



AUGUST 2020

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www.Southernwriters.org

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Southern California Writer's Association

President's Message for July 2020 from Larry Porricelli

**"Keep your face to the sunshine and you can never see the shadow."
- Helen Keller**

Helen Keller was an inspirational human who overcame some of the biggest obstacles we could possibly face—being blind and deaf. That was not from birth, but at the age of two she had a catastrophic illness that was most likely meningitis, which left her without sight and hearing.

She grew to be an unruly child who communicated through grunts and grabs.

Annie Sullivan, her teacher, persevered and worked with her until a breakthrough came at a water pump. As Annie pumped the water over Helen's hands and spelled the word over and over into Helen's palm, the girl finally made the connection between the words in her palm and the world beyond.

Repetition of effort was the only way to success, said Annie Sullivan.

All of us face trials in life that seem to diminish our efforts at writing. The SCWA realizes that fact, as we are all writers, we all face the trials of life, whether physical, spiritual, mental, financial—so many *trials*. And SCWA helps us sharpen our repetition of effort.

But be of good cheer!

SCWA has become a source of inspiration, with words and encouragements from writers throughout the week. If you miss an offering, a replay of it is available online.

These amazing and inspirational talks have been moderated by Maddie Margarita and hosted by Diana Pardee, who administers the technical event.

And thousands, yes, thousands from around the globe have taken part and viewed these shows, from Pub Shop and Craft Chats to the Wednesday weekly SCWA Hump Day Book Tour to our monthly featured speaker!

Yes, writers from Milan, Oslo, and Johannesburg have been with us.

If you have missed any, you can view them on our Facebook page as Diana and filmmaker Robert Rollins edit and post them for you to be inspired.

This month, on August 15, our monthly speaker is Stacey Evans Morgan, a noted writer and creator of many TV shows and novelist, who is currently working with Dreamworks on its latest project.

Stacey has won many awards for her writing and will speak to current issues and how we engage them in our writing through our characters, no matter the time or place.

Stacey will also hear some pitches from your book or movie or TV show—what an exciting morning that will be for all of us!

Please register now at our website: [SCWA Website!](http://www.southerncalwriters.org)

Additionally, SCWA is calling for submissions of your words and recipes! SCWA will be publishing a book of your words and your recipes, edited by author Nancy Klann! It is a recipe and a story—food and literature together! Information is on the website, please send your entries as directed: [Southerncalwriters.org](http://www.southerncalwriters.org).

Thank you for being a part of the most exciting group of writers on the planet!

SCWA Writers' Cookbook Call for Submissions

*****CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS*****

DEADLINE: August 31, 2020

We Want Your Recipes! AND YOUR WORDS!

Please submit your recipes and related short fiction for our upcoming Southern California Writers Association story inspired cookbook. Submissions will be selected based on story quality, recipe quality, and the story's relation to the recipe.

Working titles include

Blame It on the Osso Bucco

Eat Your Words

You Have the Write to Eat

Needless to say, title suggestions are welcome.

We're looking forward to producing a flavorful collection, with a healthy dash of your writing dexterity. What self-respecting writers' organization would build a cookbook without an assortment of clever stories included?

Each entry must contain both the recipe and a story, which can be in these categories: mystery, horror, sci-fi, cozy, humor, poetic, crime, mythology, or fable. Remember, this is a writers' cookbook so think of your recipe as your muse. We encourage your story to have a sense of connection with the recipe.

Due to limited space the **story/poem should be 250 words or less.**

The cookbook will be professionally published by SCWA and promoted with all the marketing might at our disposal. Proceeds will further help fund our events, speakers, scholarships, and publication of books, including this one.

We encourage all who want to join-in to submit up to two recipes in a Word file along with their stories to Nancy Klann at klanncy@aol.com. Please put Recipe in the subject line.

Deadline for submission is August 31, 2020

** Submission is open to all SCWA members

** For interested nonmembers, a submission fee of \$50.00 will include a 17-month membership in SCWA through December 31, 2021.

SCWA EVENTS THIS MONTH: AUGUST 2020

**“ Writing is easy.
All you have to do
is cross out
the wrong words”
-Mark Twain**

- ❖ **NEW Virtual Pub Shop** - August 25, 10 to 11am PDT. Details below.
- ❖ **SCWA VIRTUAL HAPPY HOUR Every Friday at 4:30pm** Join us with your funny hats and Coronatinis for good news and good cheer. Sign up on our website and we'll email you a link and password.
- ❖ **SCWA ZOOM August Monthly Meeting:** August 15th, 10am PDT. Every third Saturday of the month. Speaker details are included below. Sign up on our website and we'll email you a link and password.
- ❖ **SCWA HUMP DAY BOOK TOUR: August 12 KAIRA ROUDA** See it LIVE streaming on our SCWA Facebook page at 10:00 a.m. every Wednesday. Missed it? It's ready for replay on the FB page anytime.

