

Michael Robert Evans

Michael Robert Evans is an award-winning associate professor of journalism at Indiana University, a journalist and editor, a sailor, a father of twins, a folklorist, a Fulbright scholar, an ethnographer who's spent time in the Australian Outback and Inuit Arctic, and an author of many books, including his first young-adult novel, *68 Knots*.

Michael teaches magazine writing, magazine editing, and other courses at IU. He has been a freelance writer since 1974, with work appearing in numerous national magazines and newspapers, including *People* and *Seventeen*. He also worked as a magazine and newspaper editor in Western Massachusetts for many years. He is the author of *The Layers of Magazine Editing*, published by Columbia University Press in 2004.

Michael's passion for folklore has focused his research efforts on indigenous media movements. In 1998, he spent a year as a Fulbright Fellow in the Arctic, working with Inuit videographers. He also spent three months in the Australian Outback, working with Aboriginal radio and video producers. Much of his recent time has been spent on media issues involving North American native groups. This research has led to a number of books. He is the author of two books that will be published in 2008 and 2009: *Isuma: Inuit Video Art*, McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal, and *Atanarjuat*, University of Nebraska Press.

Michael was born in Germany, but grew up in Indiana and New England. When Michael was 16 years old, he took part in the Hurricane Island Outward Bound School, a survival and sailing school off the coast of Maine. He spent 26 days with a lot of other teens—and some counselors—sailing open pulling boats along the coast. This experience is where he learned about sailing, nature, and himself, and created the inspiration for *68 Knots*.

Michael pursued this interest further by studying sailing at the Annapolis Sailing School, where he, his parents, and sisters sailed around the Chesapeake for a wonderful stretch of summer.

Michael, his wife, and their two sons currently divide their time between homes in Bloomington, Indiana, and New Hampshire.