

**IFWA MEETING**  
**Thursday, January 2, 2020, 7:00 PM**  
**Sentry Box**  
**MINUTES**

**Information Items:**

**New Members:** Paul Kho (heading into a degree in Computer Science – University of Lethbridge (Calgary branch) – published a book entitled The Starr Jewel – Secret of the Starr Sword – Available at Amazon Kindle)

**Attendance:** 40 members

| <b>Time</b> | <b>Topic</b>   | <b>Person</b>   |
|-------------|--|---|
| 7:00 PM     | <p><b><u>Crits for January</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crit 1: Ellen – Modern day horror short story<br/>Crit by Steve Swanson, Brent Nichols</li> <br/> <li>• Crit 2: Dan – Science Fiction Western with horror elements (2 chapters)<br/>Crit by Rob, Adriaan</li> </ul>  | <p>Selene<br/>Steve / Brent</p><br><p>Rob / Adriaan</p> |
|             | <p><b><u>Crits for February, 2020</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crit 1: Jackson Prather – The Power Within (High Fantasy)<br/>Crit by Shannon / Calvin</li> <br/> <li>• Crit 2: Paul Kho – sci-fi fantasy – part of a novel – book 2<br/>Crit by Suzy V., Selene</li> </ul>   | <p>Selene</p>   |
| 8:00 PM     | <p><b><u>Skills Session</u></b><br/>The Proverbial “First Page” - Ann Cooney</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See presentation notes.</li> </ul>   | <p>Ann Cooney</p>                                       |
| 8:30 PM     | <p><b><u>Call for Agenda Items</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>   | <p>Michael</p>  |
| 8:35 PM     | <p><b><u>Brag</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Randy – Book 3 of Peter Galloway Mysteries released</li> <li>• Jean Paul – 1) Aurora Borealis sale – 2) ebook bought from someone in Melbourne ,Australia</li> <li>• Sandy – 1) story published in “2 for” anthology – 2) has story in Autora Borealis (issue 13)</li> <li>• Jackson – finished second draft of new story (Becoming Infamous) before New Year</li> <li>• Selene – submission out – short story</li> <li>• Susan – Bursts of Fire has 2 recommendations on Nebula Reading List</li> <li>• Ann – finished a forensic course.</li> </ul> | <p>Michael</p>  |

| Time    | Topic   | Person  |
|---------|---|---------|
| 8:40 PM | <p data-bbox="358 226 574 258"><u>Discuss / Decide</u></p> <ul data-bbox="407 258 1078 1514" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="407 258 1078 527">• Val – Elaine Lee – she needs a new wheelchair. Would IFWA be interested in donation – Rob posted on Boxing Day – Cost is \$15,000. \$10,000 raised already. She may not make full amount. She is writer and artist – propose that IFWA donate some funds – FOR RECORD: Motion: Val King moves IFWA donates \$200 to her GoFundMe Campaign Shannon seconds. Discussion – Vote: In Favour: 38 – Against: 0 – Abstain – 1 abstainer – Vote Carried</li> <li data-bbox="407 527 1078 621">• Karaoke will be starting every Thursday at Buffalo Bobs. Will try and work with us so we maintain our place. Will be every Thursday starting in February.</li> <li data-bbox="407 621 1078 890">• Owls Nest – halving their store. They have a sponsorship program \$100.00. FOR RECORD: Motion – Michael moves for IFWA to sponsor Owl’s Nest for \$100 – Seconded by Susan Forest – Discussion pertaining to what we get for the sponsorship. They have been supportive of community for very long time – For record – Vote: In Favour: 39 – Against: 0 – Abstain: 0 – Vote Carried unanimously</li> <li data-bbox="407 890 1078 1079">• Ann – Proposal for IFWA Workshop: What if we had a workshop for IFWits? Could be related to fantasy or science fiction or craft. Could be something more in-depth. Do this in April of each year. Full day of learning. Table this for February with possible discussion topics. Needs a co-chair for this.</li> <li data-bbox="407 1079 1078 1205">• Submissions open for Enigma Front Anthology – Annual IFWA Writer Short Stories. Theme – Robots and other Constructed Life Forms – See below for more information</li> <li data-bbox="407 1205 1078 1514">• Susan – 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Sentry Box – we should purchase books here – Saturday – 10am – 5pm – Party to Celebrate 40 Years of Sentry Box – Get 20% discount on meeting nights. Do something to commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and thank Sentry Box for all those years of service. Make a poster – or plaque – FOR RECORD: Motion: Shannon Allen moves IFWA produce a plaque of appreciation - Ann seconds. Discussion - will get quote and table this next month</li> </ul> | Michael |
| 8:55 PM | <p data-bbox="358 1549 574 1581"><u>Announcements</u></p> <ul data-bbox="407 1581 1078 1791" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="407 1581 1078 1791">• <b>Writers in the House</b> – hosted by Randy McCharles – will be held <b>January 3-5, 2020</b> – Calgary Delta South (Fireside Room) – 135 Southland Dr. SW. Join local writers for a weekend of writing (three days). Drop by any time from <b>10 a.m. to 10 p.m.</b> on Friday, January 3, Saturday January 4, and Sunday, January 5.</li> </ul>  | Michael |

