



The National **81** Fantasy Fan **Years**

Fandom's Second Oldest Print Publication

Cras ad Stellas— Tomorrow to the Stars

Volume 81 Number 1

January 2022

Short Story Contest

Congratulations to winners of our 2021 Short Story contest. Kudos to all who entered!

First Prize: A prize of \$50 is awarded to "The Prudence of Silver," by Sean Jones: a Swords and Sorcery "dungeon crawl," with monsters, skeletons, high priests, and a small band of determined heroes to penetrate the depths and accomplish their dire mission. But things are not always what they seem, and, in war, who is really a "good guy?"

Second Prize: A prize of \$30 is awarded to "Breaking Good," by Adrian Rayner: a "Noir" style conflict between a publisher and an extortionist. When the arm-breakers are making demands, whom can anyone trust?

Third Prize: A prize of \$20 is awarded to "Wear Some Flowers In Your Hair," by Markus Nyström: A space battle goes badly -- as badly as it could conceivably go -- and our hero volunteers to salvage the situation in the only way possible. Will he succeed?

Honorable Mention: "The Landing at the Somme," by Patrick McKay: what if the Martian war machines from "War of the Worlds" had landed in the middle of one of the climactic battles of World War One? What better time to attack, than while earthlings make war on each other?

This year's family of contestants include writers in Sweden and the UK, and several U.S. States. Most of the entries arrived by email -- one entry came by physical mail -- and it is not always given to know where, in all

the wide world, the entrants actually live. Today, we are all citizens of Cybernia!

The entries are remarkably diverse in style, tone, and genre. There are space battles, dungeon exploitations, time-travellers, magicians both evil and wise, near-future dystopias, black holes, monsters under the bed, and a remarkable "space western." The only thing this widely disparate group of stories have in common is imagination, the only realm other than mathematics that is utterly without limit. There are clever stories, and sad stories, and more ironic twists than Rod Serling could have shaken a stick at. There is science fiction, and there is fantasy, and there are stories where it's hard to say what the genre is at all. But the stories are all very clever, thoughtful, creative, and inspiring.

We had twenty-five stories in all, from nineteen authors -- several submitted two stories, and one energetic writer sent in three.

The stories bode well for the future of imaginative literature, for, notwithstanding another group's use of the phrase, these stories are truly by the writers of the future. Thank you, every one and all, for participating!

Neffys

Heath Row has made a proposal that your Editor anticipates will create some reaction. Readers, especially authors, are invited to comment. His proposal reads:

"We might consider a book and a [separate] ebook category so we don't fall prey to the thousand books a year

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We are getting a lot of letters of comment, these days. Keep it up!

However, as TNFF is space limited, some letters may start being passed over to The N3F FanActivity Gazette,.



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Continued Next Column, Middle

issue... There are probably not a thousand print sf, fantasy, and horror books a year.”

Heath also proposed a series of new categories. Many of these split current categories:

Best TV Show
 Best Animated TV Show (Non-Anime)
 Best Movie: Fantasy
 Best Movie: Horror
 Best Movie: Science Fiction
 Best Prozine
 Best Magazine
 Best Monster Magazine
 Best Podcast
 Best Movie: Science Fiction
 Best Novel: Fantasy
 Best Novel: Horror

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Join or Renew

We offer four different memberships. Memberships with TNFF via paper mail are \$18; memberships with TNFF via email are \$6. All other zines are email only. Additional memberships at the address of a current member are \$4. Public memberships are free. Send payments to Kevin Trainor, PO Box 143, Tonopah NV 89049. Pay online at N3F.org. Our PayPal contact is treasurer@n3f.org Send phillies@4liberty.net your email address for a public membership.

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Best Non-N3F Fanzine

The proposed categories from last year were

- Best Fan Writer
- Best Fan Artist
- Best Fan Editor
- Best Fan Web Site
- Best Non-N3F Fan Publication (electronic publication is allowed)
- Best N3F Fanzine
- Best Novel or Anthology (over 100,000 words)
- Best Shorter Work (under 100,000 words)
- Best Animation (anime/cartoon)
- Best Manga/Comic Book/Graphic Novel
- Best Book Editor
- Best Pro Artist, cover or otherwise
- Best Television Show
- Best Film or Video
- Best Role-Playing-Game Material
- Best Literary-Critical or Historical Work

Last year, some of these categories died for lack of interest.

I have also started receiving nominations already. Preliminary nominations will appear in the next issue. We may have to do a preliminary ballot.

