously interviewed for an article in THE ADVOCATE examining the hardships faced by those who are both disabled and gay. McDaniel, 34, attended Vassar College and lives in southern California. He wrote the novel How to Succeed in Heaven Without Really Dying, which is currently being developed into a stage musical.

Chasing Echoes Through the Dark began in early 2003 when McDaniel decided to do volunteer work for the blind, including a special mentoring workshop at The Foundation for the Junior Blind in Los Angeles. There he befriended a group of visually impaired teens who shared with him their personal stories and taught him the day to day challenges of being blind in a sighted world. It was through a mutual friend that he learned of D.J. Wessler, a young man who, though completely blind since birth, created elaborate sculptures. The two men quickly became good friends, and it was Wessler's suggestion that they collaborate on a book.

Aisling Eye Books has two more anticipated releases for the latter half of 2008:

The sophomore novel of writer C.A. Smythe, Caryse: From Under the Mushroom is a fun, campy science fiction thriller about a young woman who awakes one morning from under the bronze mushroom of the *Alice in Wonderland* sculpture in New York's Central Park. Having lost virtually all her memory, she desperately searches for her identity while catapulted from episode to episode of surreal, outrageous adventures.

Aisling Eye Books is proud to announce a new series of collected short stories and essays from a diverse group of published and debut writers. The first volume will feature work of an offbeat, satirical and eccentric nature, similar to the style of writing found in *McSweeney's* and *The New Yorker*. The company is currently accepting short story submissions for inclusion in this collection, tentatively titled Through an Aisling Eye: Collected Tales.

Interested writers are strongly encouraged to register their work and review all company policies beforehand. Short stories should be in English and no more than 10,000 words. Cartoons and comic strips are also welcome. (Poetry and pornography will not be accepted.) Those writers and artists selected for

publication may maintain copyright ownership of their work, while granting Aisling Eye Books the non-exclusive publication rights for this collected volume.

Aisling Eye Books is a new indie publishing company of both original fiction and non-fiction, covering an eclectic mix of subjects, genres and styles from new and emerging writers.

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For more information on Aisling Eye Books, please visit the company's website at [www.aislingeyebooks.com](http://www.aislingeyebooks.com), or email [aislingeyebooks@yahoo.com](mailto:aislingeyebooks@yahoo.com).

More information on **Chasing Echoes Through the Dark** can be found at [www.chasingechoes.com](http://www.chasingechoes.com). The site also features a special links page designed as a resource for the disabled and gay community.