



The Write Contest 2021 Official Rules and Participation Agreement  
www.thewritecontest.com

The Write Contest and Community Official Rules and Participation Agreement is made and entered into between the individual registering for any contest or event (the “entrant” “participant” “contestant”), and The Write Contest (“TWCC” “The Write Contest and Community”).

1. ALL The Write Contest contests and challenges are skill based. All entries will be judged on their level of craft, expertise, and skill. No part of TWCC contests are a game of chance in any respect.
2. By paying the entry fee and registering for the Contest, the Entrant indicates that the Entrant accepts all terms and conditions and is responsible for knowing and abiding all laws and participation rules for their country, state and city of residence. Entrant is responsible for any and all taxes or fees on winnings required by their local, city, state or federal governing body.
3. Entrants are 18 years of age or older and are legally allowed to participate in contests and win cash and prizes per the laws of their residence. All contests are void where prohibited.
4. Any Entrant who enters a story in any contest or otherwise communicates with The Write Contest and Community regarding any contests, shall be deemed to have carefully read, reviewed, and specifically agreed to all of the Official Rules; and also to any prior and further information, rules and postings either written or expressed relating to any contest which the TWCC may in the past, present, or future issue, distribute, post, or otherwise make available. TWCC will communicate via website and/or e-mail and it is the Entrants responsibility to contact TWCC with any questions or missing information (Please check your spam/junk folder).
5. Contests can only be entered online through the website. No mailed in, personally delivered, or any other written form can be accepted.
6. All submissions must be received prior to the deadline. No late submissions will be accepted or reviewed. TWCC is not responsible for technical difficulties or challenges with uploading a submission. Please don't wait until the last minute to submit your entry.
7. Entry fee and contest deadlines are specific to the contest the entrant is registering for and will be posted on The Write Contest website. The entry fee must be received in full on or before the submission deadline to participate in the contest. Once the registration is completed online and registration fees are received, a confirmation e-mail will be sent to the e-mail address identified in online registration form, confirming the corresponding entrant's registration in the contest. TWCC is not responsible for technical difficulties with any portion of the entry or submission process. Entry fee is non-refundable. If entrant cannot participate for some reason a voucher can be administered for a future contest.
8. Specific rules may vary for different contests and it is the entrant's responsibility to know and comply with all rules and deadlines of any contest they enter.
9. All contests are anonymous to the judging panel and entries will be disqualified for including any personal, contact, or identifying information in the title or body of their uploaded submission.



10. Submissions will be placed into groups and batched to judging pools. Not all judges will read all submissions and not all judges will comment on works read. We suggest judges provide comment and feedback, but it is not a requirement or guarantee. In contests with multiple rounds entries from the advancing participants will be anonymously assigned to judge pools for each advancing round. The number of participants advancing from each group and each round will be dependent on the number of entries and solely at the discretion of TWCC. Some judges may review multiple rounds. Each submission will be reviewed by more than one judge. In the case of tie scores on two or more qualifying submissions both submissions will advance. If it is determined by TWCC that any error may have occurred in the judging process which could change the qualifying participants, all involved entries will advance.
11. Any final determination of judging, advancing entries, number of participants in each judging groups, number of judges reviewing each submission, interpretation of judging criteria, decisions as to compliance with the story parameters, Genre, Subject and Character assignments or other contest specific requirements, and assigning contest winners is the sole discretion of the TWCC and any decisions by the TWCC are final, conclusive, and binding upon all entrants and all contests.
12. All entrants have equal opportunity to advance rounds and win contests based entirely on their skill as evaluated through criteria-based scores assigned by the judges. All entrants are anonymous to judges throughout the process. If judges feel they have reason to believe they can identify a writer from the reading of their work or feel there is any possible compromise in anonymity, the judge will decline to judge the submission and will be assigned other entries. All contests are skill based and all judges decisions are final.
13. Any entrants who are not selected to advance the round or notified they have won a contest, shall be considered to have lost the contest, and shall have no right to seek to recover any entry fee, donation, or other consideration they may have already paid or otherwise incurred.
14. All stories must be created within the competition periods and must include all stated contest criteria. After registering, information for contest specific rules and/or criteria will be e-mailed to the entrant and accessible on the website via a link in the e-mail. It is the responsibility of the entrant to know contest dates and deadlines and check the website for details. TWCC is not the responsible for email or any other information not reaching or not being understood by the entrant.
15. All entries must be uploaded through the website. Completed stories must be received by 11:59PM Pacific Time at the end of the competition periods. All Entries that are not received by the TWCC by the end of the competition periods will not be reviewed and will be ineligible for the contest.
16. The TWCC may receive many stories adopting similar perspectives on the same genre, subject and character assignments, and therefore the TWCC accepts absolutely no responsibility with respect to any copyright disputes or claimed rights conflicts which may occur or be perceived to occur.
17. All writing and creative development for contest must be done within the contest window. No revisions or additions will be accepted once the entry has been received by