Presidential Notes

Happy New Year from Massachusetts! May all your futures be bright!

Many thanks to Jessi Silver, who has agreed to become Keeper of the Passwords, so that if something happens to me all of the passwords needed for our web page, Bluehost hosting, and PHPlist emailing system will be in place.

We have anime reviews, comic reviewers, film reviewers, food reviewers...*Tightbeam* needs a blog reviewer, if someone would please volunteer.

There are large numbers of scientific social media groups. We need a Membership Recruitment and Outreach Bureau Head, someone who will regularly proselytize among fans and bring them to N3F Membership.

A few months ago, I reported that *The N3F Review of Books* was short of reviewers. Our traditional reviewers were turning to other activities. I am positively delighted to report that I made that statement and mem-

bers turned out with more reviews, so that the December issue ran to 51 pages, with a full two pages of Table of Contents.

The Director's View -Judy Carroll

I have been a member of the National Fantasy Fan Federation since June, 2015. I am the Bureau Head for the following bureaus: Correspondence, Round Robins, Welcommittee, and Writer's Exchange. I also write a column for the Origin clubzine.

Several years ago I joined the N3F for the first time. A relative had introduced it to me, and it became the glue that held my life together for two years, Life became harder and I gradually faded out of N3F existence.

What I would like to talk about is the difference in membership between my first experience with the N3F and my experience now.

My first experience with the N3F was one of friendship, activity, and fun. I had become a member of several bureaus and had gained new friends. The same can be said of my current experience. But the big difference between then and now is not the number of bureaus we had or have, nor the number of members we had or have. The difference is the number of active members we had then and those we have now.

In my previous adventure with the N3F so many members were actively involved it was like we were all members of the same small town. We could walk down the street and greet old friends and meet new ones. Each bureau was like a shop we were invited to come into and look around. Something was always happening in the town square - carnivals, parades, picnics.

Now, the adventure is different. We still live in the same town, but the activity level has dropped. Walking through the park we still meet old friends, but we rarely see a new face. Many of the shops rarely have anyone at their doors, and some of the shopkeepers have given up advertising their goods in the local newspaper: TNFF.

If you desire a pleasant and meaningful experience with the N3F I suggest you become actively engaged with one or more bureaus or activities. It's not hard, and it's not time consuming. Go to the second page of TNFF under -Your Volunteer Team. - you will find the

list of the Directors and Officers, (In case you have questions) and Editors, and Bureau Heads. Contact one of more members listed and become an active member of the N3F.

Letters of Comment

Editor:

I liked Heath Row's article about the various club publications. I've heard of some of these zines before but didn't know what they published. There were other zines that I hadn't heard of before.

Getting to other matters, I attended LosCon. Only 500 members showed up. That's the smallest number in many years. I also got news at LosCon about the various SF clubs I'm involved with. The Orange County Sf Club won't meet again until they find a new President. Time Meddlers hasn't meant since the pandemic started. There's no word when they will meet again. My good friend Keith Carey just published a book of time travel short stories titled "When are you today". It is available on Amazon.

...Wesley Kawato

Editor:

Truth be told, I took the November issue with me to Loscon and the Los Angeles Comic Con last month, fully intending to read it when things got slow. Well, things never did get slow, and you can expect a con report from both events in an upcoming issue of one of the clubzines. Seeing Jacqueline Lichtenberg's post in the N3F Facebook group that she'd received her copy of the December issue just yesterday, I was expecting mine soon—and was extremely pleased when it arrived on this very rainy day in southern California.

Echoing Mr. Swycaffer's December loc, congratulations to Graham J Darling for the publication of "The Eternity Machine" in Dark Matter. To help celebrate the accomplishment, I just subscribed and downloaded the issue in which his story appears in order to read it on my iPad. It seems the magazine publishes in several soft formats as well as in hard copy, but all the print editions are currently sold out. I look forward to reading the story—and am glad that the N3F could have a hand in shepherding it to publication!

Mr. Jennings's November loc remarks on the challenges facing the Neffys struck a chord with me. Like him, I almost always forget to nominate candidates for inclusion in the ballot. Even if I vote, which I also don't

always do, that's not just an opportunity lost, but it helps contribute to the resulting winners not necessarily representing as broad a spectrum of science fiction, fantasy, and horror as they might. His mention of other genre awards—the Hugos, FAAn Awards, Dragon Con (and I'd add the Nebulas)—makes me wonder: What can the Neffys do that the other awards don't do?

