

IFWA MEETING
Thursday, September 6, 2018, 7:00 PM
Sentry Box
MINUTES

Information Items:

New Members: Randall Thomas (Science Fiction), Ruben (Fantasy), Eli Wilkinson (Sci Fi and Horror) has need for beta readers, Patty Nielsen (YA Science Fiction and Fantasy)

Time	Topic	Person
7:00 PM	<p><u>Crits for December</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crit: Cody - Chapter 1 – Fantasy Novel Crit by Selene and Dan 	Shannon Selene / Dan
	<p><u>Crits for January, 2016</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crit: Dan (Good) - Short story supernatural horror Crit by Cody and Joey 	Shannon
8:00 PM	<p><u>Skills Session</u> Productivity - Randy McCharles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting Goals - will motivate you just by being there • Many of us also do useless writing - two hours of writing and nothing to show for it • What works for me may not work for you - have to find out what works for you. • <u>Definition of Productivity</u>: for most it is word count - but don't like word count - like quality word count. Getting from point A (Story concept) to point B (ready for market) in as short amount of time as possible - start to finish • <u>What keeps us from being productive?</u> Many things - meetings, day job, home life, other obligations • Negotiate them - negotiate with family about writing time - this is a job. Make sure everyone is on board • Secret is Short Fiction - if have no time to write - write short fiction - you will never finish novels • If time limited - try to consolidate time and get longer periods of time to get more done at once. • Don't leave distractions on (eg FB, e-mail) - will help focus • <u>Writer's Block</u> - it is a figment of your imagination - Writer's Block - when you don't know what your story is - if you know what it is, you won't have it • <u>Before you write, think</u>. Spend time thinking about your story. Make notes. By the time I sit down to write, I already know the story and won't waste time. • If do get stuck, skip it and go to next scene - you don't know story until you write THE END. You don't need to know whole story. • <u>What do you need to know to begin?</u> Start, ending and vague idea of the climax. Major characters - 1d people, not 3d people yet - Protagonist, Antagonist, some of problems, etc. 	Randy McCharles

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't have to be a plotter. Productive Pantsers have it in their head • Answer will be different for everybody but as long as you know what to write, you can do it. Do what works for you. • Editing while writing first draft? Stop it. It is two different brains. A lot of it will be gone later. • First draft is discovery process. Subsequent draft is a completion process. First draft is creative process. Don't feel bad about anything wrong with your first draft. Could be garbage as a first draft • <u>Self-Confidence</u> - Psychological hurdles - ie writer fraud - feel like you are a fraud and am not good enough. This reduces productivity. • Writing is zero risk unless writing to contract • Don't feel you are a fraud, just do it. • <u>Tools</u> - Scrivener, spreadsheets, etc. Great for some, but poison for others - they slow people down. • Again, figure out what tools work for you. <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For more information, see Randy's Notes</i></p>	
8:30 PM	<p><u>Call for Agenda Items</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calgary Library Windows for \$100 (Shannon) Shannon moves that we purchase 	Michael
8:35 PM	<p><u>Braggs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandy - got 2 stories in IPB book - came in 3rd overall • Susan Forest – (1) Shades Within Us has been featured in Tor.com and has been listed in All the New Gere-Bending books coming out in September. (2) <i>The Oracle and Warlord</i> by Karina Sumner-Smith shortlisted for Washington Science Fiction Association Small Press Award. • Jeannette - Finding Atlantis had successful launch at Owl's Nest • Liz - Stacy asked to see manuscript - Ashen (YA paranormal horror) • Anne – two full manuscript reads from Sam Hiyate and Morgan. Two short stories listed for magazine publication. Got paid for a reprint. • Suzy - top 10 in Calgary Herald - rec bronze medal for - new series pitched to two agents • Chris Carolan - sold short to Coffin Hop (Nov) Circle of Steel – anthology entitled: Baby It's Cold Outside • Randy - ran a literary festival – completed 3 drafts of new novels • Michael - 9000 words to edit of novel - to send to Adrienne Kerr • Jeff and Shannon launched King Author anthology at WWC - Owl's Next to do launch 	Michael

Time	Topic	Person
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ralph - first time back in 3 years • Calvin - new website, two new interviews on Just Joshin and Clockworks and Crime 	
8:40 PM	<p><u>Discuss / Decide</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calgary Library Windows for \$100 (Shannon) Shannon moves that we purchase – Susan F. seconds – voted for unanimously. No opposing and no abstentions. Get it arranged with Phillip Vernon • Discussion of IFWA Bylaws - to be voted on at next meeting. Vote on quorum numbers for IFWA: 13 for static number, 2 for straight percentage, 7 abstentions. Final numbers TBD. Also vote on having proxy votes: passed. Final wording TBD 	Michael
8:55 PM	<p><u>Announcements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writers in the House – hosted by Randy McCharles will be held on September 29-30, 2018 at the Boomtown Pub (Private Room) located at 135 Southland Dr SW. Join local writers for a weekend of writing. Drop by any time from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Saturday, Sept 29 or 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Sunday, Sept 30. • Aurora Awards: 2018 Voting ends this Saturday, September 8, 2018. 	Michael