the TWCC. The TWCC reserves the right to disqualify any entries which are plagiaristic or otherwise unoriginal to the entrant.

18. The judges for the contest are individuals with experience in the creative fields in which they judge. TWCC judges are Authors, Agents, Bibliophiles, Book Reviewers, Editors, Instructors, Logophiles, Screen Writers, Avid Readers, and Professionals of every kind who share our love of the written word such that they are qualified to select winning stories, as determined by TWCC, in its sole discretion. Contests requiring other creative expertise may solicit other featured or guest judges. A list of judges will be posted on the website which all entrants are urged to regularly check.
19. Judging Criteria and standards used by each of the judges shall be instructed by the TWCC and can vary between contests. Especially with screenplay, visual arts and video, for example. In general, writing contests will be reviewed as follows:
  - 15% Creativity and Originality
  - 15% Style and Characterization
  - 15% Quality and Structure
  - 15% Story Gestalt and Readability
  - 20% Clear and Compelling
  - 20% Specific Contest Parameters, Grammar, Spelling, Structure, and Story Quality
20. The same Judges may be used for several contest groups and/or rounds, but not for every group. The TWCC reserves the right to vary the judges on a group or rounds. Each judge shall total all scores for each submission and then share their rulings with the TWCC. The highest average score among judges will be considered the 1st place story in the group, the next highest average score will be considered the 2nd place story, and so on. If there is a tie among the average scores, the story with the least penalties in overall structure and format will advance. If the score is the same, both stories will advance. If it is the final round between 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> then the stories will be distributed to a new judge to determine a winner amongst the stories.
21. All Entrants are prohibited from contacting any of the judges regarding their submissions or the competition. Any such contact will be grounds for automatic disqualification and forfeiture of entry fees and any other monies or consideration expended.
22. All results and advancing entries will be announced on the website. A schedule will be posted for live contest announcements.
23. Entrant hereby acknowledges that participation in any contest with TWCC is without remuneration or compensation of any sort. The sole exception to this rule shall be the awards listed on [www.thewritecontest.com](http://www.thewritecontest.com) as they correspond to any contest entered. Taxes on any awards for contests, and any other consideration awarded in the contest, if any, are the sole responsibility of the winner or winners, and the TWCC shall bear no liability with respect to same. It is in every entrant's interests to ensure that all taxes on any awarded or otherwise delivered or received sums or other consideration, if any, are fully and correctly paid; including without limitation any federal or state taxes which are required to be deducted from any awarded monies, and each Entrant indemnifies and holds harmless the TWCC pursuant to the indemnity provisions of these Official Rules. In addition, all Entrants acknowledge that the TWCC may require signed tax forms and/or withhold taxes from any monies if the TWCC is instructed to do so by any



appropriate authority, including without limitation any taxing authority and the TWCC's own tax advisor(s).