One thing we could do—as Jennings suggests—is draw on our existing clubzines for nominations. For this year, for example, let's scan all the issues of The N3F Review of Books and pull the titles published in 2021. That's a good starting list. For comic books and anime, we can turn to Mangaverse. For TV shows, I'm sure "Cathode Ray" might have something to say. And for movies, maybe we turn to Fantastic Films. Rather than put the responsibility on the President, the task could fall to the Directorate or to the editors of each clubzine—or contributor, in Ray's case. Because our winners will only be as good as the nominees.

Regardless, as announced in the December issue of The Fan, the call for nominations is upon us. Please send in your suggestions for the current categories, as well as ideas for new categories, soon. I know I will.

I also appreciated Jennings's comments on the relationship between the Jungle Jim comic strips and radio programs. That connection makes me wonder whether Hearst subsidized the broadcasts as an advertisement of sorts for their newspapers. I'm sure one of the old-time radio scholars or researchers has looked into this. Something to poke around online for, for sure!

Mr. Kawato, Loscon was most definitely held this past Thanksgiving weekend, and I was thrilled to see you there working the table for Nova Science Fiction. I enjoyed catching up with you and was pleased to see you happy and healthy. My comments on Mr. Darling's story above makes me wonder whether we could somehow integrate Nova into the Short Story Contest. We could encourage finalists and winners to send their stories to you for consideration for publication, or even compile a list of friendly markets—perhaps including Nova—that we think would be appropriate for N3F contest winners.

Edgar Rice Burroughs's Tarzan first appeared in the October 1912 issue of The All-Story. It appeared as a book until 1914. In the December issue of The Fan, Jennings suggests that while Tarzan as a literary creation will never die, his relevance is definitely on the wane. Interestingly, at the recent Los Angeles Comic Con in early December, Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc.'s Jim Sullos, Cathy Wilbanks, and Christopher Paul Carey announced a new series of Burroughs-related books and comic books at a panel titled "Tarzan, Jane, and the Edgar Rice Bur-

roughs Universe.” Neffers can learn more at <http://edgarriceburroughs.com/erbuniverse/>.

Swartz’s SerCon on The Lone Ranger hit me at just the right time. Last night, a friend and I watched a two-hour fixup movie version of Radar Men from the Moon, the 12-chapter Commando Cody serial. Interestingly, one of the criminals hired by the lunar invaders was played by Clayton Moore, who was later cast as the Lone Ranger for the TV series. I didn’t recognize him at first, but then his voice hit me. And for the rest of the movie, the hoodlum ineptly aiding the lunar raiders was the Lone Ranger. To me at least.

While growing up in the Midwest, The Lone Ranger was a Sunday morning TV staple for me. I remember it airing as part of a package deal that included a Tarzan cartoon, Adventures of Superman, The Lone Ranger, Sergeant Preston of the Yukon, and Bowery Boys shorts. I didn’t always get up in time to watch the cartoon—and I often had to cut my viewing short in order to go to church—but it remains some of the best television I’ve ever watched. There’s even still a Lone Ranger fan club active! Neffers can check it out at thelonerangerfanclub.com/.

Mr. Trainor, if you pursue T-shirts for the club, count me in for at least one. I could even imagine a color screen-print of the coat of arms on the first page of each issue of The Fan as a design option. It’s a nice design we could make more use of.

Finally, welcome to new members Michail McLain and Amy Clark. I’m glad you’re here with us. What are you reading, watching, writing, listening to, thinking, and doing?

Sincerely,
Heath Row

Dear Neffers:

Many thanks to all for The National Fantasy Fan, Vol. 80, No. 12, and I am sure Vol. 81 No. 1 is coming soon, I’d better put a rush on this...

Good to see that all is well, and working as it should, like club management, the Neffys, and the many zines that club management provides to the membership. The full description of all club zines should be an invitation to get involved with them, and all are welcome. Their participation makes for bigger zines.

My letter...I did get the chance to proofread and edit issue 6 of Gramforge Anvil magazine, which I think should be out shortly. I took a good portion of December off from loc writing to proofread/copyedit/ structural edit

a 488-page e-book for a British author, and that was my first good payday for what I do. I guess I can now say I am a professional SF editor; don’t worry (Inigo), I won’t let it go to my head. Best of all, that author has asked me to edit his next book, and I have said yes.

