

**IFWA MEETING**  
**Thursday, February 2, 2017, 7:00 PM**  
**Sentry Box**  
**MINUTES**

**Information Items:**

**New Members:**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Person</b>
7:00 PM	<p><b><u>Crits for February</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crit 1: Brent – Screenplay – Horror Crit by Susan F, Kevin</li>   <li>• Crit 2: Ron Friedman – Science Fiction – veloceraaptor robot and genetically enhanced female Crit by Ed, Dave W.</li> </ul>	<p>Shannon Susan F. / Kevin</p> <p>Ed / Dave W.</p>
	<p><b><u>Crits for March, 2017</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crit 1: Erin Sneath – YA Horror – chapter 1 Crit by Val King, Chris</li>   <li>• Crit 2: Sandy Fitzpatrick - Fantasy Short – 4200 words about salamander Crit by Rob Easton, Cassandra Peters</li> </ul>	<p>Shannon</p>
8:00 PM	<p><b><u>Skills Session</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Map Making for Science Fiction and Fantasy</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mostly for Fantasy, but can apply to science fiction too.</li> <li>• Maps are exciting and intriguing and add a layer of reality. If I see a map on writer's blog, I get intrigued and check out author's book</li> <li>• Most readers love them</li> <li>• They are not a crutch for bad writing. They should provide something extra, not replace something not in the book</li> <li>• Can orient readers initially</li> <li>• Maps useful for authors – familiarize self with world a bit better</li> <li>• Can help straighten things out – if write something geologically impossible</li> <li>• But I'm not an artist – how do I make a map?</li> <li>• Map making is like writing a book – the first draft will suck and that is okay.</li> <li>• For complete non artists.</li> <li>• When we were kids, we did not know how to write. We learned shapes etc.</li> <li>• Maps are just different ways of drawing</li> <li>• Book: How to Draw Fantasy Art &amp; RPG Maps by Jared Blando</li> <li>• First, start with natural features such as coastlines, mountains, forests, rivers, and lakes. Once we know what the geographic places in world, we can decide</li> </ul>	<p>Swati Chavda</p>