24. Any awards / prizes will be forwarded to the entrant within thirty (30) calendar days after the winners are announced on the website. Any awards / prizes are ONLY intended to be awarded and delivered to the entrant, at the entrant's mailing address as indicated on registration. It is the sole responsibility of entrant to distribute any such prize evenly among any additional participating individuals, if any.
25. Each entrant hereby indemnifies, releases, discharges, defends, and holds the TWCC (and its owners, managers, members, employees, agents, attorneys, representatives, contractors, vendors, friends, tribes, dogs, spouses/partners, successors, sponsors, partners, and affiliates) harmless from and against any and all claims, losses, damages, obligations, expenses, penalties, settlements, litigations, judgments and any other liabilities of any kind whatsoever (including without limitation attorney's fees and costs incurred by the TWCC), arising out of, from, or otherwise related to the development, creation, production, or other making or use of entrant's entry, and any other activities which at all relate to any entry, any contest, or these Official Rules, including, but not limited to: (A) any third-party or other claim of any ownership right or interest in, or otherwise relating to, any Entered Story; (B) any third-party or other claim of violation of any personal right or proprietary right in connection with the entry, such as defamation, libel, trade libel, slander, "name and likeness" rights, right of privacy, right of publicity, "moral rights", unauthorized exhibition, breach of contract copyright infringement, trademark infringement, and any other right or claimed right of any other kind or nature; (C) any claims for negligence, injury to persons (including wrongful death), injury to property, or any other injury which may arise out of, result from, or occur, directly or indirectly, in any way in connection with this contest or any entry; (D) any breach or other violation of these Official Rules or any other TWCC communication; and (E) any other activities by or relating to any entry, entrant, or third-party in connection with any contest, and any other liability of any kind or nature arising out of any participation in any TWCC contest or event.
26. Each entrant hereby acknowledges that they are individually responsible for obtaining and/or providing all equipment, software, and all other things necessary for participation in any contest and in connection with any submission. Each entrant shall bear all costs and expenses relating thereto, and shall be strictly responsible for any and all damages and claims (if any) relating thereto. The TWCC is only agreeing to provide the Official Rules and the contest in which each entrant is intending to take part.
27. The TWCC shall own the all prompts and classifications. Entrant hereby grants The Write Contest and Community, TWCC the absolute right to post the entrant's full name, city, state or province, country, title of entry, and logline or synopsis of entry on [www.thewritecontest.com](http://www.thewritecontest.com), through the TWCC's mailing lists, newsletter, journal, and press releases for publicity purposes, when announcing the contest winners, group or round finalists and overall winners of any contests. By entering TWCC contests, the Entrant expressly grants to the TWCC the right to use any images (individual or collective) taken during the creation of the Entry and/or during any of the competitions, events, communications, as well as quotes from e-mail or written submissions, for use on the TWCC's website(s) or for promotional purposes.



28. The Write Contest and Community conducts contest, competition, and community events and is NOT a talent agency. The TWCC shall not be characterized as soliciting employment for any screenwriter, entrant, writer, artist, creative or any other contributor. TWCC is a community of creative support, challenges, education and inspiration and TWCC is not responsible for any actions or behaviors of entrants or members of the community.
29. ALL TWCC CONTESTS, CHALLENGES, OR EVENTS ARE VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. Contests are governed by the laws of the United States, and all applicable laws. No one under the age of eighteen (18) years may enter TWCC contests or may any person enter any contest who does not have the legal right or capacity to specifically agree to, consent, and contract with the TWCC with respect to contest participation and the Official Rules. It is each entrant's responsibility to ensure that: (A) the applicable laws, regulations, requirements, and rules of their home state or other jurisdiction allow and permit the entrant's entry into contests; and (B) there is no contractual or other legal obligation or other issue that would militate against the entry of the corresponding entered submission into any contest, or against such entrant in engaging in activities relating to contests or events.
30. It is the strict responsibility of all Entrants to back up and retain copies of all entries and other materials entered, forwarded, or otherwise communicated; and the TWCC shall not be responsible for the failure of any entrant or other party to do so. The TWCC is not responsible for: (A) any lost, late, misdirected, mutilated, damaged, illegible, unintelligible, or otherwise ineligible entries; (B) any electronic mistakes or other mishaps including without limitation transmission errors which may result in omission of, interruption of, deletion of, defect in, delay in delivery of, theft or destruction of, unauthorized access to, or alterations of, any entries or other materials furnished to the TWCC in connection with any contest, or any materials otherwise distributed to or intended to be distributed to or by entrants in connection with any contest; or (C) any network, telephone, electronic, computer, hardware or software, or other technical or machine related malfunctions or limitations of any kind; or (D) any inaccurate transmissions of or failure to timely receive entries or other material by the TWCC or by any entrant on account of any technical problems or traffic congestion on the Internet or at any website. If for any reason the Internet or e-mail communications relating to the Contest are not capable of running as planned, including infection by computer virus, "bugs", tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures, "force majeure", or any other causes beyond the control of the TWCC, which corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness, integrity, or proper conduct of this Contest, the TWCC reserves the right at its sole discretion to disqualify any Entrant that tampers with this Contest, its Official Rules, and/or its and their procedures; and the TWCC may terminate, modify, or suspend the Contest as a result
31. TWCC reserves the right to disqualify any persons from any contest and/or restrict further interaction with the TWCC for any reason including any known or perceived breach of Official Rules or TWCC Code of Conduct.
32. TWCC, in its sole discretion, can cancel or re-schedule a contest or event as it sees fit. Any entrance fees collected for a contest that is cancelled will be transitioned to a voucher for a future contest. Entrant can contact TWCC via e-mail to request voucher.



