

IFWA MEETING
Thursday, February 6, 2020, 7:00 PM
Sentry Box
MINUTES

Information Items:

New Members: Jim Sheasby – writes science fiction and has written WW2 alternate history

Attendance:

Time	Topic	Person
7:00 PM	<p><u>Crits for February</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crit 1: Jackson Prather – The Power Within (High Fantasy) Crit by Shannon / Calvin 	Selene Shannon / Calvin
	<p><u>Crits for March, 2020</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crit 1: Jim – Science Fiction – novel beginning Crit by Ed Wilson, J. Paul • Crit 2: Rachel – Novel – Paranormal Romance Crit by Cassandra, Dave Worsick 	Selene
7:30 PM	<p><u>Writing Craft Books</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Libby Hawker, Take Your Pants Off – Plotting for Pantsers – Plot Your way through Character Arcs • Chuck Wendig, Damn Fine Story / Kick Ass Writer – 1001 Ways of Creating great fiction – 25 points for each – Language warning • Shawn Coyne, The Story Grid – It is very good to figure out why a book isn't working • James Frey, How To Write a Damn Good Novel – great lessons on how to sustain drama • David Eddings, The Riven Codex – he goes into thought process of how he wrote his bestselling works – • Stephen Minot, Three Genres – general writing textbook – gives shape • Holly Lisle – Worldbuilding series, Invent a Language Clinic – not a brilliant writer, but she has a whole series of cool approaches to writing • John Truby, Anatomy of Story – written for screenplays, but there is so much good material – gets you thinking on several • Fred Stenson, Things Feigned or Imagined – really good primer – concept of suspension of disbelief • Ken Rand, The 10% Solution – thin book - got something really tangible from it. • Orson Scott Card, How to Write Science Fiction and Fantasy – got some good points. • Dennis O'Neil, The DC Comics Guide to Writing Comics - for comics writers. • Ann Bernays & Pamela Painter, What If? – A bunch 	

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	<p>of exercises for authors – practical hands on approach to writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Austin Kleon, Steal Like an Artist / Show Your Work – really about creativity – have cool exercises to unlock creativity • Matt Bird, Secrets of Story – one of the best general books for writing for strangers • Rebecca McClanahan, Word Painting – great book on how to integrate description into your prose 	
8:00 PM	<p><u>Skills Session</u> Craig DiLouie – Writing / Editing by Algorithm – the Potential Impact of AI on writing and editing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation to be sent out by email only 	Craig DiLouie
8:30 PM	<p><u>Call for Agenda Items</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	Michael
8:35 PM	<p><u>Brag</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calvin – (1) As part of the Chinatown Project, I read an excerpt from my short story in front of an audience of 200 people during Chinese New Year (2) Short story accepted in Laksa Media’s newest Anthology Season’s Between Us under my pseudonym, CJ Cheung • Cassandra (1) launched new website (2) Bryan Coen – ran a free challenge and sold some books • Kevin Weir – endless hunger now an ebook at Calgary Public • J Paul Cooper – got short story sold • Liz Grotkowski – asked to write about Canadian YA for a course at U of C • Bryce - First issue of comic book available at Red Skull (2) second comic book finished • Sandy – two nice rejections from Zombies Have Brains (David Coe was editor) – Acceptance from OnSpec from Celtic Mythology Stories • Craig – new WW2 series being done – daughter and him co-published Fantasy novel – did talk – but will do it again. Reason why – get to be around kids who are life affirming. • Selene – got a couple of personalized rejections • Chris M. - Women in Horror Month – lots of hashtags #WiHM – paired with Black History Month 	Michael
8:40 PM	<p><u>Discuss / Decide</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible IFWA Workshop: Vote on whether to do this and discuss possible workshop topics. Needs a co-chair. Toronto Writer – At BB – Saturday, April 18 – Lisa D. Nicolita will do workshop about publishing and her experiences between 10am – 12:30pm – Naomi Davis – Agents Book deals and Publishing, will do editor workshop till 3:30 pm – Lisa is crime fiction writer – 10 books. Can charge 	Michael Michael Shannon

Time	Topic	Person
	<p>\$10 for Short Story Contest – Other groups - \$20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shannon Allen moves IFWA produce a plaque of appreciation - Ann seconds. Discussion – quote? Found lots of plaques – appreciation to Sentry Box - \$130 – Shannon will decide what to put on it. • Comic Expo – April 24-26 – will sell books – one table \$360 – did fairly well last year – • Rex Lenicek – work on fixing up brochure – talk about it next month – sending it out • Liz G – Any ideas for WWC Panels – send them to Liz and will include them EMAIL: 	
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 April 24-26, 2020 – Calgary Delta South (Fireside Room) – 135 Southland Dr. SW. Join local writers for a weekend of writing (three days). Drop by any time from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday, April 24, Saturday April 25, and Sunday, April 26. • Aurora Awards Eligibility List is now open for submission. If you published something in 2019, don't forget to put your work there: https://prixaurorawards.ca/ 	Michael

Next Meeting: March, 5, 2020

Next Skills Session: Karl Buchner – The “Near-Future” Genre