I stand by what we say, that we don’t always get along. I’ve gotten criticism for that remark, too, which, in turn, may supply an example of what I am talking about. Fandom gives us a sense of belonging, but for some, there is a proprietary attitude, that the activity/comic/show/movie/etc. of your liking is ours, or in some cases, mine.

Even the creator is criticized for making changes their creations’ fandom might not approve of. We aren’t as tolerant of different opinions as we might like to be. I had to look up the full definition of stan...I would certainly agree.

I live just up Highway 401 from Detroit, so I’d love to time travel to listen to WXYZ, 1270 on the AM dial, to hear the beginnings of The Lone Ranger. I have read a lot about Jay Silverheels, given his Canadian-based heritage. He was born in Ohsweken in the Six Nations reserve in Brant County, Ontario, and is Mohawk and Seneca in descent. His ashes were scattered through the Six Nations lands.

I hope all holidays in December were happy times and great fun, and with luck, we can get past this terrible pandemic, and have some long-overdue fun once the warm weather returns. Take care, all, and I am sure the next TNFF is on its way. See you soon.

Yours, Lloyd Penney.

Red Ryder and Fred Harman
by
Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D.
N3F Historian

[Editor: With this article we come to the end of our long series on comic strips of days of yore.]

Red Ryder was a long-running Western newspaper comic strip created by artist/writer Fred Harman. Beginning Sunday, November 6, 1938, Red Ryder was syndicated by Newspaper Enterprise Association, expanding over the following decade to more than 750 newspapers, translations into ten languages, and a readership in the United States of an estimated 14 million. The 26-year run of the popular strip came to an end in 1964.



Bronc Peeler

Harman was on a Colorado ranch when he decided to draw a comic strip. He headed for Hollywood in the early 1930s, borrowed some money, and began Bronc Peeler, which he

syndicated himself. The red-headed Peeler was a rough cowboy who fought bandits and rustlers with the help of his pal, Coyote Pete. Harman's art style had a dramatic appeal, but his characters, use of slang, and thin story-lines were not in keeping with the standards needed for wide syndication at the time.

Red Ryder Newspaper Strip

In 1938, when Harman met literary agent/entrepreneur Stephen Slesinger (1901-1953), he headed toward happier trails. Slesinger brought Harman to New York and worked with him for a year before Red Ryder was ready to be syndicated. Slesinger then embarked on a successful campaign of Red Ryder merchandising and licensing. As agent for such clients as Edgar Rice Burroughs, Zane Grey, and Chic Young, Slesinger knew how to promote properties.

Astride his mighty steed Thunder, Red Ryder was a tough cowboy who lived on Painted Valley Ranch in the Blanco Basin of the San Juan Mountain Range with his aunt (the Duchess) and his kid sidekick, Little Beaver, an orphaned Navajo boy who rode a horse named Papoose. (Little Beaver had actually been introduced as a character in the Bronc Peeler strip.) Other notable characters in the Red Ryder strip included ranch hand Buckskin Blodgett, Red's girlfriend Beth Wilder, and bad guy Ace Hanlon.

Harman was eventually acclaimed as one of the finest Western pen-and-ink artists, known for his dramatic sense of perspective and authentic action. Contributing artists and writers worked on the strip over the years, including Slesinger who scripted and approved all of the stories until his death in 1953. Harman left Red Ryder in 1963 to concentrate on painting western scenes.

Gaylord DuBois, a prolific comic book writer associated with Slesinger, scripted both Red Ryder and Little Beaver for a short period in 1938 and again in the early 1940s.

Big Little Books

There were eleven Red Ryder Big Little Books (BLBs) published by Whitman during the 1930s-1940s, plus a



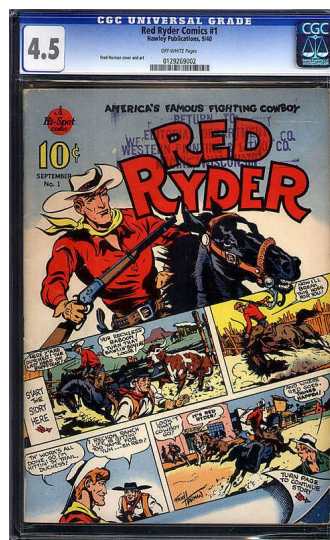
Dell Fast Action Story about Red and Little Beaver, and an early Red Ryder Penny Book.