If you're interested in these and all SCWA events, please check out our website for membership details at:

<https://www.southernwriters.org/>

Pub Shop: Tuesday, August 25 with Karen S. Walker Develop Your Marketing Plan for a Successful Book Launch

Want to become a top selling author? Don't know what you don't know about planning a successful book launch?

Top selling author and independent publisher Karen S. Walker talks about where and when to start, what's involved, and the resources available to successfully launch your book! Be prepared to take names and numbers because Karen's going to spill the tea on how to sell books!

Karen Sue Walker is a lover of cozy mysteries, from Agatha Christie to Joanne Fluke. When not working or writing, she spends time with her very talented daughter and ever so fun granddaughter.

SCWA MEMBERS: \$5.00 Non-Members: \$10.00

To REGISTER, please go to www.southerncalwriters.org

Highlights: PUB SHOP July 14, 2020

Our Pub Shop on July 14 with **Damon Freeman of Damonza Book Designs** gave us an hour on the importance of having a real BOOK DESIGNER do your covers. His Judging a Book by Its Cover presentation emphasized that we First Fit In, Then Stand Out. His sample covers shown for demonstrating the options were stunning. The presentation is on the SCWA Members Only Facebook Group page. Damon offered a special discount code for SCWA members.



Damon Freeman of Damonza, an international award-winning full-service book design company based in New Zealand, talked about what authors should know about book covers, what's hot now, trends, how to choose a cover artist, and how to avoid costly mistakes.

For more information, visit www.damonza.com

**Hump Day
Book Tour**

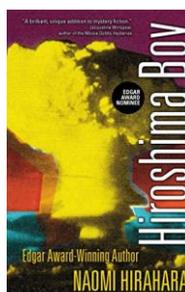
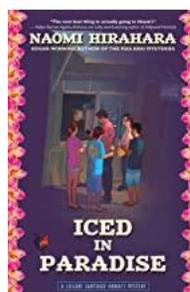
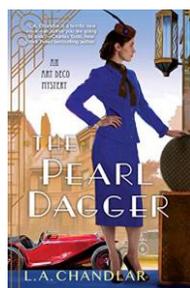
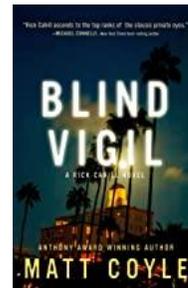
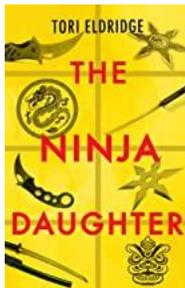
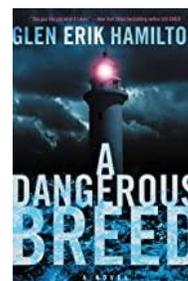
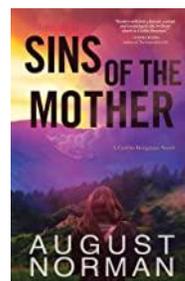
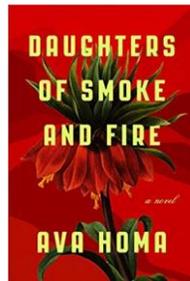
**LIVESTREAMED
Every Wednesday
10:00 a.m.**

**Wednesdays 10:00 am
Livestreamed
on SCWA's Facebook
page**

Our list of Hump Day authors is growing! You can find replays of these Wednesday conversations on the SCWA Facebook page.

Recent Guests include:

**Janelle Brown Mary Anna Evans Kaira Rouda Laurie Stevens
Glen Erik Hamilton August Norman Tori Eldridge
Ava Homa Naomi Hirahara Matt Coyle LA Chandlar**



Many more to come!

SCWA Virtual Meeting: Saturday, August 15, 10 a.m. Stacey Evans Morgan

Creating and Standing with Your Characters

RSVP Now: www.southernwriters.org

Stacey Evans Morgan is a noted entertainment industry television writer and producer, novelist, DreamWorks Animation writer on the new *Madagascar* television show, and a writer for the NAACP Image Awards and the Gracie Awards. Stacey will be speaking to SCWA about creating characters that are alive and authentic, characters from all cultures, who grow and make our stories dynamic. As writers, we overcome tough obstacles in real life, and our characters must overcome obstacles on the page.



