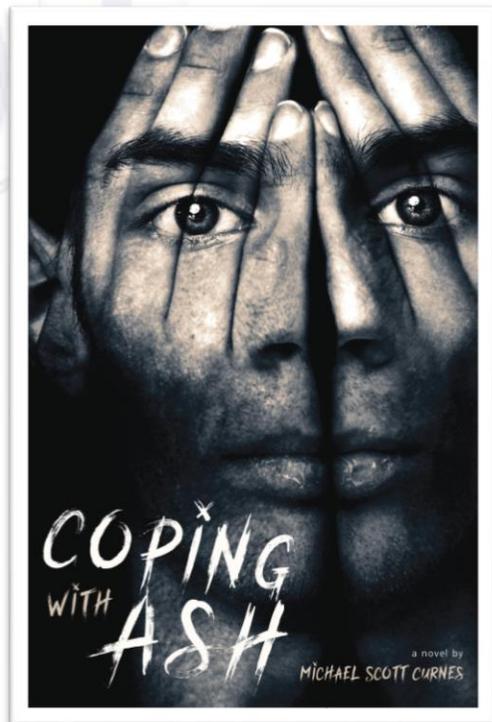


**New Release: From the Multi-Award Winning Author of *For the Love of Mother* Comes a Heart-Wrenching Novel of Loss, Culture, and Redemption**



## *Coping with Ash*

By **Michael Scott Curnes**

Published January 2017, Inkwater Press

ISBN: 978-1-62901-460-9

**1<sup>st</sup> PLACE WINNER:** **Royal Dragonfly Book Award**  
*LGBT Fiction, 2017*

**BRONZE MEDAL WINNER:** **Independent Book Publishers Awards**  
*Gay/Lesbian Fiction, 2017*

**FINALIST:** **International Book Awards**  
*LGBTQ Fiction, 2017*

**HONORABLE MENTION:** **Great Northwest Book Festival**  
*Fiction, 2017*

*"Coping with Ash is a sad, emotional read; heart breaking, devastating and realistic."*



URBAN LIT MAGAZINE



*"Entertaining, sorrowful, wistful and always human vignettes that tell a great story of one man's life."*

THE SEATTLE BOOK REVIEW

“This story is personal for me and so I wrote this novel to be personal for the reader, putting him in that vulnerable place of someone suffering from loss and abandonment and unspeakable loneliness. Every other page asks the question: how would I cope with this if I were the one left behind?”

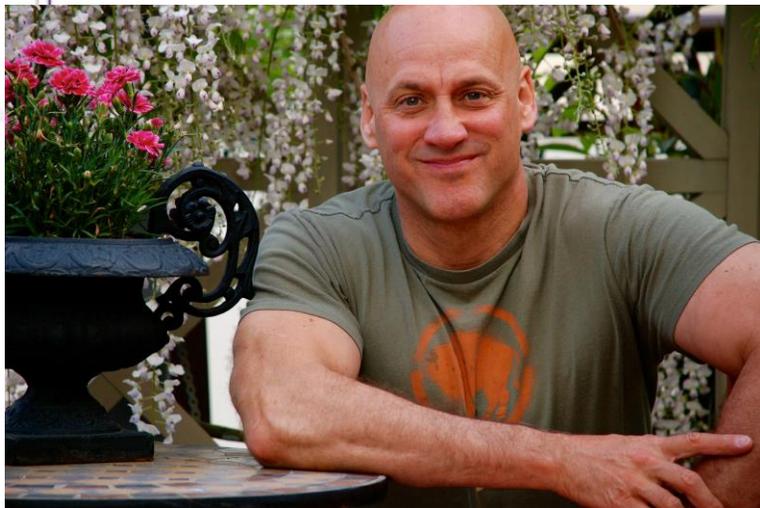
—*Michael Scott Curnes*

## About *Coping with Ash*

*Ashton Taylor was a hypochondriac—justifiably so—with multiple and sometimes self-diagnosed issues that turned him into a bit of a misfortune teller. Always knowing he would die young-ish, and anticipating what would otherwise have been an unorganized and messy affair for others, he had thoughtfully left behind a step-by-step post-mortem plan. Choreographing circumstances and conveyors, Ash had arranged for his cremains to be distributed to the places he cherished in this world, by the people who meant the most to him—especially his patient and tolerant partner of the past twenty-five years, Rich Dreadfulwater.*

*Rich, who is known by his family as Limping Rabbit, on account of a childhood tumble from a moving pickup truck, is a Seattle-based Native American defense lawyer suddenly grappling with grief, his caseload, and the task of divvying up the four pounds of his ash-rendered boyfriend into nineteen pre-labeled black plastic 35mm film canisters.*

*Struggling with everything he's lost, he finds himself coping with a whole lot more than his partner's ashes. In honoring the final wishes of the man he never imagined he could live without, the mourning lawyer embarks on a quest to find his inner Indian . . . and the destiny that has always been his birthright to seize.*



### Michael Scott Curnes

Fiction Winner of the 2011 Green Book Awards for his eco-thriller *For the Love of Mother*, delivers another Cascadian storyline jammed with legends, history, locales and characters that could only be found in the Great Pacific Northwest.

### Coping with Ash

Michael Scott Curnes

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