The Dell Fast Action Story, Red Ryder Brings Law to Devil's Hole, was published in

1939; the Penny Book, Red Ryder and the Highway Robbers, appeared before all the other books in 1938. Harman was credited as writer/artist on all these BLB and BLB-type books. Three of the covers of these books were taken from Red Ryder comic books.

In addition, there was a BLB about Bronc Peeler, Harman's earlier character; and reprints of some of Peeler's early exploits also appeared in Popular Comics.

Comic Books



The first Red Ryder comic book was published by Slesinger's Hawley Publications in September, 1940, followed by Hi-Spot comics for one issue. Dell Comics launched its Red Ryder comic book series in August 1941, changing its title to Red Ryder Ranch Magazine with #145, and then to Red Ryder Ranch Comics with #149. Red Ryder Comics consisted of reprints of the newspaper strip until issue

#47 (June, 1947), when it began featuring original material. Altogether, the title ran for a total of 151 issues, ending in 1957, one of the longest continuous newsstand runs of any Western comic book.

There was also a Little Beaver comic book, published by Dell during the 1940s-1950s.

Other Books

There were seven Red Ryder books published in the Whitman Juvenile Adventure Series: Red Ryder and the Secret of Wolf Canyon (1941), Red Ryder and the Secret of the Lucky Mine (1941), Red Ryder and the Mystery of Whispering Walls (1941), Red Ryder and the Adventure at Chimney Rock (1946), Red Ryder and the Riddle of Roaring Range (1951), Red Ryder and the Gun Smoke

Gold (1954), and Red Ryder and the Thunder Trail (1956).

In 1941 Whitman also issued The Red Ryder Paint Book, a coloring book for children.

Daisy Handbooks/Science Fiction

Red Ryder was the star of the Daisy Handbooks published in the 1940s. The Handbooks featured Ryder comic strips, ads for Daisy BB guns and pistols, articles on science and western lore, “how-to-do” articles, contests, miscellaneous activities for children, and reprints of the comic book adventures of other comic characters, including such science fiction and fantasy characters as Buck Rogers, Captain Marvel, and Ibis the Invincible.

These Handbooks evolved into Daisy's Red Ryder Gun Book, published in 1955, with contents similar to those of the Handbooks, although Red Ryder was showcased even more in this publication.

Radio

The Red Ryder radio series began February 3, 1942, on the Blue Network, broadcast for 30 minutes three times a week at 7:30 pm Pacific time. When the Blue Network acquired The Lone Ranger from the Mutual Broadcasting System, Mutual decided to compete by airing Red Ryder in the same time period. Thus, Red Ryder aired on the East Coast that year from May 20 to September 9 on Mutual. The series even beat The Lone Ranger in the Hooper Ratings at the time, but the success was short-lived.

Mutual continued the series on the West Coast Don Lee Network through the 1940s and into the 1950s at 7:30 pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, always with the familiar organ theme, “The Dying Cowboy.” The program lasted until 1951.

This series starred Reed Hadley as Red, followed in the role by Carlton KaDell, and finally Brooke Temple. Tommy Cook, Henry Blair, and then Johnny McGovern played Little Beaver. Horace Murphy played Buckskin. Announcers on the show included Ben Alexander and Art Gilmore.

Hadley also appeared in genre movie serials, including Republic's Adventures of Captain Marvel (1941). Cook appeared in several serials, including Republic's Jungle Girl (1941).

Serials/Films

The Red Ryder character starred in more than 35 movies and movie serials. They began in 1940 with the 12-chapter Republic movie serial, The Adventures of Red Ryder, played by Don “Red” Barry (who got his nickname “Red” from the role), with Tommy Cook as Ryder's young sidekick, Little Beaver.

Subsequently, “Wild Bill” Elliott and Alan “Rocky” Lane portrayed Red Ryder in a number of B-films, both working with then child actor Robert Blake as Little Beaver. The last four Red Ryder movies starred Jim Bannon as Red Ryder with Don Kay Reynolds as Little Beaver. All four of these later movies were done in color.

Television

Red Ryder movies were edited for television syndication, and there were two attempts to produce a new TV series. The first, in 1951 (“Whiplash”) starred Bannon as Red; in 1956, with Lane as Red and Louis Lettieri as Little Beaver, a second attempt was made. The new pilot, “Gun Trouble Valley,” didn't result in a series either. These pilot shows are still available today, however, both on the Internet and in DVD collections.