As a thirty year entertainment industry veteran, Stacey Evans Morgan is a television writer and producer with credits on scripted series such as *Love That Girl* (TV One), *Family Time* (Bounce TV), *The Parkers* and *One on One* (UPN/Paramount), *Jamie Foxx Show* (Warner Bros. TV), *Meet the Browns* and *House of Payne* (TBS) and live programs such as *The NAACP Image Awards* and *The Gracie Awards*. Most recently, Stacey wrote for the new DreamWorks Animation series *Madagascar: A Little Wild* and recently wrote and directed the short film *21 Days of April*. She is a published author, motivational speaker and has been a guest lecturer and artist-in-residence at Delaware State University, Howard University and currently is an adjunct lecturer at Chapman University, one of the nation's top ten Film and Television college programs.

Follow her: Twitter [@SEMorgan](https://twitter.com/SEMorgan), Instagram [@staceyevansmorgan](https://www.instagram.com/staceyevansmorgan), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/staceyevansmorgan)

"As writers we have an obligation to use our gift and document the history we are literally experiencing in real time for posterity. Generations to come will need to know what happened in 2020 and our short stories, screenplays, poems, essays, songs, blog posts, even journal entries will give great insight of how we prevailed during a time of global crisis, economic recession and civil unrest. Our written words will serve as a powerful testament of our emotion, resilience and fortitude."



*****ESCAPE THE SUMMER DOLDRUMS*****

Let bestselling authors **Fiona Davis**, *The Lions of Fifth Avenue*, **Rachel Howzell Hall**, *And Now She's Gone*, and **Hank Phillippi Ryan**, *The First to Lie* transport you to rich and exciting worlds of their new books. Each of these remarkable writers will also talk books and writing with Madeline Tighe Margarita.

When: Tuesday night August 18

Time: 6:30 PM PST

Where: [LIT UP Orange County](#) Livestream on Facebook

Click on [LIT UP Orange County](#) and go to the Livestream video to view and ask questions in the comment section—or watch later at your convenience!

For more information about this events and others like it please email Maddie Margarita at maddie@maddiemargarita.com.

Fiona Davis began her career in New York City as an actress, where she worked on Broadway, off-Broadway, and in regional theater. After getting a master's degree at Columbia Journalism School, she fell in love with writing, leapfrogging from editor to freelance journalist before finally settling down as an author of historical fiction. Fiona's books have been translated into more than a dozen languages.

She's a graduate of the College of William & Mary and is based in New York City.

Rachel Howzell Hall, author of the bestseller, *They All Fall Down* (Forge), writes the acclaimed Lou Norton series, including *Land of Shadows*, *Skies of Ash*, *Trail of Echoes*, and *City of Saviors*. She is also the co-author of *The Good Sister* with James Patterson, which was included in the *New York Times* bestseller *The Family Lawyer*. She is currently on the board of directors for the Southern California chapter of Mystery Writers of America and lives in Los Angeles. Her next novel *And Now She's Gone* (Forge) will be published in September 2020. A featured writer on NPR's acclaimed 'Crime in the City' series and the National Endowment for the Arts weekly podcast, Rachel has also served as a mentor in AWP's Writer to Writer Program. She was named one of Apple iBooks' "10 Authors to Read in 2017." She lives in Los Angeles with her husband and daughter.

Hank Phillip Ryan is a *USA Today* bestselling author of 12 thrillers, winning the most prestigious awards in the genre: five Agathas, three Anthonys, the Daphne, and for *The Other Woman* the coveted Mary Higgins Clark Award. She is an on-air investigative reporter for Boston's WHDH-TV who has won thirty-seven EMMYs and fourteen Edward R. Murrow awards for her investigative reporting. Book critics call her "a master of suspense," "a superb and gifted storyteller," and she's the only author to have won the Agatha in four different categories: Best First, Best Novel, Best Short Story and Best Non-Fiction.

Hank's newest novel is the chilling psychological standalone, *The First to Lie*. *Publishers Weekly's* starred review says "Stellar... Hank Phillip Ryan could win a sixth Agatha with this one" and bestseller Sarah Pekkanen says "Book clubs will gobble it up."

Highlights: July 2020

Tori Eldridge

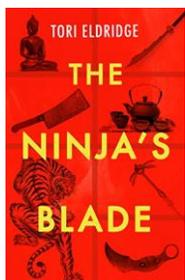


Dreaming of Writing for TV, Looking to Master the Art of Pacing, or Hoping to Write a Kick-Ass Thriller

Tori Eldridge was already an accomplished Broadway singer, dancer, and actor when she decided twenty years ago to embrace fiction writing. Along the way somewhere she “got obsessed with martial arts,” a new path, and gained a fifth-degree blackbelt. Understanding strategies for difficult situations, she also developed a new structure for novels, the Four-Act structure, which made her mysteries and thrillers earn awards.

