

IFWA MEETING
Thursday, May 2, 2019, 7:00 PM
Sentry Box
MINUTES

Information Items:

New Members: Tammy Chopyk writes science fiction. Katie Yamniuk writes epic fantasy. Braden Rast writes dark fantasy

Time	Topic	Person
7:00 PM	<p><u>Crits for May</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crit 1: Jeannette Dover (YA Dystopian Novel with a twist) Crit by Brent / Eli • Crit 2: Rachel (Ch 1 of urban fantasy / post-apocalyptic) Crit by Dan / Kevin 	<p>Renee Brent / Eli</p> <p>Dan / Kevin</p>
	<p><u>Crits for June, 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crit 1: Eli - Sci-fi horror (like X-files) short story Crit by Leslie Scrimshaw / Randall • Crit 2: Liz Grotkowski - sci fi Crit by Adrian / Sandy Fitzpatrick 	<p>Renee</p>
8:00 PM	<p><u>Skills Session</u> Beta Readers - Michael</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most in IFWA have submitted and sold short stories than novels. How do you get to that stage? • Friends, family, readers? Writing Group? Beta Readers? • Want someone to read it and you are asking a lot of them - lots of feedback you can get • How do you go about doing it? Get different people to do different stages • Get readers who have personal relationship. Alpha readers - before polished • Need to communicate what it is you want • Alpha Reader – is your FIRST reader, the first person who reads the first thing you write (Stephen King – it is his spouse) • Critiquer – expect to get someone to do in-depth analysis of structure, grammar, etc. - should be able to read anything and give opinions • Beta Reading - marketing stage - must be in-genre reader • Term Beta Reader comes from software testing - Alpha Tester - early testers - Beta Testers - find bugs - most work already done • Find Beta Readers online - 20 - 30 - advanced marketing team - use them to create hype - Advanced Action Team 	<p>Michael</p>

Time	Topic	Person
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beta Readers should be readers, Alpha are writers • Alpha - conceptual, structural, • Editors - that is what editors do - line-by-line and grammar - if self-publishing, hire one • Beta Readers are the LAST step • Big 5 publishers still rely on AUTHOR - don't rely on the editors at the big 5 • How to get Beta Readers – through reciprocity, acknowledgements 	
8:30 PM	<p><u>Call for Agenda Items</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writers at the Improv 	Michael
8:35 PM	<p><u>Brag</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cassandra - The Green Leaf Project (not spec fic) published on Amazon Kindle • Randy - done research - 2nd Connecticut Gumshoe novel started - first one from Tyche • Jeannette Dover - only IFWit YA Novel on eligibility list • Chris Carolan - novel Nightshade Cabal will be released - signed contract • Brent Nichols - Short Story Contest – got 66 stories submitted 	Michael
8:40 PM	<p><u>Discuss / Decide</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on the CCE table (Sandy Fitzpatrick) - Report is attached to the Minutes. Ron Friedman - motion that Sandy be reimbursed for her parking expenses, at Comic Expo, Ann seconded – Vote unanimous • IFWA Bylaws (Calvin) - report - suggested bylaws and markup are attached. Get back to me by next meeting if you have any issues. • Friday Night Readings at WWC Ideas for theme discussed: Theme for WWC 2019 is Humour THEME for Friday Night Readings: <i>“When I Regained Consciousness...”</i> VOTE - \$250 for Room - Ann Cooney motioned, Dan seconded. Vote unanimous - Snacks will be decided next meeting Leslie Scrimshaw will get room for night - will get it from WWC website and then let Randy know so he can do advertising. • Writers at the Improv - Ed Willett has volunteered - 11 am on Sunday Renee will be our Vanna White , Kevin Weir, Katey, Val, Dan, Dave will be panelists 	Michael
8:55 PM	<p><u>Announcements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Taste of Local Authors – May 16, 2019 at 7:00 pm at Owl's Nest Bookstore. Readings from IFWits including Adam Dreece and Kevin Weir. Live Music by Jim Jackson 	Michael

Time	Topic	Person
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aurora Award Nominations are Open: Nominations close on May 18, 2019. Attached is the eligibility lists for IFWA Members. • Double Book Launch by Bundoran Press: The Calgary Launch of <i>Dark Corridor</i> by Jennifer Rahn and <i>The Sixth Helix</i> by Al Onia will be held on Thursday, May 23, 2019, 7:00 pm, at Owl's Nest Books (815A – 49th Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T2S 1G8). Be there for wonderful stories and snacks afterward. • Writers in the House – hosted by Randy McCharles – will be held June 1-2, 2019 – Calgary Delta South – 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, June 1 or 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Sunday, June 2. 	

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 6, 2019

Report 2019 Calgary Comic Expo

By Sandy Fitzpatrick

Costs:

Single table in Artists Alley 2 passes included	\$383.25 (GST included)
Other costs:	
Office supplies	\$12.77 stamps/envelopes
Parking Pass (Sunday)	\$15 Paid by Sandy (ro be reimbursed)
Third Exhibitor Pass	\$90 Paid by Sandy

Participants:

16 authors + IPB

38 titles

Sales: \$646.00

Total books sold: 41

Total Cash sales: \$368

Total Square sales: \$278 (no fee as we had \$1000 of free transactions.)