Merchandise



The Red Ryder BB gun is undoubtedly the most popular Red Ryder product, advertised on the back covers of countless comic books during the 1940s-1950s. It was also featured on the Daisy Handbooks that reprinted comic book stories. The gun was also prominently featured in the movie,

A Christmas Story, in which Ralphie Parker requests one for Christmas, but is repeatedly rebuffed with the warning: “You'll shoot your eye out.” The movie's fictional BB gun, described as the “Red Ryder carbine-action, two hundred shot Range Model air rifle with a compass in the stock and this thing which tells time,” does not correspond to any model in existence, nor even to a prototype; the Red Ryder gun featured in the movie was specially made to match author Jean Shepherd's story.

Other merchandise over the years consisted of the usual gear sold by western heroes of the media, including games, puzzles, gun racks, gun sleeves, gloves, BBs,

pocketknives, buttons, good luck tokens, plastic arrowheads, key chain charms, tin signs, bag tags, belts, suspenders and suspender clips, watches, shirts, rings, and statues. Also included was some unusual gear for a cowboy star, such as candy bars and a pinball marble game.

During 1942-1944 there was a Red Ryder Victory Patrol Club, with all the paraphernalia and premiums that went with belonging to such a club: a Rodeomatic Decoder, badges, trading cards, kits, etc.

Fred Harman

Cartoonist Harman (1902-1982) began his comic strip career with Bronc Peeler (1933-1938) and then produced Red Ryder (1938-1964). Unlike Bronc Peeler, Red Ryder was a major success. In his later life Harman turned to oil painting and co-founded the Cowboy Artists of America. Some of his paintings may be seen today in the Fred Harman Art Museum in Pagosa Springs, Colorado.

Some Conclusions

Red Ryder was an undoubted success, second only in celebrity for young readers and movie viewers to such western heroes as Gene Autry, Tom Mix, and Roy Rogers, men who actually existed and were therefore able to make personal appearances as themselves at rodeos, circuses, and other events.

Western novelist and cartoonist Stan Lynde once wrote: "I came to admire those few artists and cartoonists who knew, loved, and portrayed the West with talent, integrity and truth. Fred Harman was one of those gifted artists."

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Note: In addition to the above sources, several Internet sites were consulted.

Club Activities

Writers Exchange

We're here to comment on what you have written. Please contact us.

A writer: A person engaged in writing books, articles, stories, etc., especially as an author or journalist. A clerk, scribe or the like. A person who commits his or her thoughts, ideas, etc., to writing: an expert: letter writer.. A person who writes or is able to write: a writer in script. (dictionary.com)

Have you ever pondered the following questions?

Am I really a writer?

Can I be considered a writer if I've never had anything published?

Can I say I'm a writer if my work has only been read by friends and relatives?

Read the following as if it were a quiz, answering "yes" "no" or "maybe" to each statement. Send me your responses as a whole - 7 yes, 7 no, 7 sometimes or include your answer to each statement, examples #3 no, # 5 yes, #8 sometimes.

After reading and responding to the statements, tell me if you consider yourself a writer. You can answer anonymously, if you like.

The following is taken from -

21 Ways to Tell When You're a Writer
by Jane Fortune June 30, 2018

You're a writer when

1. You Write

Believe you are what you want to be. And then start acting like it. ... Jeff Goins

2. You start a project and work at it.

Just when the author sits down to write the monster of grim common sense will lumber up the steps to whine that the book is not for the general public, that the book will never, never — and right then, just before it blurts out the words, common sense must be shot dead

... Nabokov

3. You write every day.

4. You put aside distractions to focus.

5. You take yourself seriously as the first audience of your writing.

6. You write rubbish first drafts.

7. You take a break.

Often when one works at a hard question, nothing good is accomplished at the first attack.

Henri Poincare

8. You edit, edit, edit.

9. You Value feedback.

10. You make every word help.

11. You kill unnecessary words.

12. You persevere.

This business of being a writer is ultimately about asking yourself 'How alive am I willing to be?'

... Anne Lamont

13. You have a voice.

14. You make yourself memorable.

15. You make yourself vulnerable.

16. You connect.

Only connect. ... E. M. Forster

17. You listen to the editor.

18. You finish.

Wait ... Kafka

19. You know you can always get better.

20. You read.

I write two pages. And then I read and read and read. ... Jose Saramago

21. You write because you can't not write

There's a difference between writing for a living and writing for life. If you write for a living, you make enormous compromises... If you write for life, you'll work hard; you'll do what's honest, not what pays. ...