Eldridge’s family background influences her greatly. As her website, torieldridge.com, says, she had “a Norwegian father from North Dakota and a Chinese-Hawaiian mother from Maui who met, married, and raised Tori’s sisters in Japan.” Ms. Eldridge attended Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. “Her greatest book research trips have been in Bali, Rio de Janeiro, Shanghai, and Hong Kong.” Across the United States she’s taught seminars on ninja arts, weapons, and women’s self-protection.

Before writing for herself, Ms. Eldridge adapted books to screenplays for movies and television series for her husband’s business. “What’s on a page in the book may not show up in the screenplay,” she says. “The screenplay is actually the last act of a novel.” About then someone advised her to write a novel. When she published her first short story in *Suspense Magazine* in 2014, she knew she would expand it into a novel. On her journey, several of her short stories were published in anthologies.



Her first novel, *The Ninja Daughter* (Lily Wong Book 1), was published in Nov. 2019 and named one of the “Best Mystery Books of the Year” by The South Florida Sun Sentinel, awarded “2019 Thriller Book of the Year” by Authors on the Air Global Radio Network, and nominated for the “Anthony and Lefty Awards.” Soon afterward, saying she needed that sense of security and confidence, Ms. Eldridge began writing her second Lily Wong book. *The Ninja’s Blade* will be released on Sept. 1, 2020.

“All projects start with research” which gives birth to all plots and characters and finally a logline/premise. Ms. Eldridge says she might write a paragraph and then go hiking while talking to herself along the way about the bigger picture. She progresses to filling in spots with more hikes and then comes home and writes them out. Her next step used to be Post-It notes, but now she opens Scrivener.

Act I is the whole story's setup—all key people, all plots. “Not every chapter ends with a hook but does have a special sentence at the end. Maybe it's about an emotion that can be used for romance or even literary fiction.”

Act II. Screenwriters carefully divide this part into 2nd and 3rd acts for pacing. Ms. Eldridge says that allows her to have a climax and a turning point for each section to hopefully keep readers engaged. There is a climb to the middle of the book where action is taken on the raised issues: investigation, confrontation. “A book has a question and an answer.” The reader learns more about the characters and relationships.

Act III is “an exciting time. You find out there's something you didn't understand.”

Act IV. “Now all comes together in an adrenaline rush that winds everything up.” She declares that it's the easiest to write “because your foot is on the accelerator. Drama has to happen because all threads need to weave together for a satisfying conclusion.”

Ms. Eldridge is quite analytical as to how everything fits together and has “no problem with outlining.” For each novel she makes a Scrivener binder that she divides into four folders with chapters and scenes for each act. Left side of the screen lists the folder and notes, text blocks in the center of her screen, and on the right is her outline. In her notes she puts a summary of what's going to happen by describing the plot and character development of each chapter. At this point, she becomes aware which acts are bloated with too much setup. However, some acts may need more sub-plot. For example, in Chapter 14, she may need a turn-around character or has to return to Chapter 2 and insert a clue.

For turning points, beats, and climaxes, she has to end with something exciting. Having planned ahead helps her with the balance in the relationships, culture, and authenticity in an action thriller. She used to use color Post-Its with a different color for action or “cool ninja stuff,” family issues, part of a romance, or a piece of a subplot. They allow her to monitor the novel's pace and balance. Ms. Eldridge said she hasn't read about a lot of other authors' methods because her writing career started with screenplays. “Screenplays are probably the most structured stories.”

When asked about action scenes, Ms. Eldridge says, “Easy for me. I'm really visual. If I can see something, I can describe it.” In fact, she sometimes uses a random face photo from the internet to visualize one of her characters. All of the action in *The Ninja Daughter*, she says she's “done it, executed it, or researched it.” She studies writing about a character who may be tied in a warehouse, on a scaffold, or confined, thinking “How am I going to get out of this? How close do I have to be to the enemy?” Ms. Eldridge might roll around on the floor while figuring it out. One time she walked into her husband's office and asked him, “May I borrow your neck?”

Ms. Eldridge claims to always “tie action to emotion.” How does this fight feel for the characters—the adrenaline, the physicality? She interviewed owners of particular weapons, such as special Japanese swords, and for weeks searched the internet for just the right one for her ninja character. Since action is—well—action, how can she tie a fight scene to a character’s emotion? A character might retain powerful memories associated with his knife or sword. So, when he pulls out that particular weapon, the readers gulp because they have accepted what painful memories it represents to its wielder. This type of emotional aspect does not slow action or bury the point of the scene.