Any Entry Fees paid or payable by any contestant are non-refundable, irrespective of contingency. The TWCC's determination of any conditions requiring cancellation or rescheduling shall be final, conclusive, and binding,

33. The Write Contest and Community, TWCC 1520 San Miguel Ave. Santa Barbara, CA 93109. The Administrator shall award all prizes and retain all records relating to the Contest. No walk-in visits or in-person communications to the TWCC are allowed.
34. A winners list will be posted on the website and winners will be notified via e-mail.
35. The TWCC will add the email address of the entrant to the subscriber list for The Write Contest unless the entrant chooses to opt-out in their profile. The TWCC will never sell, rent, lease or give away any information provided on the registration form to any third party. Any individual concerned about such privacy issues can contact the TWCC directly by e-mail.

#### FORMAT:

1. Submissions must meet all the required criteria for the contest entered. Including, but not limited to, wordcount, structure, content, grammar, and spelling.
2. For each contest or contest round TWCC must receive the completed story adhering to the format requirements as a .doc (Word document 97-2003) a .docx (Word document) or .pdf (portable document format).
3. The name of the uploaded submission file must be the title of your story. For example, if the title of your Short Story was "Tennis", then the name of your Short Story must be saved as "Tennis.doc" or "Tennis.pdf". The TWCC reserves the right to reject any Entry for failure to observe any format requirements.
4. Each entry must be typed in 12 point and in Courier, New Courier, Times, or Times New Roman typeface – ONLY.
5. The Title Page of the entry must only contain the TITLE of the entry and a minimum 1-sentence maximum 2-sentence brief synopsis. The brief synopsis serves as a description of the Short Story.
6. All times of submissions and deadlines given are for California, USA (Pacific Time Zone), unless expressly indicated otherwise.

The names "The Write Contest", "The Write Contest and Community", "The Write Contest Community", "The Write Insights", "The Write Programs"; "The Write Residency", "The Write Conference", "The Write Retreat", the acronyms "TWC" and "TWCC"; the tag lines "May we write the words that write/right the world"; and the website [www.thewritecontest.com](http://www.thewritecontest.com), are all solely owned by Tawnya Bragg DBA The Write Contest . No use of these trademarks, or any portion of them, is permitted. All content and other material appearing within and otherwise posted or distributed in connection with The Write have All Rights Reserved. No copying, distribution, or any other use of any content, or accounts are permitted, without the express prior written permission of TWC on a case-by-case basis.



Entrant and any additional participants hereby acknowledge that they have read and agrees to abide by these “Official Rules and Participation Agreement”. The TWCC reserves the right to review and accept only those entries and other submitted materials that comply in all respects with these Official Rules.