

IFWA MEETING
Thursday, June 1, 2017, 7:00 PM
Sentry Box
MINUTES

Information Items:

New Members: James (writes Acid-wash Horror)

Time	Topic	Person
7:00 PM	<u>Crits for May</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crit 1: Jeff – Short story Science Fiction Crit by Brent Nichols / Michael Gillette Crit 2: Ron Friedman – YA Science Fiction Crit by Ann Cooney / Justin Acton 	Shannon Brent / Michael Ann / Justin
	<u>Crits for July, 2017</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crit 1: Dan Hampton – Chapter 1 (Supernatural Fantasy) Kevin Weir, Richard Caruna Crit 2: Rick Overwater – Crime Noir Calvin, Dan 	Shannon
8:00 PM	<u>Skills Session</u> Read Like a Writer – Lesley Sackett-Winfield (see attached notes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make time to read – if you don't have time to read, you don't have the time (or the tools) to write – Stephen King Know Why You Read Read for Pleasure Read Outside Your Genre What to Notice While Reading What do others notice when reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Themes and big questions Get lots of value reading bad fiction – see mistakes and repeating problems 	Lesley Sackett-Winfield
8:30 PM	<u>Brags</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris Chupik – Rocket's Red Glare – Science fiction anthology in Amazon Kindle No. 3 last Wednesday Michele Lisiecki - Submitted short story got honourable mention – will be released in anthology Canadian Shorts Ron Friedman – Drumheller Comic Con – invited as a guest (but couldn't make it) Ann Cooney – sold short story to Anthology - first Canadian folk tale in an Aurora Dan Hampton – Finished rough draft on novel and submitted it for crit – submitted short to Alice Unchained (rejected, rewritten, and re-submitted) Susan – Sum of Us comes out this August – four 	Michael

Time	Topic	Person
	<p>short stories in Strangers Among Us are nominated for Auroras</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brent – Stars Like Cold Fire is up for Aurora • Robert Bose – short story in Biketopia, plus short story collection of his stories being published entitled “Fishing with the Devil” 	
8:35 PM	<p><u>New Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short Story Contest Discussion: ARWA contributed \$100 – wants to be full financial supporting partner • Susan received \$50 for judging ARWA short story contest • Don’t want to shut down Short Story Contest yet – still getting lots of stories and good judges. 	Michael
8:40 PM	<p><u>Discuss / Decide</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IFWA – 30th Anniversary in 2018 – Do we want to do anything about this? No decision yet • IFWA Library (Brent) – gave out some titles • Enigma Front (Justin) – wants everyone to support Enigma Front: Burnt on social media • Short Story Contest – Patreon Discussion – wonderful forum – problem: have to submit things every month – want continual interaction for their cash donations – you are patron – expecting short stories and art work – IPB doesn’t quite fit the bill for Patreon. Maybe gofundme page, but not Patreon. 	Michael
8:55 PM	<p><u>Announcements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aurora Awards: Voting for the Aurora Awards begins July 15th and will end on September 2nd. Only CSFFA members can vote. Membership is \$10 / year. The voters package should be available soon (or may already be available). 	Michael

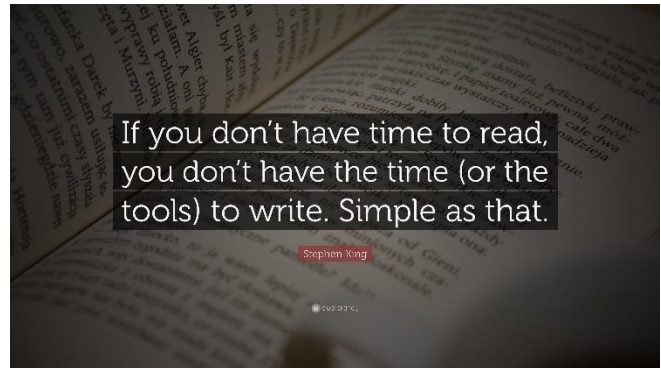
How to Read Like a Writer

Lesley Sackett Winfield, librarygoddess2@gmail.com info@pandorasboox.ca

MAKE time to Read:

Tips for finding time to read:

Read First Thing in the morning and/or before bed.
Don't leave the house without reading material.
Make the most of your commute.
Set goals.
Start or join a book club.
Exchange shows and movies for books.
Block out time in your calendar.
Set reminders for yourself.