Again, Ms. Eldridge strongly believes in outlining and also your trying 3X5 cards and/or colored cards to move around on a board, a table, or the floor. With *The Ninja’s Blade*, she had to re-envision the plot six times before it ultimately became the villain’s story, which changed the whole structure.

When asked if she’s a ninja, Ms. Eldridge replied, “Yes, I’m a modern-day ninja—like thousands of people around the world.” Asked if she’s had to use her ninja experience, her answer is again “Yes. I use it every day to create harmony in my home to keep everyone flowing at their peak capacity.”

Find Tori online at ToriEldridge.com
Facebook @ToriEldridgeAuthor
Instagram @writer.tori
Twitter @ToriEldridge

Glenda Brown Rynn, Reporter

grynn@cox.net

New SCWA Members Only Private Facebook Group

**SCWA Members Only—while we're working on a Members Only section for our website, we've decided to create a private Facebook group for our official members. Here's what you need to know:

1. Anyone interested in writing can join our public group for SCWA. You are all welcome to post and engage, as long as you follow the revised guidelines posted as an announcement on the page.

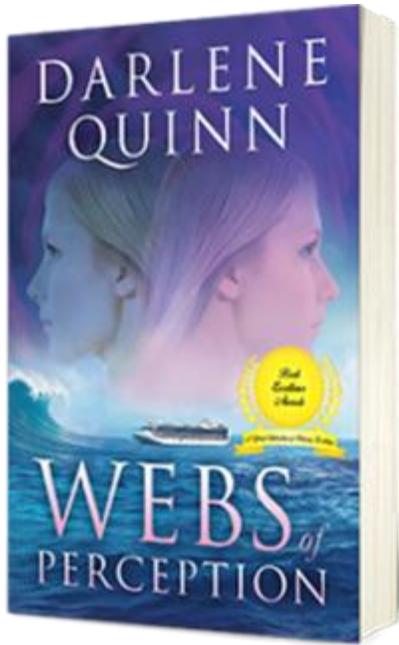
2. **SCWA Members Only is a private group for active members who have paid their dues. (Not a member? Join after July 1 and receive a pro-rated \$20 rate for the remainder of 2020.)**

3. Content for our Members Only group will be provided by SCWA board members, so if you want to see what's coming up, watch video archives of our past paid and free meetings, or participate in other special content, this is your place. There will be no promotions or other content from members, but we plan to keep it lively and provide another benefit to SCWA membership.

4. Both of our Facebook groups are always evolving and we welcome your feedback, ideas, and participation. We also encourage you to share our public content with the rest of the Facebook world so we can build our presence as a meaningful, creative writers' community. You are why we're here, working every day to make this a great organization that supports writers in and beyond SoCal!

Questions or comments? Please use the Contact Us tab on our website, and your question will be delivered to the appropriate board member. Facebook questions? You may also private message Diana @ [Diana Pardee](#)

SO MUCH GOOD NEWS!



Lamb Lambert has been interviewed by Greta Boris with questions about writing his story, *Badge of Color, Breaking the Silence* about being the first Black police officer in Santa Ana. (Available on Amazon)

Find the interview on Greta's website at <http://gretaboris.com/news/>

PJ Colando launched her new release *The Jailbird's Jackpot* with a virtual launch party at Joe Anzenberger's Sleepless in Laguna Bookstore. PJ also offers 100% of the proceeds of *I am a Quarantine Survivor* to Second Harvest Food Bank.

Darlene Quinn is offering a FREE Webs series book. Send one to a friend for just \$5 for shipping. Available only on Darlene's website. Visit www.darlenequinn.net for more information.

Submit Your Work for Fame and Fortune SUBMISSION OPPORTUNITIES FOR AUGUST 2020

Sharpen your pencils, dust off your keyboard, dig around in your deep files!

PAYING MARKETS FOR YOUR WORK - DEADLINES AUGUST 12 TO SEPTEMBER 1.

MARGINALIZED VOICES IN HORROR. **GENRE:** STORIES ABOUT OR CENTERED AROUND LGBTQIA+, BIPOC, PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS, NEURODIVERGENT, AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES. "WE ARE LOOKING FOR OWN VOICES FICTION ONLY." **PAYMENT:** 2 CENTS/WORD. **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 12, 2020.

RUMINATE. **GENRE:** FICTION. LENGTH: 5,500 WORDS MAX. **PAYMENT:** \$20 PER 400 WORDS. **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 14, 2020. *OPENS TO SUBMISSIONS ON AUGUST 1.*

HAWK AND CLEAVER: THE OTHER STORIES. **GENRE:** HORROR SHORT STORIES. THEME: THE DARK WEB. **PAYMENT:** \$5. **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 14, 2020.

