



Below is a brief commentary for your entry in the 24th Annual Writer's Digest Self-Published Book Awards.

Entry Title West By Sea: A Treasure Hunt That Spans The Globe

Author: Michelle and Edward Beale

Judge Number: 55

Entry Category: Life Stories

Judge's Commentary*:

The best part of West by Sea - A Treasure Hunt that Spans the Globe by authors Michelle and Edward Beale is the passion they had to write about their adventure. Full of colorful pictures and maps the authors share their journey around the world. As stated, "We wanted to craft a book unlike anything you have ever seen before. We hope you enjoy this adventure around the world, and that our story inspires you to travel well and far, and do amazing things." They could improve West by Sea with testimonials, recommendations, and/or endorsements as all play a part in the authors' credibility and give the book the high profile it needs. Good marketing and strong promotion will pave the way to great sales. Michelle refused to let a cancerous brain tumor end her dreams, so she boarded a ship. As stated, "There was never a day that was boring. There was never a day I didn't learn something. There was never a day when I didn't want more, mostly more time: in a port, or to watch the waves, or to spend in a slow conversation, turning strangers into friends. Time to understand. Time to finish. Just more time.

Evaluation Criteria

Books are evaluated on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 meaning "needs improvement" and 5 meaning "outstanding". This scale is strictly to provide a point of reference, it is not a cumulative score and does not reflect ranking. Our system only recognizes numerals during this portion of logging evaluations. As a result, a "0" is used in place of "N/A" when the particular portion of the evaluation simply does not apply to the particular entry, based on the entry genre. For example, a book of poetry or a how to manual, would not necessarily have a "Plot and Story Appeal and may therefore receive a "0".

- Structure, Organization, and Pacing: 4
- Spelling, Punctuation, and Grammar: 4
- Production Quality and Cover Design: 3
- Plot and Story Appeal: 4
- Character Appeal and Development: 0
- Voice and Writing Style: 4

*If you wish to reference this review on your website, we ask that you cite it as such: "Judge, 24th Annual Writer's Digest Self-Published Book Awards." You may cite portions of your review, if you wish, but please make sure that the passage you select is appropriate, and reflective of the review as a whole.