

KU MEMORIAL UNIONS MEDIA RELEASE

Contact: Lisa Eitner, Oread Books, 785-864-4431, oreadbooks@ku.edu

Roderick Townley Reading and Booksigning at Oread Books

March 1, 2007 (LAWRENCE, Kans.) - Roderick Townley, author of the just-published young adult novel *The Red Thread: A Novel in Three Incarnations*, will appear at Oread Books on level 2 of the Kansas Union on the University of Kansas campus in Lawrence on Tuesday, March 13, 2007, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. The event will include a reading, discussion and booksigning, and is free and open to the public. Townley will focus his talk on the process of researching and writing books for young people.

The Red Thread: A Novel in Three Incarnations (Atheneum Books for Young Readers, Simon & Schuster Publishing) is a supernatural murder mystery in which a teenager's quest for a dark truth leads her backward in time and across an ocean to the origin of a psychic wound. Prompted by recurrent dreams, sixteen-year-old Dana Landgrave uncovers an ancient crime that has drawn the same souls together through three lifetimes. As Dana summons courage to reenter the past, each incarnation propels her to new discoveries - and new suspicions - until the threads of all three lives converge in a devastating revelation.

Roderick Townley is also the author of *Sky*, an American Library Association Best Book for Young Adults described by VOYA (*Voice of Youth Advocates*) as "one hell of a book." *Sky* depicts a fifteen-year-old musician in New York City during the era of the Beats. Townley's three-novel Sylvie Cycle, about the lives that storybook characters lead when the book is closed, received equally enthusiastic praise. The first volume in the trilogy, *The Great Good Thing*, was a Top Ten Book Sense Pick. Its sequel, *Into the Labyrinth*, was dubbed a "hopping fine read" by the *New York Times*. *Kirkus Reviews* called the final volume, *The Constellation of Sylvie*, "as clever and captivating as its predecessors."

Roderick Townley has published other books of fiction, poetry, nonfiction and literary criticism. He also taught in Chile on a Fulbright Fellowship and worked in New York as an editor. He has two children and lives with his wife, author Wyatt Townley, in Shawnee Mission, Kansas.

Oread Books is a full-service, independent bookseller located on the University of Kansas campus in Lawrence on the second floor of the Kansas Union. As a non-profit organization, all proceeds are given back to KU through student programs and activities. The selection at Oread Books is reflective of the interests of the campus community, always current and representing diverse points of view.