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Elgin News Digest: Elgin authors semifinalists in state contest

by Mike Danahey

Two Elgin writers are among the semifinalists in the eighth annual Soon to Be Famous Illinois Author Project Indie Book Competition.

India Powers' "Demon's Bane" is a fantasy romance novel involving witchcraft and time travel set in medieval and regency England. R. C. Ontiveros' "Grandes Aventuras de un Pequeño Viajero" ("Grand Adventures of a Little Traveler") is a memoir of his youth spent visiting attractions across Mexico.

According to her website, Powers is from West Texas and now lives in Elgin with her family. Ontiveros teaches advanced placement Spanish at **Elgin High School** and has been an educator for more than 20 years.

Powers' work is one of 10 in the adult fiction category while Ontiveros' book competes against seven others in the new De la Página a la Fama (From Page to Fame) category for works written in Spanish.

Judges will narrow the field to three finalists in each category before announcing the winners in October.

The author of the top book in each category receives cash prize, gets to promote their books at libraries and author fairs throughout Illinois, and competes against winners from other state competitions to be named national Indie Author of the Year.

