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~ Bio - Allen Johnson Jr. - Author of My Brother's Story ~

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My Brother's Story

A Blackwater Novel

Written by Allen Johnson Jr.

Illustrated by Kelley McMorris

ISBN 978-1-933725-37-6

208 Pages ~ Hardback ~ Retail \$14.99

Nashville, Tenn. – Author Allen Johnson Jr. talks about his family and what has brought him to write his three *Blackwater Novels* from Premium Press America.

Johnson said, “I live on Mercer Island, Washington, near Seattle, with my wife Jill, my filmmaker son Ben, who is now a weekend visitor, and three dogs; Sunshine, Piccolo, and Chloe.

My daughter April, who is currently making a documentary film, lives nearby in Seattle, and my oldest son, Colby, a filmmaker, lives in New Orleans. (I have to wonder if a gene for filmmaking runs in my family!) At the age of seventy-eight, I now pursue my two passions: writing and jazz guitar.

I was born and raised outside of Birmingham, Alabama. You can take a Southerner out of the South, but you can't take the South out of a Southerner!

As a boy I had the good fortune of growing up with the space and freedom to be outside, have adventures, explore, and get into trouble. A boy's purpose in life is to have fun, and the tantalizing possibility of getting into trouble added spice to that purpose.

I was also blessed with a rich heritage of storytelling from the members of my wonderful, extended Southern family. I share some of my family stories in the *Blackwater Novels*.

My boyhood in the South and my college years at the University of Alabama also gave me first-hand experience of good people coming together with love to help each other and to confront racial hatred.

I am grateful to my Southern past for giving me the rich experiences to draw on in writing the *Blackwater Novels*. I consider these books to be parables on how to live. This may explain why some things work out better in the novels than they do in real life.”