MIZNA, THE ONLY ARAB LIT AND ART JOURNAL IN THE UNITED STATES, IS SEEKING SUBMISSIONS FOR A SPECIAL COMIX ISSUE. **GENRE:** COMICS. "WE ARE SEEKING COMICS SUBMISSIONS BY ARAB AND SWANA ARTISTS LIVING ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD RESPONDING TO THE PROMPT OF **A NEW WORLD ORDER**. THESE DAYS, IT SEEMS AS THOUGH REVOLUTIONARY CHANGES ARE HAPPENING DAILY. FROM GLOBAL POLITICAL UPHEAVALS TO PUBLIC HEALTH CRISES, WE ARE LIVING IN UNPRECEDENTED TIMES THAT ARE CHANGING THE WAYS WE THINK, WORK, ACT, LIVE, AND LOVE. WE MAY NOT KNOW WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS, BUT ONE THING IS CERTAIN: THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT IS CHANGING FOREVER. FOR THIS ISSUE, WE ARE SEEKING COMICS THAT EXPLORE WHAT IT MEANS FOR REALITY (WHETHER THE PERSONAL MICRO REALITIES THAT WE INHABIT, OR THE LARGER POLITICAL REALITIES THAT ENGULF US) TO UNDERGO RADICAL, TRANSFORMATIVE SHIFTS, FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE." **PAYMENT:** \$25. **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 14, 2020.

UNDERSTOREY MAGAZINE. **RESTRICTIONS:** OPEN TO CANADIAN WOMEN WRITERS ONLY. **GENRE:** POETRY, FICTION, CREATIVE NONFICTION, SPOKEN WORD, AND VISUAL ART ABOUT WOMEN, GENDER, AND TECHNOLOGY. **PAYMENT:** \$50 - \$100. **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 14, 2020.

LACKINGTON'S: ARCHIVES. **GENRE:** SPECULATIVE FICTION ON THEME OF ARCHIVES. **PAYMENT:** 1 CENT/WORD (CAD). **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 14, 2020.

LUNA STATION QUARTERLY. **RESTRICTIONS:** OPEN TO WOMEN WRITERS ONLY. **GENRE:** SPECULATIVE FICTION. **PAYMENT:** \$5. **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 15, 2020.

SONGS OF ERETZ. **GENRE:** POETRY, COVER ART ON THEME OF POLITICS. **PAYMENT:** \$5. **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 15, 2020.

HONEYGUIDE MAGAZINE. **GENRE:** STORIES, ART AND POETRY THAT EXAMINE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN ANIMALS AND HUMANS. **PAYMENT:** \$25 FOR FEATURED WRITERS, \$50 FOR ART. **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 15, 2020.

THE NEW GOTHIC REVIEW. **GENRE:** GOTHIC FICTION. EERIE ATMOSPHERE IS KEY. **PAYMENT:** \$30. **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 15, 2020.

CONSUMED: TALES OF THE WENDIGO. **GENRE:** SPECULATIVE FICTION. "SUBMISSIONS DO NOT HAVE TO HAVE CHARACTERS TURN INTO A LITERAL WENDIGO. CHARACTER(S) MUST GO THROUGH SOME SORT OF A TRANSFORMATION DUE TO THE "HUNGER." YOU DO NOT HAVE TO USE THE TERM WENDIGO. WE JUST ASK THAT AUTHORS USE THE CORE CONCEPT OF THE WENDIGO AS INSPIRATION FOR THEIR STORY." **PAYMENT:** \$20 FOR THE FIRST 3,000 WORDS, HALF A CENT PER WORD AFTER THAT. **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 15, 2020.

CRITICAL READ. **GENRE:** SHORT ESSAYS OF AROUND 300 WORDS ON THE PARTICULAR WORK OF ART—BE IT A WORK OF VISUAL ART, PERFORMING ART, OR LITERATURE—THAT YOU ARE TURNING TO RIGHT NOW. **PAYMENT:** \$25. **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 15, 2020.

FU REVIEW: INTERRUPT. **GENRE:** PROSE, POETRY, NONFICTION, AND ENGLISH-LANGUAGE

TRANSLATIONS ON THEME OF INTERRUPT. **PAYMENT:** €20. **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 15, 2020.

DEMON'S DREAMING PRESS: SOMETHING GOOD TO EAT. **GENRE:** HORROR SET IN OR AROUND HALLOWEEN. **PAYMENT:** \$100. ACCEPTS REPRINTS. **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 21, 2020.