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	<p>what the man-made features are.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended Apps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art Studio</li> <li>• My Brush Pro</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Not Adobe Photoshop, but okay</li> <li>• Layers will simplify things</li> <li>• Start with continents.</li> <li>• This looks like big task – just draw a shape</li> <li>• Then, refine coast – make it jagged/serrated. Add islands and inlets.</li> <li>• Later, erase it or close layer</li> <li>• Put other things like Deepening bays, create inlets and other features</li> <li>• Lakes and other bodies of water</li> <li>• If try and do this at beginning, looks daunting</li> <li>• Do as many layers as you wish until refine it enough</li> <li>• Look at other features like mountains</li> <li>• Use a faint pencil line – shows how range will extend</li> <li>• Then draw mountain-like shapes along the line</li> <li>• Then have mountains extending along other mountains</li> <li>• Then, erase faint line</li> <li>• Put in shading and other elements to make it more three dimensional</li> <li>• Want something geologically possible.</li> <li>• Mountains – advantage – rivers flow from them</li> <li>• Put rivers in after mountains in place – have them go to the inlets</li> <li>• General line of river in place, give it a more serpentine shape and more detail – then add deltas and tributaries</li> <li>• Once have basic things in place, easier to place cities</li> <li>• Cities need water – put them close to a source of water</li> <li>• If civilization is advanced – there may be other ways of getting water</li> <li>• General rule for rivers – flat – meanders / steep – straight</li> <li>• Lakes – do mountains first, and then when have valleys, can have lakes collect there</li> <li>• Start with elements that are important to the story.</li> <li>• In fantasy, setting is a character. Characters will react to the setting</li> <li>• Cities are placed depending on population – sparse or very populated. Where is food coming from (flat ground needed for farming)</li> <li>• Book also talks about making things pretty and symbology for cities or hamlets or villages</li> <li>• Roads – highways can be thick lines, and small roads can be dotted lines</li> <li>• City symbols</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is it very complex? Not always – treat it like writing from scratch – can have decent map within a few days</li> </ul>	
8:30 PM	<p><b><u>Call for Agenda Items</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Library (IFWA)</li> </ul>	Michael
8:35 PM	<p><b><u>Brag</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cassandra – online flash fic will be in print – best of 2016 – had story accepted in Dark Night in New Orleans – 10 paintings in a show (EventBrite) – Imagine Art Show</li> <li>Ed – spent \$33 – sent all 527 pages to Daw</li> <li>Sandy – nice rejection from anthology – fixed it and sent it off somewhere else</li> <li>Susan – submitted a requested rewrite to Analog</li> <li>Steve Swanson – bought table at comic shop</li> <li>Brent – finished sequel to Stars Like Cold Fire and sent it</li> <li>Richard – got a new cat</li> <li>Michael – three rejections this month</li> <li>Enigma Front – 46 stories from 34 authors</li> <li>Ron – 10<sup>th</sup> Honourable Mention</li> <li>Chris – got request for full manuscript from Edge</li> <li>Celeste – sad tale – story accepted in anthology with Margaret Atwood, but decided not to go ahead with anthology</li> </ul>	Michael
8:40 PM	<p><b><u>Discuss / Decide</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion About Web Page – Making it More “Alive” – how do we make it more alive – News – should it be at top of the page? Every month? – Who is the website for? Why is it there? What is purpose – do we want random public to find us? Once they look at the website – they don’t care about going back to it. Problem is, keep things going to – shows Facebook page – have a NEXT MEETING – for next date – put that at the top of the main page. Do we want to put resource links? For us, no. Should be members only.</li> <li>IFWA Library – folding bookshelf – in someone’s garage. It needs to leave – Do we need a library? Cassandra will look at it.</li> <li>Key from Renee – given to Cassandra</li> <li>WWC News – We want Panel Ideas</li> <li>WWC is over 50% sold</li> <li>WWC – Gaming</li> <li>Writers in the House – great time and best attended</li> </ul>	Michael
8:55 PM	<p><b><u>Announcements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Aurora Awards eligibility list is now open. If you published something in 2016, you can added it to the list. Adding a work to the list is free.</li> </ul>	Michael

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	<p><a href="http://www.prixaurorawards.ca/aurora-awards/eligibility-lists/">http://www.prixaurorawards.ca/aurora-awards/eligibility-lists/</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2. Aurora nomination is open. CSFFA members can nominate eligible works. Membership is \$10 / year. <b>Note: Last year Enigma Front was one vote shy of being a finalist. Don't say your vote doesn't count.</b></li> <li>• <b>Bundoran Press</b> Submissions for the Canadian themed anthology 49<sup>th</sup> Parallels end on February 14, 2017. Details here: <a href="http://www.bundoranpress.com/pages/submissions/">http://www.bundoranpress.com/pages/submissions/</a></li> <li>• <b>Writers in the House</b> – April 22-23 (weekend after Easter) at the Fireside Room, Calgary Delta South – 135 Southland Drive S.E. – Times: 11a.m. – 11p.m. Saturday and Sunday – Admission free, but there is an expectation that we will order food and drink from Boomtown Pub for use of the room.</li> <li>• Alexandra Writer's Centre Critique Sessions – Howie Erickson will be a facilitator for a new Prose Critique Group hosted by the Alexandra Writers' Centre Society in their new facility in the @cSpace King Edward - 403, 1721, 29th Ave SW - Calgary, AB T2T 1P5. It will be held every two weeks beginning Feb. 7, 2017, from 7pm to 8:30pm. The format is different than what you might be familiar with. If you want to have your work critiqued, email me author@<a href="mailto:author@howieerickson.com">howieerickson.com</a> and I will put you on the readers list. You will read for 5 minutes (timed) and then receive 5-10 minutes of feedback depending on the number of readers. You can provide handouts for those attending and receive mark-ups at the end of your session or just get verbal feedback. For more info see <a href="http://www.alexandrawriters.org/what-we-off.../feature-events/">http://www.alexandrawriters.org/what-we-off.../feature-events/</a> under Feb 7.</li> </ul>	