Toni Morrison

The impulse to write things down is a peculiarly compulsive one, inexplicable to those who do not share it. ... Joan Didion

When people say, Did you always want to be a writer? I have to say, No! I always was a writer. ... Ursula Le Guin

If you are a new writer, a professional writer, or someone who dreams of being a writer - this is the place for you. If you love reading unpublished work and find it exciting to do so, this place is also for you.

The Writers Exchange is for anyone interested in writing. If you have a story you would like read and commented on, or if you just want the excitement of reading unpublished work, then the Writers Exchange is here for you. Published or unpublished - all are welcome. You may join as a writer, a reader or both.

If interested, please contact: Judy Carroll. BlueShadows2012@gmail.com OR if you prefer postal mail, Judy Carroll 975 E 120 S Spanish Fork, UT 84660

Fan-Pro Coordinating Bureau

I heard back from Paul Levinson, author of The Consciousness Plague, who was speaking about his musical productions and short stories outside of the science fiction field. He had been interviewed in Ionisphere and I had not heard again from him until now. This is an example of doing some coordination with the pros. The Correspondence Bureau arranged a correspondence for me with a person who had had a letter of comment in Ionisphere, so that's hearing more from her. I'm calling attention to the fact that the bureau is looking for more communicative interactivity. We are adding a link to a fandom news source to Ionisphere.-John Thiel

Eldritch Science

With the completion of the 2021 Short Story Contest, our fiction zine *Eldritch Science* expects to have its next issue out soon.

History and Research Bureau

Mellow, brothers. We are making out all right in the history and research bureau. Everything is happening without a hitch in Origin, and we are finding many research accesses. I believe our listing of science fiction titles is recalling to mind of the readers many earlier works of science fiction.-John Thiel

Correspondence Bureau

Want to make new friends?

What to discuss the latest book by your favorite author?

What to debate the merits of soft science fiction vs hard science fiction?

Then you have come to the right place.

If You wish to join you need to do the following:

1. Send me your name and either email address OR postal address,
2. If you wish to correspond with a member already listed

with the Correspondence Bureau include their name.

3. If you have a postal address and wish to correspond with someone listed "by email" let me know and I will contact them. I will let you know their reply.

Depending on your preference you will receive an email or postal mail with the contact information of the person you wish to contact, and they will receive your contact information.

The following members are interested in corresponding. .

Jeffrey Redmond - by email
 John Thiel - by email
 Judy Carroll - by email or postal mail.
 William Mayo - by email

Send email requests to : Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com
 Send postal mail requests to: Judy Carroll 975 E 120 S Spanish Fork, UT 84660

Welcomittee

Please read the current TNFF for a list of the many activities and bureaus you can join. Being active is the most fulfilling way to enjoy being a member of the National Fantasy Fan Federation.

The purpose of the Welcomittee is to welcome new members to the club. A letter is sent, by email or postal mail, to new members informing them of club activities they may be interested in joining. Those members with email addresses are also sent attachments to the current TNFF and other publications the N3F has to offer.

If you have questions about the N3F or are interested in helping with the Welcomitte please contact:
 Judy Carroll at BlueShadows2012@gmail.com or 975 East 120 South, Spanish Fork, Utah 84660

Pro Bureau

Many of our members are pros. Many of our founders, including E. E. Smith and Ray Bradbury, were pros. In support of our pro members, to help all our members become better writers we publish *The N3F Review of Books Incorporating Prose Bono*. The Review publishes reviews of novels and sfnal-literary-critical works, and articles on becoming a better writer. Our objective

is to review each SF book when it is published. To support us, send your book reviews to Editor George Phillips, phillies@4liberty.net

Round Robins Bureau

Unfortunately, no members involved in the Round Robins Bureau have come forward and told me which Round Robins are active. Due to this lack of interest the Round Robins Bureau is now considered inactive.

However, if people are interested in a Round Robin on some topic I will be happy to recruit more members.

Contact: Judy Carroll, 971 East 120 South, Spanish Fork, Utah 84660

Treasurer Reports

PayPal balance \$903.11
 In: \$6.00 (less fees) for membership renewals

NSB balance: \$1698.33
 In: \$54 for membership renewals

2 life members
 23 electronic + 20 regular + 1 household members = 44 voting members
 7 archive members + 226 public members = 233 non-voting members

If you sent me your renewal in late December, I extended your membership through the end of next January since I was in the hospital for three weeks after Christmas and unable to process payments/update memberships in a timely manner. Thank you for your patience.

