

# THE LAST MARTIN WRITING CONTEST

## OFFICIAL RULES

### SPONSOR

This promotion (the "Contest") is sponsored by The Zondervan Corporation ("Sponsor"), 5300 Patterson Avenue, SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49530.

### ELIGIBILITY

**NO PURCHASE NECESSARY.** To enter, submit a story, poem or essay of 200 words or less on one of the following topics:

1. "My Life as a Germaphobe." The Last Martin is filled with nutty characters, none more so than Martin himself. He believes that germs, sickness, and danger wait for him at every turn. Of course these worries only exist in his mind, but his fears still prevent him from living life. Choosing this title may likely mean your story includes the concept of irrational fears.
2. "The Curse Breaker" Poor Martin! Not only does he live terrified of death, he discovers that he is, in fact, cursed! If Martin's calculations are correct, he has exactly three months to live. He begins a desperate search to free himself from this horrible fate. A story with this title might include a search of some type. You may well find yourself writing about freedom.
3. "Train Boy" Fortunately for Martin, he is not alone. A strange, homeless boy who lives in an abandoned boxcar behind Martin's house aides him in his attempt to break the curse. As Martin's time ticks away, Martin finds himself especially thankful for a faithful friend. A story with this title might include themes of thankfulness or friendship.

Send your entry by e-mail to [thelastmartin@zondervan.com](mailto:thelastmartin@zondervan.com) or by mail to: The Last Martin Writing Contest, c/o Sara Maher, The Zondervan Corporation, 5300 Patterson, SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49530. Entries not conforming to the above requirements will be automatically disqualified. Only one submission per entrant is permitted. Multiple entries are automatically disqualified, and only the first submission will be considered.

The Contest is open to all legal residents of the United States ages 11-14 as of 9:00 a.m. (ET) on April 1, 2011, excluding employees and immediate family member of Sponsor and their respective parents, subsidiaries affiliates and assigns, officers, directors, shareholders, employees, advertising, promotional and fulfillment agents, attorneys, and other representatives and the persons with whom each of the above are domiciled. Offer void wherever prohibited or restricted by law.

### ENTRY PERIOD

The Contest will commence on April 1, 2011 (9:00 a.m. (EST)). E-mail entries must be received by June 1, 2011 (5:00 p.m. (EST)). Entries by mail must be postmarked no earlier than April 1, 2011 and received no later than June 16, 2011.

### SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION OF WINNER

All entries will be judged by a panel of three editors employed by Sponsor based upon the following criteria: (i) creative expression, (ii) grammar and (iii) inspiration, [each of which will be weighted equally](#). By entering this Contest, entrants accept and agree to be bound by these Official Rules and the decisions of the judges, which shall be final and binding. Each submission must be the original work of the entrant. All entries become the property of Sponsor and will not be acknowledged or returned.

The potential winners will be notified by telephone and/or e-mail and their parent or guardian will be required to sign and return to Sponsor an affidavit of prize acceptance and release of liability. If Sponsor does not receive the affidavit within 14 days of notification, the winner will be deemed to have forfeited the prize and an alternate winner will be chosen.

## **PRIZES**

The Grand Prize Winner will receive a signed copy of the book and a lunch with Jonathan Friesen. In addition, ten copies of *The Last Martin* will be given to the Grand Prize Winner's school and Jonathan Friesen will visit the school. The school visit will be set for a mutually convenient date between September 1, 2011 and October 30, 2011 and will continue for approximately one day. . Sponsor also reserves the right, but has no obligation, to post the winning submission on JonathanFriesen.com. Approximate retail value of the ten books is \$149. The school visit, lunch with the author and the posting of the submission do not have a commercial value.

Runner up will receive a signed book and a phone call from Jonathan Friesen. In addition, his or her school will receive ten copies of the book. Sponsor reserves the right, but has no obligation, to post the featured on JonathanFriesen.com Approximate retail value of the ten books is \$149. The phone call and the posting of the submission do not have a commercial value.

Third place will receive 1 signed copy of the book. Sponsor also reserves the right, but has no obligation, to post the winning submission on JonathanFriesen.com. Approximate value of the book is \$14.99. The posting of the submission does not have a commercial value.

Approximate retail value of all prizes \$312.99.

The sponsor reserves the right to republish the winners' entries on its website, in advertising and promotional material for the Sponsor's books, and in reprints of the Book, but has no obligation to do so.

The prizes are non-transferable and cannot be sold or redeemed for cash. The Sponsor reserves the right to substitute a cash payment of equal value for the prize. Any federal, state, or local taxes are the sole responsibility of the winning entrant.

## **CONDITIONS**

By participating, entrants agree to be bound by these Official Rules and the selection of the winner, which shall be final, and waive any right to claim ambiguity in the Contest and/or these Official Rules.

Acceptance of prizes constitutes permission to use the entrant's essay, name, likeness, biography, and prize won for purposes of advertising, promotion and publicity without additional compensation, except where prohibited by law.

The entrants release, discharge, and hold harmless Sponsor and its respective affiliates, subsidiaries, assigns, attorneys, representatives and agents, including advertising, promotion and fulfillment agencies, from any and all liability or damages arising from the administration of the Contest and the use or misuse of any prize received in this contest, including, without limitation, the following: (i) late, lost, incomplete, delayed, misdirected or unintelligible entries, (ii) any printing, typographical, administrative or technological errors in any materials associated with the Contest, and (iii) any damage to the entrant's computer and related equipment and software resulting from entrant's downloading of information regarding the Contest or participation in the Contest.

Sponsor may only use the personally identifiable information obtained from the entrants in accordance with its privacy policy.

Sponsor reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to modify, cancel or suspend this Contest should a virus, bug, computer problem, fire or other causes beyond its control corrupt the administration, security or proper operation of the Contest. Sponsor may prohibit you from participating in the Contest or winning a prize if, in its sole discretion, it determines that you are attempting to undermine the legitimate operation of the Contest by cheating, hacking or employing other unfair practices or by abusing other entrants or the representatives of Sponsor.

**ANY ATTEMPT BY AN ENTRANT TO DELIBERATELY DAMAGE THE WEBSITE OR UNDERMINE THE OPERATION OF THE CONTEST MAY BE IN VIOLATION OF CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LAWS, AND, IN SUCH EVENT, SPONSOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO PURSUE ITS REMEDIES AND DAMAGES (INCLUDING COSTS AND ATTORNEY'S FEES) TO THE FULLEST EXTENT OF THE LAW.**

THE ODDS OF WINNING DEPEND UPON THE NUMBER AND QUALITY OF THE ENTRIES RECEIVED.

Any dispute arising from the Contest will be determined according to the laws of the State of Michigan, without reference to its conflict of laws principles, and the entrants consent to the personal jurisdiction of the State and Federal Courts for the city of Grand Rapids over them and agree that such courts have exclusive jurisdiction over all such disputes.

For the names of prize winners, e-mail your request to [thelastmartin@zondervan.com](mailto:thelastmartin@zondervan.com) or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope (Postage not required for residents of Vermont) to The Last Martin Contest, c/o Sara Maher, The Zondervan Corporation, 5300 Patterson, SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49530 after July 16, 2011. All requests must be received by December 30, 2011.