Things for next time and general notes:

- 1: Make a list of books and their availability including audio, ebook and local sources for people to photograph with their phone for later use. Business cards were not available from all participants.
- 2: Something to stand on, since the flooring there is concrete. A camping pad came with us on Sunday. Many vendors use the interlocking floor mats as they are easy to carry and not that expensive. They can also go around to the side of the table if there is room for someone to stand.
- 3: Scheduling the authors better for work shifts. Sometimes just 2 on the table, other times 5 or 6. Which did allow for breaks, but that many people didn't fit behind the table very well. Two to three people seemed best. One on either end and one behind the table. Those on panels may share their passes since they don't show names.
- 4: More multi-book stands that hold three trade paperbacks across. (Maybe four across.) We didn't have enough room on the table for the chapbook IPBs, so those will be taken to WWC. We even sold 4 IPB! (2-2016, 2 2018)
- 5: The Square worked well, once the fiddly bits were figured out. Not a big user of Sandy's data plan.
- 6: A logline, short blurb and the category of the book so those not familiar with that book can say something meaningful about it. For anthologies (not the Enigma Front), what was your story about? One or two story comments from the editor. This can be sent by email to all those working the event.
- 7: There was confusion in regard to the Enigma Front books and who has the right to sell them

at the official booth. If someone has a separate booth, they can, of course, sell whatever they wish. Several people brought various volumes. We need a policy on who has preference on the table. In general, I think the publisher should have the first chance. If they are not present or have run out of books, individual authors should alternate sales, the order determined by a dice roll.

8. We need to revise and update the info pamphlet. The inner material is still good, but the back and front covers should be replaced with something else.

9. It was suggested we get a horizontal banner (about 2 metres) and a stand to hold it above head height to attract attention. Rick Overwater and I had a conversation about possible images.

Future events:

Pure Spec: June 21-22 (Edmonton). Tables were ~\$70 (I think) last year. Open Friday afternoon through Saturday night. (Event is free. All funding comes from the vendor tables.) There weren't many booksellers there in 2018.

Vulcan: July 26-27 Market tables are \$50 for the Saturday only. Power extra. Mostly SF, but many people read both.

WWC Shared Author Table: August 9-11. Using the Square is possible for some books (Angela especially) Dedicated laptop/tablet with hotel wifi. We will need one more person/shift to run it.

Christmas market at Stampede: The registrations open in September. Probably same cost (380) for a single table. Perhaps having other items for sale besides books.

CCE 2020: Two tables?

While this doubles the cost, we get four vendor passes, which will ease non-attending author involvement. If we have 20 authors (which is possible as there were 16), each could contribute \$20 to pay for the extra table. We could also spread the books out more and group similar genres. The books were crowded.

end report

ELIGIBLE IFWA MEMBERS FOR AURORA'S

Nominations for Aurora Awards for 2018 close on May 18, 2019

Best Novel

Endless Hunger – Kevin Weir
Hearing Voices – E.C. Bell
One of Us – Craig DiLouie
The Alyanyo Heir – Lee F. Patrick (Sandy Fitzpatrick)
Typhoon Time – Ron S. Friedman

Best YA Novel

Finding Atlantis – J.M. Dover

Best Short Fiction

Association – Timothy Reynolds
Before All Else – Shannon Allen
Critical Mass – Liz Westbrook Trenholm
For a Rich Man to Enter – Susan Forest
Ghost Child – Jeff Campbell
House of the Knights Nail – R. Overwater (Rick Overwater)
In a Bar by the Ocean, the World Awaits – Hayden Trenholm
Inugami – Calvin D. Jim
It was a Dark and Stormy Night – Lee F. Patrick (Sandy Fitzpatrick)
Let Nothing Ye Dismay – Chris Patrick Carolan
New Moon Street Blues – Renee Bennett
One Foot in the Grave – Robert Bose
Painted Jade – Jayne Barnard
Save the Humans – J. Paul Cooper
The Event – P.J. Vernon (Phillip Vernon)
The Iron Sun – Dan Hampton
The Path to Redemption – Lucas K. Law
The Promised Land – Lee F. Patrick (Sandy Fitzpatrick)
The Song of the Star – Renee Bennett
The Story of the Three Magic Beans – Ace Jordon (Ann Cooney)
The Swordmaster of Ravenpeak – Brent Nichols
Welcome – Kevin Weir
When the Suit No Longer Fits – Celeste A. Peters
When Winter Comes – Hayden Trenholm
White Rose, Red Thorns – Liz Westbrook-Trenholm
Yesterday's Tomorrow – Chris Mars

Best Graphic Novel

FUTILITY: Orange Planet Horror – Rick Overwater, Cam Hayden

Best Poem/Song

Echos – Shannon Allen (poem)

Edward Willett – has 21 items listed in this category (poems)

How my Life Will End – Vanessa Cardui (song)

Best Related Work

By the Light of Camelot – J.R. Campbell (Jeff Campbell) and Shannon Allen, editors

Decorherence (total of six articles) by Robert J. Sawyer

Enigma Front: Onward – Chris Patrick Carolan, editor

Gaslight Gothic: Strange Tales of Sherlock Holmes – Charles Prepolec and J.R. Campbell (Jeff Campbell), editors

I Tumble Through Diamond Dust – Edward Willett

Shades Within Us: Tales of Migrations and Fractured Borders – Susan Forest and Lucas K.

Law, editors

Best Artist

Cover art for Typhoon Time – Brent Nichols

Best Fan Writing

Man vs. Titan – Ron S. Freidman

Best Fan Organization

When Words Collide Festival for Readers and Writers – Randy McCharles

Best Fan Related

The Third Space Podcast – Kevin Weir and Jeremy Verkley

Just Josting – Joshua Pentalleresco