

**Review forthcoming in November issue, Midwest Book Review,  
Diane Donovan, Senior Reviewer — June 8, 2015**

Teen Jude is a preacher's son from a small Minnesota town who's facing another winter without much change, until his coach gives him two free tickets to the Rose Bowl game in Pasadena, California. Suddenly, he has the opportunity to realize there's not only a wider world out there; but one he might be able to visit and participate in - and so begins the avalanche of experiences that mark his transition into the adult world in *From Under the Snow*.

Picture a *Catcher in the Rye* with a Kerouac-like road trip of psychological and sexual discovery in 1961 as Jude and his friend, Stick, undertake a hitchhiking journey on Route 66, only to find that the romance of the road is offset by the realities of its trials and tribulations, turning the trip into a test of their friendship and what they value as individuals.

As Jude and his friend encounter a wide variety of people and situations, from a slick evangelical fundamentalist to a mind-expanding Navajo peyote ceremony, the story draws connections between circumstance, choices, and their lasting ramifications. Will Jude betray his friend Stick under pressure from a debauched truck driver and have sex with a prostitute? Will Jude admit to the truth of the trip or let his friend's version prevail?

*From Under the Snow* is a coming-of-age novel, in which the protagonist's encounters test his small-town provincial upbringing, his religious beliefs, and much of what Jude took for granted in the world. The chapter headings offer clear prefaces to content: *If he doesn't act he ceases to exist. Homosexuality is a sin and I think it's illegal here too. Do you think snakes can talk?*

The novel will be released for sale through Amazon.com on November 1, 2015.