THE GHASTLING. **GENRE:** PSYCHOLOGICAL HORROR, FOLK HORROR, GHOST STORIES AND THE MACABRE ON THEME OF STRANGE SIGNS // RITUAL PROTECTION MARKS. **PAYMENT:** £15 PER STORY PLUS COPY OF MAGAZINE. **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 23, 2020.

SPECULATIVE CITY. **GENRE:** SPECULATIVE FICTION, POETRY, AND ESSAYS ON THEME OF GOVERNANCE. MUST BE SET IN A CITY. **PAYMENT:** \$20-\$55. **DEADLINE:** AUGUST 24, 2020.

And there's more....

Fireside Quarterly. **Genre:** Short stories, poetry, nonfiction, art. **Payment:** 12.5 cents per word. **Deadline:** August 28, 2020. *Opens August 24.*

Satan Rides Your Daughter. **Genre:** Horror. "We are looking for the truly satanic and downright demonic for this anthology! 'Satan Rides Your Daughter' will be HellBound's loving homage to Dennis Wheatley, William Peter Blatty, Clive Barker, and every other documenter of hellish realms and their nefarious citizens!" **Payment:** \$5. **Deadline:** August 30, 2020.

Chicken Soup for the Soul: Miracles & Divine Intervention. **Genre:** True stories. "Miracles are all around us if we're open to them. Sometimes we just can't explain how good things came about. Are they celestial, otherworldly, heavenly? However they happened, these events give us peace and comfort, guidance, hope and faith." **Payment:** \$200. **Deadline:** August 31, 2020.

Mud Season Review. **Genre:** Poetry, Fiction, CNF. **Payment:** \$50. **Deadline:** August 31, 2020.

Westerly. **Genre:** Short stories, poetry, memoir and creative non-fiction, essays and literary criticism. **Payment:** Poems: \$120 for one poem or \$150 for two or more poems; Stories: \$180; Articles: \$180; Visual art/Intro essay: \$120; Reviews: \$100; Online Publication: \$100. "We expect our contributors to be subscribers of the Magazine. While we will accept submissions from non-subscribers, should your work be accepted for publication in this instance, you will be asked to accept a subscription to the Magazine as part payment for your work." **Deadline:** August 31, 2020.

Claw & Blossom Equinox Issue: Rise. **Genre:** Prose and poems that touch upon the natural world. **Payment:** \$25. **Deadline:** August 31, 2020.

The McNeese Review. **Genre:** Fiction, poetry. **Payment:** \$50. **Deadline:** August 31, 2020.

Kingdoms in the Wild. **Restrictions:** Open to Black and African writers only. **Genre:** Poetry. **Payment:** \$125. **Deadline:** August 31, 2020.

Strange Horizons. **Restrictions:** Open to Indigenous people in Mexico, Mexican people, and people of Mexican origin. This includes people living in Mexico, in the borderlands/la frontera and Rio Grande Valley, and in diaspora, as well as displaced and undocumented peoples making home in these places. **Genre:** Speculative fiction. **Payment:** 0.10 USD per word for original fiction and \$100 flat rate for reprints. Translators will be paid 0.08 USD per word in the source text. **Deadline:** August 31, 2020. *Reprints accepted.*

[Shenandoah](#). **Genre:** Fiction, CNF, novel excerpts, translations, comics. **Payment:** \$100 per 1000 words of prose up to \$500, and \$50 per page of comics up to \$500. **Deadline:** August 31, 2020. *Opens August 15.*

[Strange Aeon: 2020 \(Lovecraftian Tales\)](#). **Genre:** Lovecraftian Tales. **Payment:** \$20. **Deadline:** August 31, 2020.

[Bethlehem Writers Roundtable](#). **Genre:** Poetry and fiction on theme of Migration. **Payment:** \$20 for featured author stories; \$10 for stories published on &More page \$5 for poems. **Deadline:** September 1, 2020.

[Bicycles and Broomsticks](#). **Genre:** Speculative short fiction that combines themes of witchcraft and bicycling, through a feminist lens. Both witchiness and bicycles must be inherent to accepted stories **Payment:** A portion of profits after expenses from the Kickstarter project used to fund the book is split between contributors; payments are not less than \$30 each. **Deadline:** September 1, 2020.

[Jellyfish](#). **Restrictions:** "Writers of colour." **Genre:** Fiction, nonfiction, 1000 words max. **Payment:** \$50. **Deadline:** September 1, 2020.

WRITING CONTESTS - AUGUST 2020

[Hawk and Cleaver: The Other Stories](#). **Genre:** Horror short stories. Theme: The Dark Web. **Payment:** \$5. **Deadline:** August 14, 2020.