Thanks to Bob Jennings, Wesley Kawato, Glenn DellaMonica & Matt Weitendorf for renewing!

In the interest of improving the fiscal condition of our club, I am looking into having various types of swag done up, primarily T-shirts. These would most likely be black T-shirts with a white N3F logo, white T-shirts with a black N3F logo, or possibly black & white T-shirts with a black and white N3F logo, if the membership doesn't regard that as too garish. Coffee cups and mousepads are also being considered, and I am open to other suggestions. The T-shirts would have to be ordered in advance, since neither I nor the club is in a position to maintain an inventory of T-shirts; prices would most likely be in the vicinity of \$15, possibly lower, and the shirts would be of good quality.

2022 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest

Story Contest Rules and Entry Blank

Now and then, it has been suggested to open the N3F Amateur Short Story Contest to professional writers, writers who have had one or two sales. I've never favored this. It is my opinion that we want new blood. We want to reward the new kids on the block. To be blunt, we want writing that is not that good. We want stories from people who don't know their object from their subject, who don't know where commas go, and who use apostrophes to denote plurals -- but who have a story to tell. I want stories from guys nobody's ever heard of...but in the years ahead, we will. Those who are already successful don't need the encouragement of our little contest. If they were to enter the contest, the danger is that they'd win, every time, and crowd out the promising newcomer.

1. This contest is open to all amateur writers in the field, regardless of whether they're members of the National Fantasy Fan Federation. For the purposes of this contest, we define an amateur as someone who has sold no more than two (2) stories to professional science fiction or fantasy publications.
2. Stories entered in the contest must be original, unpublished, not longer than 8,500 words in length—and must be related to the science fiction, fantasy, or similar genres in the opinion of the judge.
3. Email attachments of Word documents are acceptable for submission. Manuscripts on paper should be typed, single sided on 8 1/2"-by- 11" white paper, double spaced, with pages numbered. The name of the author should not appear anywhere on the manuscript to ensure impartial judging. Photocopies are acceptable, if they are of good quality. Computer printouts must be legible.
4. Contestants can enter up to three stories. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) if you would like your story returned at the end of the contest. Stories will not be returned without an SASE. Do not send your only copy in case of accidental loss. We are not responsible for lost manuscripts.
5. Email entries will be accepted. Send to Jefferson P. Swycaffer at abontides@gmail.com. No guarantee can be made of email receipt. Privacy and property rights will be absolutely respected. No one other than the Short Story Judge will ever see the submission.
6. There are no entry fees.
7. Cash prizes totaling \$100 will be awarded as follows: First prize is \$50, second \$30, and third \$20. Honorable mentions and semi-finalists will receive a certificate of award.
8. Send all manuscripts to the contest manager: Jefferson Swycaffer, P. O. Box 15373, San Diego, CA 92175-5373; abontides@gmail.com. Emails with the story attached in word format are preferred. Paper manuscripts are acceptable. All entries must be received or postmarked no later than Dec. 31, 2022.
9. The Short Story Judge is a published science fiction professional, and also a loving fan of the sf and fantasy genres. All comments and critiques are solely the Short Story Judge's opinion, but he promises to be constructive and polite.
10. Stories will also be reviewed by the Editor of the N3F Fiction zine Eldritch Science; authors of suitable tales will be invited to submit their tales for publication in our zine. This review and invitation will only occur after contest winners have been announced, so it can have no effect on the contest outcome.
11. The NSF may want to publish an electronic book including top entries from one or more years of publication. You will not be contacted about this until after the contest is over and prizes have been awarded. If we want to publish your story, you will have to sign over to us first world serial rights. Your willingness to sign over rights cannot affect whether or not you win the contest. Winners will be notified as soon as the judging is completed. Announcements and notifications of winning entries will be made by March 2022. Please take your time and submit your best work. You can resubmit stories previously entered if they did not win previously. All entries will be kept confidential and will be judged fairly and anonymously. The deadline for all entries is Dec. 31, 2022. Good luck!

Please supply on a separate page the following information as your entry form.

Title of story (for identification):

Author's name and address:

Author's email address:

I have read the above rules for the 2022 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest, and I agree to them.

Signature/Date: _____

Mail to: Jefferson Swycaffer, P. O. Box 15373, San Diego, CA 92175-5373 ; or email abontides@gmail.com



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Treasury

2022 Short Story Contest

N3F TNFF
c/o George Phillips
48 Hancock Hill Drive
Worcester MA 01609