APPENDIX

Awards Won by Mordecai Richler

- Governor General's Award in 1969 for *Cocksure*
- Governor General's Award in 1972 for *St. Urbain's Horseman*
- Screenwriters Guild of America Award for Best Comedy for screenplay in 1974 of *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz*
- Canadian Library Association Book of the Year for Children Award in 1976 for *Jacob Two-Two Meets the Hooded Fang*
- Ruth Schwartz Children's Book Award in 1976 for *Jacob Two-Two Meets the Hooded Fang*
- Mr. Christie's Book Award (for the best English book age 8 to 11) in 1995 for *Jacob Two-Two's First Spy Case*
Richler lands Leacock prize
'Curmudgeonly' Quebecer wins humour award for Barney's Version

JOHN MCKAY
CP

He might be a grumpy old man on the subject of Quebec nationalism, but when Mordecai Richler's subject is fiction, there's no funnier Canadian.

That was the conclusion at the 1998 Stephen Leacock Award for Humour luncheon yesterday, when it was announced that Richler was the winner for his book Barney's Version (Knopf, $32.95).

Richler was not present but Knopf representative Dianne Martin, who accepted the award on his behalf, suggested that despite his celebrated grumpiness, the Montreal-based writer becomes more appealing as time goes on. "The older and more curmudgeonly he gets, the cuter he gets. I think this is what's happening to Mordecai."

Humourist Dave Broadfoot said he, too, was often puzzled by the Richler dichotomy.

"He writes very, very funny things, and then he writes about Quebec and it's so nasty it's incredible," said Broadfoot. "You'd think he hated the place, that it was imposed on him, that he was forced to go and live there. I mean, that's the way he writes about it."

Broadfoot said Richler's satire is brilliant, though, and there's no question he deserved the Leacock honour.


Barney's Version is about Barney Panofsky, a complicated, wicked, thrice-married man who might be a drunk and even a murderer. But when his sworn enemy threatens to publish such things, Barney decides to write his own memoirs and to conveniently reinvent the facts of his life.

The novel is set in the world of Duddy Kravitz and the Gurskys that Richler fans recognize, albeit some three decades later.

The other finalists were 1988 Leacock winner Paul Quarrington (The Boy on the Back of the Turtle); Sandra Shamus (A Trilogy of Performances); Carol Shields (Larry's Party), and Antanas Sileika Buying on Time.

The winner receives a $5,000 prize from the sponsor, Laurentian Bank of Canada, and will be honoured in Leacock's home town, Orillia, Ont., June 6, during the Humour Award Weekend. There will also be a soiree and book-signing events.
The Spine – Chilling Incidents of Holocaust

The Jews were Starving to death in the Concentration Camp
Richler as an Adolescent with his Parents

Richler at the Prime of his Youth.

Has he lost himself in thought?

Looking Tired of writing so many novels

A Relaxed Mordecai Richler

A Cheerful looking Richler

(Marie-France Coallier, GAZETTE) Mordecai Richler at his ease...