Know why you Read:

The reality is that we all read for different reasons. Nancy Pearl identifies story, character, setting, and language as the main appeal factors in a book. Pearl calls these appeal factors “doorways” into the world of fiction; readers can enter a story through one of these four doorways. Her Now Read This set of books are organized by the four appeal factors. She also identifies a secondary appeal factor for each story.

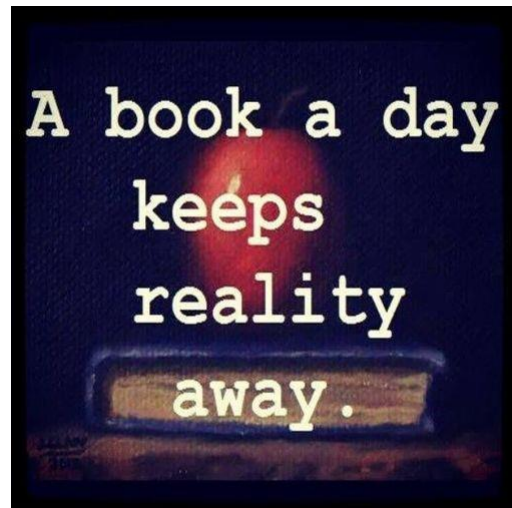
1. **Story:** The twists and turns of the plot dominate. Characters and settings may not be well-defined.
2. **Character:** The characters in this type of book “are three-dimensional and seem to step off the page.” Plot and setting may not be well defined.
3. **Setting:** Detailed descriptions of time and place are prominent. Settings can be geographical or historical, and are key to understanding characters and themes.
4. **Language:** The quality of the writing is the most noticeable feature. The use of language is “evocative, unusual, thought-provoking or poetic.”



Read for Pleasure!

Aside from the sheer joy of exercising the imagination, research shows reading for pleasure improves literacy, social skills, health and learning outcomes. It gives people ***access to culture and heritage and empowers them to become active citizens, who can contribute to economic and social development.***

It's easy to get bogged down in research reading. Constructing a world, and doing research for a project is time consuming. The more you delve into your project, the larger your reading list becomes. However, ***it's important that every few books you read, is just for fun!*** Don't analyze it, don't edit it, turn off your writer brain and just get absorbed in the story. Listen to an audio book can help you enjoy the story and switch of the natural editor.



Read Outside your Genre:

Reading outside your genre can ***make your writing more diverse.*** It can help ***you bend the genre boundaries,*** and it can ***make your writing more well-rounded.*** You may also see the ***common threads that span across all genres.*** As mentioned above, everyone reads for a different reason, this is why many people tend to stick to one genre over the other.

Many genres have strengths in different aspects of writing. While this is not a hard and fast rule, some of the main strengths are listed below. Reading across all genres can give you experience with all elements.

Fantasy - Tend to be rich in setting with grand world building and magic systems.

Suspense/Thrillers - Tend to have fast paced plot and rich story elements.

Romance - Tends to focus on character development.

Literary - Tends to emphasize quality in language and prose.

What to notice while reading:

Now that we've read for fun, what should we look for when we turn our writer's brain back on that can help us with our own writing? Below are some questions you can ask yourself, and some tips you can use while reading to identify why you like or dislike a work.

- Keep a journal of interesting metaphors and descriptions.
- Notice how the author breaks the rules. Make a mental or physical note.
- When you finish a chapter, go back and identify the unique story arch of each chapter.
- Ask yourself how the writer made the characters unique.
- Was it a page-turner? Why? How did the author achieve this?
- Does the writer have their own unique style and voice? How is it different from other authors?

2017 Aurora Award Ballot

This ballot is for works done in 2016 by Canadians. The Aurora Awards are nominated by members of the Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Association. The top five nominated works were selected. Additional works were included where there was a tie for fifth place.

Best Novel

Children of Earth and Sky by Guy Gavriel Kay, Viking Canada

Company Town by Madeline Ashby, Tor Books

The Courier by Gerald Brandt, DAW Books

The Nature of a Pirate by A.M. Dellamonica, Tor Books

Quantum Night by Robert J. Sawyer, Penguin Canada

Stars like Cold Fire by Brent Nichols, Bundoran Press

Best Young Adult Novel

Day of the Demon by Randy McCharles, CreateSpace

Door into Faerie by Edward Willett, Coteau Books

Heir to the Sky by Amanda Sun, Harlequin Teen

Icarus Down by James Bow, Scholastic Canada

Mik Murdoch: Crisis of Conscience by Michell Plested, Evil Alter Ego Press

The Wizard Killer - Season One by Adam Dreece, ADZO Publishing

Best Short Fiction

Age of Miracles by Robert Runté, Strangers Among Us: Tales of the Underdogs and Outcasts, Laksa Media

