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**Smythe announces fifth book in *Kingdom of Florida* fantasy series**

**WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, September 28, 2020** - Author and creator Taylor Thomas Smythe announced the forthcoming release of the fifth installment in his imaginative *Kingdom of Florida* series of novels. The next book, which follows this past spring's *The Fountain of Youth*, is entitled *The Curse of Coronado* and will be available to purchase in late October 2020.

"I am excited for readers to experience new adventures with our good friends Oliver, Ellie, Ben, and Annie," Smythe said. "The first four books happened over the course of one summer in the story world and told a very sequential story arc. The new book picks up a year after *The Fountain of Youth*, so we get to see how things have changed since we last left our heroes. Without spoiling too much, I can say that what starts in the opening pages as a light-hearted birthday celebration quickly goes awry. A mysterious package shows up and propels the children into a new quest."

Readers can expect a lot of familiar faces—and a couple new ones. "The first several chapters are full of sweet reunions with many of the characters in the Kingdom that we've grown to love over the past couple years," Smythe hinted. "I think readers will be pleased that we get to explore some of the characters who maybe weren't quite at the center of the story before."

As with the first four novels, artist Alice Waller will return to illustrate the world of *Kingdom of Florida*. "I was in love with Ali's style since before we even began this collaboration," Smythe gushed. "Around the time she was wrapping *The Fountain of Youth*, Ali moved out of state, but we had already begun discussing the new book and kept in touch. I love the liveliness she portrays in the faces of the characters. I think Ali depicts them really well in this new story and I'm excited for readers to see these illustrations."

The series, which draws inspiration from such classics as *The Chronicles of Narnia*, *Harry Potter*, and L. Frank Baum's *Oz* books, follows the journey of a group of South Florida children as they discover a magical parallel world ruled by an evil prince.

The first four *Kingdom of Florida* books are independently published and available at [www.kingdomofflorida.com](http://www.kingdomofflorida.com) in paperback, hardcover, Kindle ebook, and — for the first installment — audiobook. *The Curse of Coronado* arrives in paperback and ebook later this October.