

ROCHESTER, NY (October 15, 2019) -- "Matt Monroe and the Haunted House," a book for middle schoolers by Edward Torba, will be released on October 15, 2019 by All Points Press.

Sometimes getting young people to read is like pulling teeth. Edward Torba can relate, because he's been a dentist for more than 35 years. Fortunately, his stories give young readers more than a little something to chew on.

Torba grew up in southwestern Pennsylvania, and that's where his Matt Monroe series is set. "Matt Monroe and the Haunted House" is the story of Matt, a 14-year-old boy who is confronted by an evil entity. This tale of the supernatural embarks upon an incredible game of cat and mouse, cunningly leads readers down several blind alleys in their quest for the truth. The book's characters are beautifully flawed, their intentions blurred just enough to make readers wonder where their true allegiance lies. Matt Monroe and his brother Josh are the only constants as they attempt to sort it all out.

Several of the characters have "gifts" that are pivotal to the story. Bill can read people's memories. His Grandma Elsa can read tarot cards. Izadora uses a crystal ball, while Danielle... well, readers will have to grab the book to find out what she can do. These eccentric talents are at the heart of the story, and several characters warn Matt about the deadly danger he and his brother Josh are in. The nod to the paranormal also serves to bridge the gap successfully not only between the parallel worlds but also between the living and the dead.

The plot builds to a spectacular conclusion when the teenagers decide to take matters into their own hands and enter the haunted Payne mansion under the guise of attend a school Halloween party.

Edward Torba says if there is one lesson to be learned by "Matt Monroe and the Haunted House," it's this: "When one is alone, challenges can appear daunting and insurmountable. However, when we work with others, using our imaginations for a common goal, we can do anything. Nothing is impossible!"

"Matt Monroe and the Haunted House" has been named a Gold Award Recipient by the Mom's Choice Awards, which evaluates products and services created for children, families and educators. The program is recognized for establishing the benchmark of excellence in family-friendly media, products and services. The organization is based in the United States and has reviewed thousands of items from more than 55 countries.

"Matt Monroe and the Haunted House" is published by All Points Press, whose mission is to provide quality, wholesome adventure and fantasy stories for middle grade readers.

Edward Torba is a stout advocate for children's literacy and the author of the Matt Monroe series. He graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a B.S. in biology in 1973 and a D.M.D. in 1977. He has been a general dentist for more than 35 years, practicing in Latrobe, PA.

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