**Next Meeting:** February 6, 2020

**Skills Session:** Craig DiLuoie – This is Your Brain on Words

**THE MACHINES THAT MAKE US**  
**Robots, Replicas, and Other Constructed Lifeforms**  
**Enigma Front 6**

2020 marks 100 years since the publication of Karel Čapek's *R.U.R.: Rossum's Universal Robots*, the play which introduced the word 'robot' into the lexicon. Of course, the idea of artificial life predates robotics, with examples appearing in myth, folklore, and literature dating back thousands of years (consider: Frankenstein, Pinocchio, the Golem of Prague). Meanwhile, real-life robots have advanced far beyond what Čapek presented on the stage. This edition of Enigma Front will challenge the writers of IFWA to think about robots and other constructed lifeforms in new ways.

Some examples:

What if archaeologists working in Greece unearthed the automaton Talos in the modern era?

What if P.T. Barnum's claims that Joice Heth was actually an automaton turned out to be true?

What if the AI in your Smart Fridge developed a fondness for chocolate milk and refused to stop ordering it by the gallon?

The anthology is open to all current members of IFWA in good standing.

Stories can be any speculative genre; SciFi (hard or soft), all varieties of fantasy, any of the punk genres, horror, etc. We're aiming for a YA to Adult readership, so stories with excessive gore and explicit sex will not be a good fit. Maximum length for stories is 6000 words.

We'll consider a small number of reprints (ideally less than 10% of the anthology contents) but we would rather publish new works from IFWA writers. As in the past, IFWITs can submit two pieces for consideration with responses being Hold, Revision Request, or Not for Us.

Hold: We reserve the right to accept, but this is not an acceptance. Decision reserved until all submissions have been reviewed at the end of the submission period.

Revision Request: We will give feedback to allow the author to rework the story with the objective of becoming a Hold.

Not for Us: The story doesn't work for us.

**SUBMISSION PERIOD:** December 1st to January 31st. For submissions received before January 15th we will do our best to reply within two weeks (this is not a guarantee) with final responses being sent by mid-February. Please submit your MS in .doc, .docx, or .rtf in standard short story format: <https://www.shunn.net/format/story.html>

**SUBMIT TO:** ExitZeroSF@gmail.com with the header "SUBMISSION: Title by Author Name"

**PAYMENT:** We will be running a crowdfunding campaign to raise funds for this project. Payment to the authors will be dependent on the success of the campaign, but we are hoping to pay each author \$40 to \$50 plus one print copy of the book upon publication.

First-publication rights are exclusive to the anthology for 3 months from date of publication, non-exclusive to the anthology ongoing afterwards.

We're looking for 18 to 21 stories, adding up to a total word count between 60,000 – 90,000 words. If we can't meet these requirements, the project will not go forward. Our goal is to have the book ready in time for When Words Collide 2020.