Frog Song by Erika Holt, Strangers Among Us: Tales of the Underdogs and Outcasts, Laksa Media

Living in Oz by Bev Geddes, Strangers Among Us: Tales of the Underdogs and Outcasts, Laksa Media

Marion's War by Hayden Trenholm, Strangers Among Us: Tales of the Underdogs and Outcasts, Laksa Media

Seasons of Glass and Iron by Amal el-Mohtar, The Starlit Wood: New Fairy Tales, Saga Press
When Phakack Came to Steal Papa, A Ti-Jean Story by Ace Jordyn, On Spec Magazine

Best Poem/Song

No award will be given out in this category in 2017 due to insufficient eligible nominees

Best Graphic Novel

Angel Catbird, Volume One by Margaret Atwood, Johnnie Christmas and Tamra Bonvillian, Dark Horse Books

Crash and Burn by Kate Larking and Finn Lucullan, Astres Press

Earthsong by Crystal Yates, Webcomic

It Never Rains by Kari Maaren, Webcomic

Weregeek by Alina Pete, Webcomic

Best Related Work

Clockwork Canada: Steampunk Fiction edited by Dominik Parisien, Exile Editions

Enigma Front: Burnt, managing editor Celeste A. Peters, Analemma Books

Lazarus Risen edited by Hayden Trenholm and Mike Rimar, Bundoran Press

Strangers Among Us: Tales of the Underdogs and Outcasts edited by Susan Forest and Lucas K. Law, Laksa Media

Superhero Universe (Tesseract Nineteen) edited by Claude Lalumière and Mark Shainblum, EDGE

Best Visual Presentation

Arrival, director, Denis Villeneuve, Paramount Pictures

Orphan Black, Season 4, John Fawcett and Graeme Manson, Temple Street Productions

Killjoys, Season 2, Michelle Lovretta, Temple Street Productions

Dark Matter, Season 2, Joseph Mallozzi and Paul Mullie, Prodigy Pictures

Murdoch Mysteries, Season 9, Peter Mitchell and Christina Jennings, Shaftesbury Films

Best Artist

Samantha M. Beiko, cover to Strangers Among Us: Tales of the Underdogs and Outcasts

James Beveridge, covers and poster art

Melissa Mary Duncan, body of work

Erik Mohr, covers for ChiZine Publications and Company Town for Tor Books

Dan O'Driscoll, covers for Bundoran Press

Best Fan Writing and Publications

Amazing Stories Magazine, weekly column, Steve Fahnstalk

BCSFAzine #512 to #519, edited by Felicity Walker

The Nerd is the Word, articles by Dylan McEvoy

OBIR Magazine #4, edited by R. Graeme Cameron

Silver Stag Entertainment, edited by S.M. Carrière

Speculating Canada edited by Derek Newman-Stille

Best Fan Organizational

Samantha Beiko and Chadwick Ginther, co-chairs, Chiaroscuro Reading Series: Winnipeg

R. Graeme Cameron, chair, VCON 41, Surrey, BC

Sandra Kasturi and Angela Keeley, co-chairs, 2016 Toronto SpecFic Colloquium

Derek Künsken and Marie Bilodeau, executive, Can*Con 2016, Ottawa

Randy McCharles, chair, When Words Collide, Calgary

Matt Moore, Marie Bilodeau, and Nicole Lavigne, co-chairs, Chiaroscuro Reading Series: Ottawa

Sandra Wickham, chair, Creative Ink Festival, Burnaby, BC

Best Fan Related Work

Ron S. Friedman, Villains and Conflicts presentation, When Words Collide, Calgary Comic Expo, and File 770

Kari Maaren, Concert, SFContario

Derek Newman-Stille, Speculating, Canada on Trent Radio 92.7 FM

Best of the Decade

This is a special category for this year's awards for works published between January 2001 and December 2010. Note: Items in italics are for multi-volume works. Multi-volume stories were considered if they began prior to 2001 but ended before or close to 2011. We defined a multi-volume story as one with a continuous narrative. Finalists were chosen by an eight-person jury from across Canada. The winner will be chosen by our membership's votes.

Blind Lake by Robert Charles Wilson, Tor Books

The Blue Ant Trilogy by William Gibson, Berkley

Malazan Book of the Fallen, Steven Erikson, Tor Books

The Neanderthal Parallax, Robert J. Sawyer, Tor Books

The Onion Girl, Charles de Lint, Tor Books

Under Heaven, Guy Gavriel Kay, Viking Canada