[Mizna](#), the only Arab lit and art journal in the United States, is seeking submissions for a special Comix Issue. **Genre:** Comics. "We are seeking comics submissions by Arab and SWANA artists living anywhere in the world responding to the prompt of **A New World Order**. These days, it seems as though revolutionary changes are happening daily. From global political upheavals to public health crises, we are living in unprecedented times that are changing the ways we think, work, act, live, and love. We may not know what the future holds, but one thing is certain: the world as we know it is changing forever. For this issue, we are seeking comics that explore what it means for reality (whether the personal micro realities that we inhabit, or the larger political realities that engulf us) to undergo radical, transformative shifts, for better or for worse." **Payment:** \$25. **Deadline:** August 14, 2020.

[Luna Station Quarterly](#). **Restrictions:** Open to women writers only. **Genre:** Speculative fiction. **Payment:** \$5. **Deadline:** August 15, 2020.

[Songs of Eretz](#). **Genre:** Poetry, cover art on theme of Politics. **Payment:** \$5. **Deadline:** August 15, 2020.

[The New Gothic Review](#). **Genre:** Gothic fiction. Eerie atmosphere is key. **Payment:** \$30. **Deadline:** August 15, 2020.

[Consumed: Tales of the Wendigo](#). **Genre:** Speculative fiction. "Submissions do not have to have characters turn into a literal Wendigo. Character(s) must go through some sort of a transformation due to the "hunger." You do not have to use the term Wendigo. We just ask that authors use the core concept of the Wendigo as inspiration for their story." **Payment:** \$20 for the first 3,000 words, half a cent per word after that. **Deadline:** August 15, 2020.

[Demon's Dreaming Press: Something Good to Eat](#). **Genre:** Horror set in or around Halloween. **Payment:** \$100. Accepts reprints. **Deadline:** August 21, 2020.

[Speculative City](#). **Genre:** Speculative fiction, poetry, and essays on theme of Governance. Must be set in a city. **Payment:** \$20-\$55. **Deadline:** August 24, 2020.

[Fireside Quarterly](#). **Genre:** Short stories, poetry, nonfiction, art. **Payment:** 12.5 cents per word. **Deadline:** August 28, 2020. *Opens August 24.*

[Satan Rides Your Daughter](#). **Genre:** Horror. "We are looking for the truly satanic and downright demonic for this anthology! 'Satan Rides Your Daughter' will be HellBound's loving homage to Dennis Wheatley, William Peter Blatty, Clive Barker, and every other documenter of hellish realms and their nefarious citizens!" **Payment:** \$5. **Deadline:** August 30, 2020.

[Chicken Soup for the Soul: Miracles & Divine Intervention](#). **Genre:** True stories. "Miracles are all around us if we're open to them. Sometimes we just can't explain how good things came about. Are they celestial, otherworldly, heavenly? However they happened, these events give us peace and comfort, guidance, hope and faith." **Payment:** \$200. **Deadline:** August 31, 2020.

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AND MORE...

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Benefits of SCWA Membership



WELCOME, WELCOME, WELCOME!

- ❖ Active members receive a 30% off admission to SCWA in-person meetings including an all-you-can-eat lunch and a speaker.
- ❖ Members are eligible for a Free 30-minute consultation from book shepherd Sharon Goldinger on any publishing contract.
- ❖ Discounts are available for active SCWA members for registration for the La Jolla Writer's Conference, and for early registration for the Southern California Writers' Conference, which is held twice annually in San Diego and Orange County.
- ❖ Critiques of your first 20 pages by an SCWA Board member for \$50.00.
- ❖ Access to professional network of publishing, business consultants and editors.
- ❖ Monthly networking with other published, unpublished authors, and writers in all stages of the writing journey.
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The SCWA communication sites should only be used for dialogues related to the craft of writing. Non-writing related topics should be done via other forms of personal communication. Please review the content disclaimer located in the newsletter via the SCWA website www.southerncalwriters.org or on the About page of the SCWA Facebook page. The SCWA does not endorse individual opinions placed of any of its sites.

The SCWA receives information on various services, writing contests, and events. As a courtesy, we will forward the information to our members. Unless otherwise indicated, the SCWA does not discourage, encourage or recommend any of the services, contests or events. Many of these services, contests and events cost money; therefore, we recommend that you evaluate the opportunities based on your individual situation and interest. Because of our membership email protection policy, please do not forward information to the general membership directly. **We request that all members forward any information to the SCWA President for approval and forwarding to the membership.**

SCWA members wishing to share appropriate writing-related information and resources are welcome to do so via the SCWA Facebook page. The SCWA Board members and Newsletter Editor will determine the information to be contained in the SCWA on-line newsletter, which is primarily used for official SCWA information.